

Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2020; 5:00 P.M.

Board Members Present: Liston E. Eastman, Chairman; Glenn R. Zaidman, Vice-Chairman; Carmen Lone; Robert P. Murphy; G. Frederick Packard

Administration Present: Town Manager Robert Peabody; Deputy Town Manager Georgiann Fleck; Town Clerk Laurie Chadbourne; Public Services Director David Madsen; Community Development Director Linda LaCroix

1. Call to Order

Chairman Eastman called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The "Pledge of Allegiance" was recited.

3. Approval of Minutes

a. May 26, 2020

Motion was made by Selectman Murphy for approval of the minutes from the May 26, 2020 Board Meeting; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/0 oppose

4. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

There were no public comments on non-agenda items.

5. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

6. Correspondence, Presentations and Other Pertinent Information

a. Presentation of Bridgton Economic and Market Analysis by Ryan Wallace

Ryan Wallace reviewed the Bridgton Economic and Market Analysis with the Board. Copies of the report are available at the Town Office and on the town website. **Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to accept the Bridgton Economic and Market Analysis; second from Selectman Lone. 5 approve/0 oppose

b. Welcome to Bridgton Sign at Community Center

Selectman Lone reported that the Town of Bridgton sign on the lawn at the Community Center is faded, has mold on the back, it is leaning and requested that it be removed. **Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to remove the Welcome to Bridgton sign sited at the Community Center; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/0 oppose

c. Request from Bridgton House of Pizza

Due to the Governor's Executive

Bridgton House of Pizza owner Spyridon Hronarakis said that we are all well aware of the effects that Covid-19 has had not only on health but also on our businesses and livelihood and he is looking for new and creative ways to conduct business in order to off-set the damage all of this has caused. He asked for permission to close off the entrance to the parking lot adjacent to the BHOP and Breakroom building for the remainder of the summer so we can utilize this space for outside dining. There are other entrances into the parking lot and with the Board's permission he would be adding picnic tables and shade for patrons. This would also secure at least four more jobs because the outside station would always be manned. They will need a barricade in the

front and back with ample space and signage provided to avoid confusion and keep everyone safe. **Motion** was made by Selectman Lone to approve the use of the entrance to the municipal parking lot located between Bridgton House of Pizza and the Town Park for outdoor seating. Said permission to expire September 2, 2020; second from Chairman Eastman. 5 approve/0 oppose

d. Request from Depot Street Business Owners

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic and the Governor's Executive Orders, the businesses on Depot Street (in the cited area) are requesting the closure of the street to non-emergency vehicles from the bridge to Tasteful Things. Owner of Vivo, Christian Cuff, presented the proposal noting that all safety issues have been addressed. **Motion** was made by Selectman Lone to approve the closure of Depot Street to non-emergency vehicles between the bridge and Tasteful Things for retail and outdoor seating. Said permission to expire September 1, 2020; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/0 oppose

e. Correspondence Regarding Opening Bridgton

1. From Sarah Parks
2. From Linda Ziemnicki
3. From Jessica Clayton & Michael Citro
4. From Kelly Moore
5. From Ruth-Ellen Matthews

Town Manager Peabody reported that he received two additional letters after the agenda had closed. Vice-Chairman Zaidman suggested that a copy of the taped meeting be sent to the Governor to support the re-opening of Bridgton businesses.

Chairman Eastman brought agenda item 8 forward.

8. Public Hearing at 6:00 P.M.

a. Special Amusement Permit Application to Tarry-A-While

Chairman Eastman opened the Public Hearing to hear comment on a Special Amusement Permit application from Tarry-A-While at 6:00 P.M. Owner Roseana Richards was present to respond to any questions. Selectman Lone asked if there have been any changes with the hours or operation to which Ms. Richards responded that there have been no changes. Chairman Eastman closed the hearing at 6:01 P.M.

9. Action Items Following Public Hearing

a. Special Amusement Permit Application to Tarry-A-While

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to approve a Special Amusement Permit for Tarry-A-While; second from Selectman Lone. 5 approve/0 oppose

Chairman Eastman returned to agenda item 6.E.

e. Correspondence Regarding Opening Bridgton

Business owners from Campfire Grille, Tarry-A-While, Bridgton House of Pizza, Vivo, Beth's Kitchen Café and others spoke in support of re-opening Bridgton; all shared the difficulties they have been experiencing noting their love of the Town and desire to stay open and remain in Bridgton. They all reiterated that they would continue to follow guidelines creating a safe environment for staff and patrons. Community Development Director LaCroix thanked everyone for showing up; she is inspired and happy and welcomes enthusiastic comments about the town.

Selectman Packard suggested that the Governor look at the geographic area by zip code rather than by County.

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to open the Town of Bridgton for business by sending a letter (by the end of the week) to the Governor, Senators, Representatives explain that this community cannot take this devastation adding that business owners will safely and responsibly open their establishments; second from Selectman Packard. Selectman Lone asked for clarification of what the Select Board voting to open the Town of Bridgton actually means to which Vice-Chairman Zaidman responded that the Town will send a statement to the Governor that the Board supports opening businesses back up. Discussion ensued. Vice-Chairman Zaidman called the question. 5 approve/0 oppose

Chairman Eastman requested that a copy of the video be sent to Governor Mills with the letter to which Lake Region Television responded that they would have the video ready as soon as possible. Additional comments and suggestions should be directed to the Town Manager at rpeabody@bridgtonmaine.org.

7. New Business

a. Awards and Other Administrative Recommendations

1. Ratification of the Purchase and Sale Agreement and Acceptance of the Winning Bid for the First and Last Motel

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to move to accept the bid from Mark Lopez to purchase the former First and Last Resort property (Tax Map 5, Lot 87) for \$41,600 and to ratify the Town Manager's signing of the Purchase and Sale Agreement dated May 15, 2020. The Town Manager is authorized to deliver the deed and any other documents necessary to complete the transfer, all on such terms as the Town Manager and the Town's attorneys deem reasonable, which will include a written agreement with the buyer for the Town to hold \$25,000 refundable deposit in addition to the purchase price to secure the buyer's obligation to demolish the building; second from Selectman Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose

2. Approval of Dam Park Renovations

Public Services Director Madsen provided the Board with the design, cost estimate, funding source and the Reserve Policy Account for renovations to the Dam Park. **Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to approve the expenditure of up to \$20,000 to rehabilitate Dam Park; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/0 oppose

3. Approval of Water Reclamation Budget

Town Manager Peabody and Public Services Director Madsen reviewed the budget. **Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to approve the 2020-21 Water Reclamation Budget and rate as presented; second from Selectman Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose

b. Permits/Documents Requiring Board Approval

1. Victualer's Licenses to Mack's Place, Bridgton House of Pizza, Break Room

Motion was made by Selectman Lone to approve Victualer's Licenses for Derrick and Matty Mack dba Mack's Place, Spyridon Hronarakis dba Bridgton House of Pizza and Spyridon Hronarakis SNDME LLC dba Breakroom; second from Selectman Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose

c. Selectmen's Concerns

1. Farragut Park

- **Selectman Packard** voiced concerns regarding the overgrown bushes on Bennett Street to which Town Manager Peabody responded that he would have the area reviewed.
- **Selectman Murphy** suggested no overnight parking signage at the lot on Depot Street to allow the Farmers Market vendors to pull in without conflict.

- **Selectman Lone** asked if the speed bumps at Highland Lake Beach are being installed this year to which Public Services Director Madsen responded that they were put in yesterday.
- **Vice-Chairman Zaidman** requested that the Town Manager also include a copy of the taped meeting when Peter Wright, Bridgton Hospital, indicated that Covid-19 is not an issue in Bridgton to the Governor.
- **Vice-Chairman Zaidman** voiced concerns with the manhole covers and water shut-off covers being too far down in the asphalt.
- **Vice-Chairman Zaidman** suggested that appropriate signage be put up if roads are blocked off.
- **Chairman Eastman** received concerns from residents on Lower Main Street about construction beginning too early and the need to park a long way from their home.
- **Chairman Eastman** thanked Public Services Director Madsen for the quick response to the concern regarding bushes on Smith Avenue.

1. Farragut Park

Town Manager Peabody reported that in anticipation of doing work in Farragut Park a survey was commissioned. While doing research it was discovered that the Town does not own the Park. **Motion** was made by Selectman Packard to direct the Town Manager to work with the Town Attorney to acquire Farragut Park; second from Selectman Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose

d. Town Manager's Report/Deputy Town Manager's Report

Deputy Town Manager Fleck submitted and read the following into the record:

TOWN OF BRIDGTON, DEPUTY TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT, June 9, 2020

Annual Town Meeting Town Meeting this year will be by referendum **ONLY** which allows you to vote absentee on all 38 articles **OR** you can vote in person by completing a ballot on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at the Old Town Hall beginning at 8:00a.m. until 8:00p.m. A **public hearing has been scheduled for Wednesday, June 10** (that's tomorrow evening) beginning at 5:00p.m. Town Manager, Deputy Town Manager, Board of Selectmen and Department Heads will be present in the downstairs meeting room to answer questions the public may have on any warrant article. The public may participate by asking questions via virtual meeting by calling in at 1-866-899-4679 with an access code of 991-495-341. This information has been posted on our website and on our Facebook page.

The **Elections page** on our website is being updated regularly. To accommodate our voters the office will be open additional hours for the purpose of accepting voter registration, absentee balloting, and other election related issues:

Tuesday, June 23 ;4PM to 6PM

Thursday, June 25 ;4PM to 6PM

Saturday, June 27 ;8AM to Noon

Tuesday, July 7; 4PM to 6PM

Thursday, July 9; 4PM to 7PM

!!Avoid long lines, take your time filling out your ballot, VOTE Absentee!!

Summer Rec is in full swing. We started June 8th with 45 registrations. Starting next week our numbers will be completely sold out with a daily growing waitlist. Unfortunately, families were just told today that School Age Childcare (SACC) for Bridgton were unable to use the school this summer therefor unable to have their summer camp. This now leaves Bridgton Summer Rec as one of the feasible child-care programs open for our community for elementary school aged children. Since we are limited to specific size gatherings we are unable to accommodate any more children on the Town Hall property than the current 64. Currently summer rec is set to serve 84 different children all living in the Bridgton area this summer. This is not including those waiting for weekly slots to open. **Swim lessons** start on June 22nd and are available for babies up through adult. Lifeguards will be on beaches starting June 20-21 at both Woods Pond and Highland Lake 7 days a week from 10-6.

General I have been notified by Bob McHatton, Lions Club member, that the **Fourth of July parade** has been cancelled.

Legion Post 67 On Wednesday, June 17th around 2:00p.m. there will be a tractor trailer parked at the Community Center to distribute **food to local veterans**. The American Legion is sponsoring this, will manage the traffic, and distribute the food to veterans. The veterans must sign up in advance and will be able to drive up, show an ID and the food boxes will be brought to them. They do not have to leave their vehicles. For information please contact Donald Mulcahy, Commander of the Legion Post at 890-8874. We want to thank Commander Mulcahy and Post members who have agreed to volunteer to provide maintenance of **Farragut Park** until the ownership issue can be resolved.

Bridgton Police Department There was a very **peaceful protest** at Monument Park this past Saturday morning. Chief Stillman and Sergeant Jones attended. The new **Park Ranger, Erica Bridge**, will be working as our full-time seasonal Park Ranger. She is getting her initial training and familiarization with police officers this week and will be very visible in the coming weeks.

Bridgton Fire Department The Fire Department continues to **gain new members** interested in the department. A new recent applicant has extensive fire service experience in many Maine communities including Harrison, and if approved, will be another great asset to the department. Another new application for membership is from a Bridgton Citizen who is new to public safety, if approved, he is willing to attend rookie fire training school in Fryeburg. One member has moved and was placed inactive for now. **Training** resumed under the new State group guidelines. We held our first training last Wednesday night with (25) member attending. Prior to the training all in attendance had their temperatures taken by the Chief. No concerns were noted. The training was held outside with face coverings provided. **All stations remain closed the public**. The Chief attended a local meeting with town staff concerning **closing Depot Street**. The Chief met with other department heads on plans review for upcoming proposed projects and made recommendations. The Department has fit tested (8) members for N-95 masks for response to assist United Ambulance on lift assists, CPR calls, and other responses as requested.

Until next time....be safe and be well.

Respectfully submitted, Georgiann M. Fleck, Deputy Town Manager

Vice-Chairman Zaidman left the meeting at 7:55 P.M.

Town Manager Peabody reported that the Town Clerk's Office will be closed on July 14th to allow for staff administration of the Election.

Chairman Eastman reported that he and Vice-Chairman Zaidman have volunteered to assist and greet voters outside the polls on Election Day and asked Selectman Lone to consider this as well. Selectman Murphy and Selectman Packard were not asked as they are both candidates on the ballot.

8. Public Hearing at 6:00 P.M. / a. Special Amusement Permit Application to Tarry-A-While

9. Action Items Following Public Hearing / a. Special Amusement Permit Application to Tarry-A-While

These two items were addressed earlier in the meeting.

10. Old Business

a. Wastewater Status Update

b. Streetscape: Upper and Lower Main Street Status Update

Town Manager Peabody provided brief updates on the wastewater and streetscape projects.

The Board will have discussion at their next meeting about a project survey.

11. Treasurer's Warrants

Motion was made by Selectman Murphy for approval of Treasurer's Warrants numbered 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, and 143; second from Lone. 4 approve/0 oppose

12. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

There were no public comments on non-agenda items.

13. Dates for the Next Board of Selectmen's Meetings

June 10, 2020 and June 23, 2020

14. Adjourn

Chairman Eastman adjourned the meeting at 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie L. Chadbourne
Town Clerk