

## Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

December 28, 2021; 5:00 P.M.

Board Members Present: Carmen E. Lone, Chairman; Glenn R. Zaidman, Vice-Chairman; Paul A. Tworog; G. Frederick Packard; Robert J. McHatton, Sr.

Administration Present: Town Manager Robert Peabody, Jr.; Deputy Town Manager Georgiann Fleck; Deputy Town Clerk Ashley Albrecht; EMA Director Todd Perreault; Recreation Director Gary Colello

### 1. Call to Order

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

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Board recited the "Pledge of Allegiance."

### 3. Approval of Minutes

#### a. December 14, 2021

**Motion** was made by Selectman McHatton for approval of the minutes of the December 14, 2021 meeting; second from Vice-Chairman Zaidman. 5 approve/0 oppose

### 4. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

There were no public comments on non-agenda items.

### 5. Committee/Liaison Reports

There were no committee/liaison reports.

### 6. Correspondence, Presentations and Other Pertinent Information

#### a. Presentation of Cumberland County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Todd Perreault, EMA Director of Bridgton, presented the updated Cumberland County Hazard Mitigation Plan which includes improving drainage on Smith Avenue, Oak Street, and on Mountain Road. He is requesting Board approval to submit this plan to the County. Deputy Town Manager Fleck acknowledged and thanked Madison Douglas, summer intern, for her contribution to this plan. **Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to approve the mitigation plan; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/0 oppose

### 7. Public Hearing at 5:30 P.M.

#### a. Special Amusement Permit Application from Campfire Grille

Chairman Lone opened the Public Hearing at 5:30 P.M. in consideration of the special amusement application for the Campfire Grille. Public Hearing was closed at 5:30 P.M. with no public comments.

### 8. Action Items Following Public Hearing

#### a. Special Amusement Permit Application from Campfire Grille

**Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to move to approve the Special Amusement Permit Application from Campfire Grille; second from Selectman McHatton. 5 approve/0 oppose

### 9. New Business

#### a. Awards and Other Administrative Recommendations

##### 1. Recycling Committee Application from Maureen Harpell

**Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman to table the application until the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, asking that the Recycling committee provide a written recommendation if Ms. Harpell cannot be present.

2. Investment Committee Application from Bridgette Fuller

**Motion** was made by Chairman Lone to move to appoint Bridgette Fuller to the Investment Committee; second from Selectman Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose

3. Draft Scholarship Application; Recreation Department

Recreation Director Gary Colello presented his updated Bridgton Recreation Scholarship Application. The proposed change would use the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines to align with the State of Maine SNAP benefits, and CDBG funding for eligibility of the scholarship. **Motion** was made by Selectman McHatton to approve the revised Bridgton Recreation Scholarship Application; second from Selectman Tworog. 5 approve/ 0 oppose

4. Treasurer's Disbursement Warrants for Payment of Employee Wages and Benefits

**Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to move to approve the policy permitting disbursement of employees' wages; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/ 0 oppose

5. Treasurer's Disbursement Warrants for Payment of Payment for Municipal Education Costs

**Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to move to approve the policy permitting disbursement of municipal education costs; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/ 0 oppose

6. Treasurer's Disbursement Warrants for Payment of Payment for State Fees

**Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman to move to approve the policy permitting disbursement of state fees; second from Selectman McHatton. 5 approve/ 0 oppose

b. Permits/Documents Requiring Board Approval

1. Adult Use Marijuana Store Permit (Renewal) to Puffin Company 3, LLC

**Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to approve the Adult Use Marijuana Store Permit for Puffin Company 3, LLC; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/0 oppose

2. Personal Property Abatements

**Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to move to approve the recommended December 28, 2021, tax abatements totaling \$12,994.76; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/ 0 oppose

3. Confirmation of Town Manager's Appointment; Cynthia Eaton as Animal Control Officer

**Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to move to confirm the Town of Bridgton 2022 confirmation of Cynthia Eaton as Animal Control Officer; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/ 0 oppose

4. Certificate of Sewer User Rates Commitment #258

**Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to move to commit the September 1, 2021 to November 30, 2021 Sewer User Rate Commitment #258 comprising 3 pages totaling \$15,392.94 to the Treasurer for collection; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/0 oppose

c. Selectmen's Concerns

- **Selectman Packard** noted he doesn't feel the numbers accurately represent our year round population and growth on the 2020 census. Funding is determined based on Federal census and the numbers are only showing growth of 200 new year-round residents in 2020. Town Manager Peabody responded that the ARPA funds are determined by Federal census, but a lot of our funding is based on need. Discussion continued regarding the new building permits issued in 2021 and what that growth looks like more recently.
- **Selectman Tworog** expanded on Selectman Packard's concerns suggesting we get the Community Development Director to look more closely into our population because these numbers can affect the Federal grants available to the Town and could provide clarity on what is perceived as new growth and what is being reported.
- **Selectman Tworog** would like some follow up on the snowmobile club maps. He is interested in getting the information to incorporate into our own GIS mapping.
- **Selectman Tworog** requested a meeting be scheduled with legal to discuss the structure and contents of the Town Manager Contract.
- **Vice-Chairman Zaidman** asked if the Police Chief had served the Water District for their outstanding bill. Town Manager Peabody responded that they were served, and he received a check towards the agreed amount for the engineering company with a note of the remainder due to be paid. Town Manager Peabody will draft a response back pointing out that their numbers are incorrect as to what is owed to the Town.
- **Vice-Chairman Zaidman** also asked if there was any movement on the Red Zone. There has been none.
- **Vice-Chairman Zaidman** would like to have a discussion with the Board regarding Senior Property Tax Relief. Town Manager Peabody will provide the back-up documents to the Board members who need it so they can discuss options for funding.
- **Vice-Chairman Zaidman** suggests that shoveling of the handicap parking spots needs to be improved, Town Manager Peabody will check with Jason at Public Works about how we can prioritize and improve that.
- **Selectman McHatton** is interested in knowing the details regarding the leased electric car. Town Manager Peabody discussed the details of the lease and described the nature of use for the vehicle. Selectman Tworog also commented that he would like it included in the budget of any town vehicles that are in use, and who if anyone they might be assigned to. Town Manager Peabody confirmed that can be provided.
- **Chairman Lone** asked if we have heard from the school regarding old Bridgton High School. Town Manager Peabody responded that he has not. Chairman Lone expressed disappointment that the School Board has continued to ignore the Board of Selectmen on this matter.
- **Chairman Lone** also requested an update on the lease for the courthouse to which Town Manager Peabody shared the most recent correspondence stating the Chief Justice has not been given any permission to take action. This matter will be discussed in further detail at the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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

Deputy Town Manager Fleck read the following into record:

TOWN OF BRIDGTON DEPUTY TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

December 28, 2021

General: The Bridgton Transfer Station will be closed on Saturday, January 1<sup>st</sup> and the Town Office will be closed on Friday, December 31, 2021 in recognition of New Years Day. Regarding weather events, please be aware that we post information on the Town's Facebook page, the Town's website and all the local television channels are

notified if and when the Town Office is closed. On our website there is an option to sign up for notifications which includes public notices, meetings etc.

Public Works Department: From November 15 - April 15 no vehicle shall be parked on the public street or way from 11:00p.m. to 7:00a.m. per MRSA 29A Section 2068-2069 and the Bridgton Traffic Ordinance. Any vehicle violating this parking ban may be fined per the Town of Bridgton Fee Schedule or may be towed at the owner's expense.

As per MRSA 17A Section 505 and MRSA 29A Section 2396, no person(s) shall plow, shovel or otherwise deposit snow, this includes snowblowing, into the limits of any traveled public way.

Is it is important to keep your driveways and private roads cleared and sanded so that, if the need arises, emergency personnel can safely access your property.

Community Development Director: A reminder that applications for the 2022-2023 Community Development Block Grant program year are due by January 11<sup>th</sup> at 4pm at the Town Office. Questions and assistance can be had by calling Tori Hill, Deputy Community Development Director, at 207-647-8786 or by email to [Vhill@bridgtonmaine.org](mailto:Vhill@bridgtonmaine.org)

Code Enforcement: We are currently waiting to receive the decision of the courts for the Bridgton Hotel which should be any day now. The buildings located on the corner of Main Street and Route 302 have been removed and construction should start in the spring for the Bridgton Gateway Project. We are ending the very busy year with lots of construction and improvements to the Town of Bridgton. The Code Office's permit fees collected, to date, have been the highest in several years with over \$220,000.00 taken in for building, planning and appeals board fees. Therefore, we would like to thank everyone for their patience throughout this very challenging year of successful growth.

Bridgton Recreation: The Town's ice rink is officially open for the winter! We are open this week from 10-8 and New Year's Day from 10-6. There is a full schedule for the Town Hall Gym, Town Ice Rink and Adult programs on the Town's Web site/Recreation page.

Health Officer: Catherine Pinkham, Health Officer, arranged a vaccination and testing clinic to be held on December 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Bridgton Community Center. The clinic went extremely well with over 84 vaccinations administered and 17 tests performed. The US CDC has recently updated and shortened recommended isolation and quarantine periods for the general population. Information can be found on our website at [www.bridgtonmaine.org](http://www.bridgtonmaine.org)

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

Respectfully submitted, Georgiann M. Fleck Deputy Town Manager

10. Old Business (Board of Selectmen Discussion Only)
  - a. Wastewater Status Update  
Town Manager Peabody provided a brief wastewater status update.

11. Treasurer's Warrants

**Motion** was made by Selectman Packard for approval of Treasurers Warrants numbered 65,66 and 67; second from Vice-Chairman Zaidman 5 approve/0 oppose

12. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items (Each speaker may be limited to 3 minutes.)

Kelly Margolis president of Woods Pond Association provided an update on what they have been working on: preventing invasives, minimizing erosion into the pond and measuring water quality. She also talked about a new program this year working with homeowners to educate them on finding shoreline invasives on their property. She then introduced Jeff Stern, who expressed his appreciation to those involved with putting together the proposal for the Stream Crossing Grant for Sucker Brook on Wildwood Road.

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

January 5, 2022 @ 5:00 P.M. Workshop with Ordinance Review Committee; January 12, 2022 Executive Session; January 11, 2022; January 25, 2022

14. Adjourn

**Motion** was made by Selectman Packard to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 P.M.; second from Selectman McHatton. 5 approve/ 0 oppose

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley S. Albrecht  
Deputy Town Clerk