



**Selectmen's Meeting
June 5th, 2019
MINUTES**

Selectmen Present: *Paul Yates, Kristine Poland.*

Also Present: *Chris Hall (Town Administrator); Paul Leeman, Jr. (Fire Chief); Candy Congdon (Lincoln County News); Chuck Hanson. [From 7.30 p.m.:] Jennifer Ribeiro (Principal, Bristol Consolidated School); Dave Kolodin (Chair, School Board); Darin Carlucci, Jessica DiMauro, Cerina Leeman, J.W. Oliver (members of the School Board); Bonnie Sablinsky.*

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chair Paul Yates, at 7:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Poland requested that the Minutes of May 15th be tabled, as she was absent from that meeting and should abstain on the minutes, while Chair Hanna was unable to attend the present meeting.

Matters arising from the Minutes:

Hall presented an updated Assessors' Certification of Assessment, Municipal Tax Assessment Warrant and Certificate of Commitment, reflecting the overlay agreed on May 15th with the decision to assess 6.75 mills. Selectmen signed the documents.

New Business:

The School Board being delayed until 7.30 pm, Selectmen agreed to defer the discussion with that Board until they arrived, and continue with the Agenda.

Hall reported that the Pemaquid Historical Society, which takes care of the Harrington Meeting House for the Town, had received a bid of \$8,950 to pay for the painting of the south (road-facing) wall of the Meeting House. They now wished to offer the Town a grant in that amount to allow the work to be completed this summer. It was moved by Yates, seconded by Poland, to accept the grant and to authorize the expenditure of \$8,950 on painting the Harrington Meeting House. Motion passed, 2 – 0.

Appointments:

Fish Committee: Hall reported that the Fish Committee wished to co-opt two additional members, Allison Lee and Marvin Farrin. He pointed out that Allison

Lee, though a native of Bristol and a hard-working volunteer on the alewife count, is at present a resident in Bremen. As this is not an elected position, there did not appear to be a legal impediment to co-opting a non-resident, but it would create a precedent.

Yates asked, Poland concurring, that Ms. Lee's name be tabled for further consideration by the entire Board, and asked Hall to confirm with the Maine Municipal Association the legal position and precedents in other Towns.

It was then moved by Poland, seconded by Yates, to appoint Farrin to the Fish Committee. Motion passed, 2 – 0, and Selectmen signed the Notice of Appointment.

Regular Business:

Selectmen's Financials: Hall presented five months' financials through May 31st, representing approximately 42% of the annual budget target for spending. Hall identified those accounts where seasonality of spending caused a significant overage of the 42% figure, but felt that overall the Town is keeping within the budget.

Building permit applications were reviewed and approved for properties at Map 004, lot 141-B-1; Map 006, lot 024; Map 007, lot 68-B; Map 009, lot 007-A; and Map 011-A, lot 013-A-2.

A Catering Permit was reviewed and approved for an event to be catered by Stone Cove Catering.

Warrants: Selectmen reviewed and signed the Warrants for payroll and accounts payable for the Bristol Consolidated School, Town Office, Fire and Rescue, Parks and Recreation and the Bristol/South Bristol Transfer Station.

New Business, out of order:

The School Board, with the Principal of the Bristol Consolidated School, arrived after concluding their regular meeting at the School Library, and were welcomed to join the Selectmen at the table.

Administrator Hall reminded members that regular meetings of Town bodies with the Selectmen had been proposed after the March Town Meeting, and this was the first with the School Board. It was timely as the Town appears to be on an upswing in numbers of children, with consequent impacts on the Town's budget. Board Chair Dave Kolodin welcomed the opportunity to meet, and noted that the Board is about to start a planning process for the School as the previous five-year plan had been completed this year with the implementation of major projects including the Pre-K program, fixing drainage and parking lot issues, and the girls' ballfield (which is at present awaiting bids for Phase Two of the work).

In discussion of the Town's education costs, in which all agreed that cost drivers such as student enrolment and special education needs are hard to accurately

forecast, Poland asked what costs can be predicted with certainty. Principal Ribeiro noted that plant costs and transportation costs are two major items that can be predicted, and are relatively fixed – thus for example the capacity of the school buses is such that increased numbers of pupils can be transported with no increase in costs. She suggested that an avenue to explore would be sharing certain classes with South Bristol, as their school has significant extra capacity, and pooling resources offers opportunities for enriching both schools' programs as well as saving costs. The School Board's members noted that they have to balance the program costs with the need to provide rich opportunities for educational experiences.

Board Chair Kolodin suggested that they might start the planning process off with a public forum in August. He noted that the previous five-year plan process had generated a high level of interest, with about 50 people attending meetings. J.W. Oliver cautioned that the AOS93 Assistant Superintendent and Business Manager, Rick Kusturin, had warned against a process that would incur costs that are not in the current Budget. Hall suggested that it would not be necessary to have detailed cost estimates for construction, for example, in order to have a valid planning process, and that such a plan should cover programs and services as well as bricks and mortar. He believed that the Town needs such a plan in order to be able to determine the Town's future borrowing and other budgetary needs; the School is to a degree competing for funds with other expensive needs such as bridges or fire trucks.

Principal Ribeiro noted that the AOS has joined the New England School Development Council, a group whose demographic reports and facility planning documents would likely be of major help in preparing a new plan.

Darin Carlucci, as Bristol's delegate to the AOS Board, reported that the AOS arrangement had now been in effect for 10 years, and its Board was reviewing the organization's charter to see what needed updating. Selectmen asked that they be informed of any major issues arising as negotiations proceed, rather than waiting to be asked to sign a *fait accompli*.

It was noted that there has been some comment in Town concerning the dip in test scores for the year 2017-18. Kolodin noted that the School's scores are still relatively high, and that one year cannot be used as a basis for concern especially when there were changes in the means of assessment in that year.

Hall thanked the Principal for the increased coordination between the School and the Town and Lincoln County Emergency Services. The Fire Chief added that he believed that, while there is still work to do, the School and the Town are now on the right path to breaking down 'silos' and improving communication.

Poland asked that the Board consider recording their meetings for viewing on Lincoln County Television. In discussion, it was noted that this could be done either by moving the meetings to the Town Office, or that the Town could donate

two cameras it is not at present using, for installation in the School Library. Kolodin will place this on the Agenda for the next School Board meeting.

The Principal reported the imminent retirement of two long-serving members of the School's staff, Head Custodian Bob Onorato after 33 years and Administrative Assistant Sue Shiminski after 19 years. These are among the longest-serving employees of the Town, and their retirements will be marked at the School in the coming week. The new Head Custodian will be Godo Arzate, and the new Administrative Assistant will be Bonnie Sablinsky, who was present to receive the congratulations of the Selectmen.

Selectmen asked that their thanks to both Mr. Onorato and Ms. Shiminski be recorded, and passed along to them by the Principal.

Selectmen also thanked the School Board and Principal for joining them and suggested that future meetings might be held 2 or 3 times a year.

Correspondence:

Hall reported that the Parks Commission had received another grant for the Beach Pavilion project, for \$10,000 from the Davis Conservation Foundation, towards the cost of extending a boardwalk from the new pavilion across the dunes to facilitate handicapped accesses to the beach.

Hall also reported that the Legislature had passed LD 1371, a bill that would restore the Town's meetings broadcast on Lincoln County Television, to channel 7 in the cable television lineup. This bill originated in the letter of complaint from the Selectmen to Spectrum in October 2017, when they announced their intent to move LCTV-Channel Seven, as it was then known, to channel 1301.

Yates gave notice of forthcoming Public Meetings as follows:

- Fish Committee: Thursday, June 6th, 6 pm at the Town Hall
- Shellfish Committee, Monday, June 10th, 6 pm at the Town Hall
- Veterans' Memorial Committee, Wednesday, June 12th, 5 pm at the Ellingwood Information Center
- Bicycle-Pedestrian-Trail Committee, Monday, June 17th, 6 pm at the Town Hall
- Parks & Recreation Commission, Tuesday, June 18th, 6 pm at the Ellingwood Information Center
- Selectmen: Wednesday, June 19th, 7 pm at the Town Hall
- Planning Board: Thursday, June 20th, 7 pm at the Town Hall
- Harbor Committee: Thursday, June 27th, 6 pm at the Town Hall

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8.38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Hall,
Town Administrator