



**Selectmen's Meeting
MINUTES
Bristol Town Office, April 6th, 2022**

Selectmen Present: Chad Hanna, Kristine Poland, Paul Yates.

Also present: Chris Hall (Town Administrator); Michelle Cameron; Patricia Porter; Earle Cooper; Steve McCall.

Chad Hanna called the Board to order at 6.30 pm, followed by recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Poland moved, seconded by Yates, acceptance of the Minutes of the meeting of March 23rd as presented. Motion passed, 3 – 0.

Old Business:

Appointments: Hall reported that the Town Clerk reported an omission in the list of Appointments approved on March 23rd, and asked the Board to appoint Richard Poland to the Fish Committee.

Hanna moved the appointment, seconded by Yates. Motion carried, 2 – 0, with K. Poland abstaining, and the Board signed the Certification of Appointment.

Hall reported his dismay that the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations had referred back the certification of the Town Meeting Warrant Articles 26 and 27, granting authority to issue licenses for the on-premises sale of alcoholic beverages, saying that a written ballot is required by statute. This had not been made clear when BABLO originally requested the vote. It appeared that the only solution, given a deadline of June 30th, is to hold a ballot at the time of the June 14 primary election.

Poland proposed, seconded by Hanna, to hold a Special Town Meeting by secret ballot on June 14, 2022, to reconsider Town Meeting Articles 26 and 27, and such other matters as might be required at that time. Motion passed, 3 – 0.

Property with Unknown Owner – Map 2, lot 64-A. Earle Cooper, assisted by surveyor Steve McCall, presented material supporting his claim to the lot in question. In brief, it is a remnant parcel from an historic 107-acre, long strip of land surveyed prior to 1810. No valid claim could be made from properties to the east or west; only property owners north and south, on the same historic strip, could have a valid title. The property owner to the south, Mark Hanley, had established by survey that it is not his property. McCall, acting for Cooper, the owner to the north, presented his conclusion that Cooper is the owner based on the chain of deeds (in which there are admitted gaps) during the nineteenth century.

After questions and discussion, it was moved by Hanna, seconded by Yates, to make a provisional determination of ownership of Map 2, lot 64-A, in the name of Earle A. Cooper and Rebecca J. Cooper; and to direct the Assessing Agent to assess for taxation accordingly.

New Business:

Hall reported that the Coastal Rivers land trust has acquired from Norman Hunt a total of 21 lots north of Poor Farm Road, totaling approximately 450 acres and valued for taxation at approximately \$900,000. The properties will be an extension of the existing Keyes Woods Preserve, and protect Half Moon Pond from development. There was discussion of whether access to the public would be possible without encroaching on other landowners, and whether conditions would be applied to traditional uses such as hunting. The board asked the Town Administrator to invite CRCT's Director, Steve Hufnagel, to a future meeting to discuss the Trust's intentions.

Town Office staff had requested the purchase of a new set of stackable chairs for meetings, replacing the uncomfortable metal folding chairs that have been used for many years. The Board agreed to the purchase of 24 such chairs at a quoted price of \$1,139.41.

Hall and Pat Porter, for the Parks Commission, gave a short update on the previous night's Parks Commission meeting. There are now two short-listed finalists for the position of Parks Director, who will have second interview on Thursday April 7th. The Chair of the commission has negotiated a part-donation, part-purchase of a used Ford Ranger truck, at a cost to Parks of \$4,800 for a vehicle valued in the Blue Book at approximately \$10,000. The National Audubon Society's Hog Island preserve has offered to partner with Parks on 'Seabird Saturdays' at the Lighthouse Park, on the last Saturday of each month from 9 am to 1 pm, starting in May. This will involve Audubon volunteer educators showing the birdlife to the public using powerful optics.

Regular Business:

Building Permits: The Code Enforcement Officer had submitted a compilation of Building Permits issued in the year to April 1st. It was noted that some 28 new single-family homes had been permitted in the past year. The Board reviewed and approved Permits issued by the Code Enforcement Officer at Map 002A, lot 046; Map 004B, lot 029; Map 005, lot 019-B-8; Map 010, lot 055-M; Map 021, lot 014. The Board then reviewed an application from the state for an extension to the public boat launch ramp at Colonial Pemaquid State Park, on Map 026, lot 007. The Board approved this application and referred it to the planning Board's meeting of April 7th.

Hall submitted for approval month-end financials and tax collection reports for the month of March.

The Board reviewed and approved Accounts Payable Warrants for the Town, Fire, Parks, Bristol Consolidated School and the Bristol / South Bristol Transfer Station.

There were no public comments or correspondence.

The Chair gave Notice of Public Meetings as follows:

- Planning Board, Thursday, April 7th, 7.00 pm at the Town Office
- Fish Committee, Thursday April 7th, 7.00 pm at the Ellingwood Information Center

- Comprehensive Plan Committee, Tuesday, April 12th, 7.00 pm at the Town Office
- Parks and Recreation Commission, Tuesday, April 19th, 6.00 pm at the Ellingwood Information Center
- Select Board: Wednesday, April 20th, 6.30 pm at the Town Office.

Executive Session:

It was moved by Hanna, seconded by Poland, pursuant to M.R.S. Title 1, Chapter 13, section 405.6 (A), to move into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Motion passed, 3 – 0, and the Board entered Executive Session at 7.32 pm.

The Board left Executive Session at 8.10 pm. The Board directed the Town Administrator to notify the public that, due to the shortage of staff, until further notice the Town Office will be closed to the public on Wednesdays for staff training and catch-up on administrative work.

There being no other business before the Board, the Board adjourned at 8.13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Hall
Town Administrator