



**Selectmen's Meeting
MINUTES
Bristol Town Office, September 2nd, 2020**

Selectmen Present: Chad Hanna, Kristine Poland, Paul Yates

Also Present: Chris Hall (Town Administrator); Paul Leeman, Jr. (Fire Chief); Mark Becker and Deb Wilson (Becker Construction, Inc.); Heather Hardy; SherryLee Pierce; Rick Poland; Pat Porter; Lyn Prentice; Jeff Wilson.

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

It was moved by Yates, seconded by Poland, to accept the minutes from the August 5th meeting. Motion passed 3 - 0.

BID OPENING:

One bid was received for the Riverview Road Shoreline Stabilization project. The Chair opened and read a bid for \$16,968.00 from Hanley Construction, Inc. Poland, moved, seconded by Yates, to accept this bid. Motion passed, 3 - 0.

Old Business:

Fish Ladder Reconstruction: Mark Becker and Deb Wilson of general contractor Becker Construction delivered an interim report to the Select Board. The concrete work is now complete, and the masonry stage of the project is beginning. The concrete work went a little over budget, but this is partly offset by savings on Hagar's earthmoving and water control portion of the contract. The budgeted contingency will likely cover all overruns unless there are surprises in the masonry work.

Hall drew attention to the resolution passed the previous day by the Parks Commission, asking to reopen the swimming hole once the present contractors' work is finished. Wilson expressed concern about safety during the next phase of work, and R. Poland, Prentice and Chief Leeman from the floor asked that swimming not resume this season. Chair Hanna, summing up the discussion, concluded that the safety concerns are legitimate and as there is so little time remaining of the swimming season it would be best to keep the swimming hole closed for the balance of the year, and proposed a motion to that effect. The motion was seconded by Yates and passed by 3 - 0.

Fireworks: Chief Paul Leeman Jr. circulated Fireworks Ordinances adopted by other Maine towns. He asked the Board to consider a permit system similar to that for open burning, noting that the fire permit system was widely accepted and its rules respected, and in the light of concerns about fires in times of drought he believed that extension of the permit system to fireworks would be similarly respected. He noted that since the fee for online permits had been removed, most people have gone to online applications thus reducing the calls upon the fire wardens for paper permits.

From the floor, Jeff Taylor urged a complete fireworks ban, quoting a message from Don Loprieno quoting Oliver Wendell Holmes: "The right to swing my fist ends where your nose

begins.” Pat Porter asked who would enforce any ban, saying she loved fireworks but acknowledged the hazards. Chief Leeman noted that the Sheriff’s Office is responsible for enforcing Town Ordinances. Nancy Monroe spoke of disturbance by fireworks discharged after hours at the Beach Park and asked for confirmation that fireworks are banned on Town property. (They are not permitted in Town parks.) Heather Hardy spoke of her neighbors with small children and animals who are scared by fireworks, and veterans with PTSD. Lyn Prentice spoke of recent incidents in Bristol Mills which had terrified farm animals and her fears for fire in her dry evergreens.

Poland pointed out that there is time to study wording of a draft ordinance before it is submitted to the 2021 Town meeting, and Hanna stated his belief that linking permits to the degree of fire danger makes sense. The matter was tabled pending Leeman and Hall agreeing specific wording to bring back to the Board.

Appointments:

The Board noted seven applications to serve on the Fish Committee for 2020-21, from Tyler Cheney, Joseph Crooker, Marvin Farrin, Brent Fogg, Matthew Hanly, Richard Poland, Jr., and Nathan Simmons. It was moved by Yates, seconded by Hanna, to appoint them as members of the Committee. Motion passed, 2 – 0, Poland abstaining due to a family relationship, and Selectmen signed the Certificate of Appointment. Selectmen also noted with appreciation the participation of Bremen resident Alison Lee, as Secretary of the Committee.

The Board noted seven applications to serve on the Harbor Committee for 2020-21, from Robert Ball, Troy Benner, David Caron, Steven Hope, Richard Poland, Jr., John Stolecki and John Stotz. It was moved by Yates, seconded by Hanna, to appoint them as members of the Committee. Motion passed, 2 – 0, and the Selectmen signed the Certificate of Appointment, Poland abstaining due to a family relationship.

The Board also noted five applications to serve on the Shellfish Committee for 2020-21, from Scott Burke, David Cheney, Steve Lackovic, Ronald Poland and Steve Termine. It was moved by Yates, seconded by Hanna, to appoint them as members of the Committee. The Motion passed, 2 - 0, and the Selectmen signed the Certificate of Appointment, Poland abstaining due to a family relationship.

Regular Business

Catering Permit: Poland moved, seconded by Yates, to approve a Catering Permit for an event at 520 Benner Road, catered by Stone Cove Catering. Motion passed, 3 – 0.

Corrective Quitclaim Deed: Hall recounted that the tax acquired property at Map 02A, Lot 001B, previously discharged by Quitclaim Deed to the heirs of the late Gerard Riopel, had been found to have been placed in a Trust for the heirs by the deceased, and that the property should correctly be discharged to that Trust. Selectmen signed a Corrective Quitclaim Deed to that effect.

Tree Growth: A property enrolled in the Tree Growth Program at Map 008, lot 087-A, had changed hands and had been recertified by a licensed forester. The new owner wished to withdraw one acre of this property from Tree Growth, and to pay the resulting property tax penalty. Selectmen signed the revised Tree Growth certification, and it was proposed by Poland, seconded by Yates, to approve Supplemental Tax Warrant number 2020-0006 for the penalty of \$5,520.60. Motion passed, 3 – 0.

Abatements: Assessor Robert Gingras of Parker Appraisal had reviewed an application for abatement on property at Map 008, lot 053-1. He reviewed all documents submitted by the applicant and recommended no change in valuation. It was therefore moved by Poland, seconded by Yates, to approve Abatement Denial Warrant number 2020-0001, subject to

correction of wording in the Warrant. Motion passed, 3 – 0. Selectmen will sign the corrected Warrant next week.

Building permits: Selectmen reviewed and signed Building Permits for properties at Map 006, lot 049-G; Map 018, lot 036; Map 021, lot 085; and Map 024, lot 012.

Financials – eight months to August: Selectmen reviewed the cash flow report and TRIO expense and revenue reports and signed the check reconciliation and property tax reconciliation reports for August.

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

In Correspondence, Selectmen received two letters of thanks for the receipt of funds voted by the Town Meeting, from New Hope for Women and Healthy Kids.

Public Meetings: The Chair gave notice of forthcoming meetings as follows:

- Planning Board, Thursday, September 3rd, 7 pm at the Town Office
- Parks and Recreation Commissioners, Tuesday, September 15th, 6 pm at the Ellingwood Information Center
- Selectmen: Wednesday, September 16th, 7 pm at the Town Office

He also drew attention to the closure of the Town Office on Monday, September 7th, for Labor Day.

There being no further business before the Board, it was moved to adjourn at 8.24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Hall, Town Administrator