

Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2022; 5:00 P.M.

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

Administration Present: Town Manager Robert A. Peabody, Jr.; Deputy Town Clerk Jamie L. Ferguson; Executive Assistant Nikki Hodgkins; Community Development Director Linda LaCroix, Recreation Director Gary Colello; Fire Chief Glen Garland; Code Enforcement Officer Brenda Day; Public Services Director David Madsen

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. April 12, 2022

b. April 19, 2022

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman for approval of the meeting minutes from April 12, 2022, and April 19, 2022; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/0 oppose

4. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Community Development Director Linda LaCroix informed the Board they had received an award letter from the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future for the open space plan for \$50,000, which is contingent on the signed contract.

Selectman Tworog recognized the Pondicherry Park Committee for continuing to do well and acknowledged their plans for updated trails and a camera stand.

5. Committee/Liaison Reports

Selectman McHatton informed the Board that the Recycling Committee feels a new member will be able to better educate the public on pay-per-bag and would like to wait until November before putting it to vote. **Motion** was made by Selectman McHatton to remove the pay-per-bag question from the June 2022 warrant; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/0 oppose

6. Correspondence, Presentations and Other Pertinent Information

a. Downtown Mural Presentation by Justin McIver

Justin McIver presented his proposed mural design. Historian Mike Davis of the Historical Society spoke to the significance of the designs and expressed his support. Several residents expressed feedback.

Justin McIver presented a proposed banner to be hung on the fence of the Gateway Project construction site. Community Development Director Linda LaCroix expressed her support for the banner. **Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to allow Mr. McIver to put up the banner around the brew pub construction site; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/0 oppose

The use of the trademark by commercial entities was added to the agenda for future discussion.

b. Second Saturday Art Walk

Arts and Culture Subcommittee Representative Suzie Guthrow presented an overview of the Second Saturday Art Walk. Several concerns were raised by Board Members. Those concerns were sufficiently addressed by Ms. Guthrow. **Motion** was made by Selectman McHatton to support the Art & Culture Subcommittee's Second Saturday Art Walk; second from Vice-Chairman Zaidman. 5 approve/0 oppose

c. Bridgton Harvest Moon Fest Presentation by Michael Davis

Mike Davis of the Historical Society proposed the creation of a family friendly autumn celebration with the proposed name of the Bridgton Harvest Moon Festival. Mr. Davis expressed their difficulty in obtaining insurance for the event and subsequently asked for support from the Town. After board members cited several potential safety and traffic flow concerns, Chairman Lone requested a more detailed overall plan be brought before the Board in May.

7. New Business

a. Awards and Other Administrative Recommendations

There were no awards or other administration recommendations.

b. Permits/Documents Requiring Board Approval

1. Approval of Annual Town Meeting Warrant

a. Town Clerk/Town Manager's Draft

Motion was made by Selectman McHatton to approve Town Clerk/Town Manager's warrant; second from Vice-Chairman Zaidman. Selectman Tworog raised a question about specific reductions, which was addressed by the Town Manager. 5 approve/0 oppose

2. Notice of Public Hearing on May 24th, 2022

Motion was made by Selectman Packard to set the public hearing on the secret ballot referendum for May 24, 2022; second from Selectman Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose

3. Comprehensive Plan Update Community Engagement Resolution (Heart & Soul Project)

Suzie Guthrow clarified her role in the program and, with the assistance of Linda LaCroix and a community member, reviewed the purpose and structure of the group. **Motion** was made by Selectman Packard to approve a Resolution in Support of Bridgton's Community Heart & Soul Project; second from Selectman McHatton. 4 approve/1 oppose (Vice-Chairman Zaidman was opposed)

4. Revised Warrant and Notice of Election Calling Maine School Administrative District No. 61 Referendum on May 24, 2022

Motion was made by Chairman Lone to sign the Warrant and Notice of Election Calling Maine School Administrative District No. 61 Referendum; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/ 0 oppose

5. Business Licenses

a. Victualer's License to Happy Valley Popcorn (257 Main St.)

b. Victualer's License to Ruby Food (160 Main St.)

c. Victualer's License to Corn Shop Trading Company (179 Main St.)

d. Victualer's License to The Little Mountain Store (1382 North High St.)

e. Victualer's License to Yeti Ice Cream & Milk Shake Bar (187 Main St.)

Motion was made by Selectman Packard to approve Victualer's Licenses to Happy Valley Popcorn, Ruby Food, Corn Shop Trading Company, The Little Mountain Store and Yeti Ice Cream & Milk Shake Bar; second from Vice-Chairman Zaidman. 5 approve/ 0 oppose

c. Selectman's Concerns

- **Selectman Tworog** thanked the Public Works Department for making some of the roads more passable while construction continues.
- **Selectman McHatton** raised concerns over the confusion surrounding pay-per-bag and asked the Board if they support the program to which the Board agreed.
- **Chairman Lone** requested someone from the Public Works Department remove the star from the Christmas tree outside the Community Center.

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

Town Manager Peabody read the following into the record:

"Manager's Report: 04/26/22

Personnel

I would like to thank Erin for her almost two years in the Code Enforcement Department and wish her much success in her new endeavors. Lora Lee Phillips will be replacing her with a start date of May 9th.

Public Services Director is posting the Water Reclamation Foreman position internally. If there are no suitable candidates, then the position will be advertised.

Jake Linley, Parks Department Landscaper began work today. He will be working part-time with Lucia Terry, Perennial Point of View to become familiar with the Town's gardens. Lucia is currently contracted to tend all the Town's gardens but will not be continuing to do so.

Recreation Department

The Department offers various Adult Programs including Zumba, Tai Chi, Pickleball, Karate and Ping Pong at the Town Hall.

Adult Trip May 7th, Red Sox vs White Sox. \$85 includes round trip bus ticket and game ticket. Come join us for a fund day at the ballgame.

Baseball, Softball, and Lacrosse start their season next week.

The Maine Event Prom Project is set up at the Ice Rink throughout May by appointment for those looking but unable to afford a new prom dress.

Please note that Summer Rec and Swim Lessons are now open for registration.

Save The Dates:

July 3rd At Dusk – Independence Day Fireworks

August 3rd – Zerbini Family Circus Returns

Community Development

The CDD reminds Bridgton residents of the opportunity to join the Comprehensive Plan Update Task Force. The Task Force will develop inventories and assessments for each of the required subject matters included in the Comprehensive Plan. The plan update will go before the voters at Town Meeting in June of 2024. This is an exciting time to be involved in a project that will guide development for the next ten years. Applications are available on the Community Development page of the town website.

Fire Department

There are 2 new firefighters progressing through the Basic Fire School to become interior firefighters. They are scheduled to be done the beginning of June.

5 members attended a basic pumps class in Fryeburg this past weekend sponsored by Western Maine Firefighters Association and Maine Fire Service Institute. Feedback from all who attended was very positive. The Chief will continue to work with the others in the Western Maine Firefighters Association to sponsor more regional classes in this area. It creates a great learning environment and brings mutual aid departments together for shared training improving operations in mutual aid situations.

3 new members that have just finished the hiring process and will be starting with the department in the immediate future We are looking forward to bringing these new folks on board and beginning their orientation and training.

The last of our annual tests required by the Bureau of Labor is hose testing which will be done on Wednesday, April 27, beginning at 8 am at the transfer station

A reminder for anybody cleaning up their property in Bridgton, burn permits are required to burn brush, yard debris, leaves etc. The permits are available in person at the Police Department M-F 8-4, or online at either www.burningpermit.com or www.burnpermit@infome.org. There is no charge for any burn permits. Please be very careful with any fire and make sure it is completely extinguished and cool to the touch when done.

Police Department

The Public Fraud Informational Talk that was previously scheduled for this Thursday the 28th has been rescheduled for next Thursday the 5th.”

8. Old Business

a. Wastewater Status Update

Town Manager Peabody provided a brief wastewater status update.

9. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Chairman Lone reported that the American Legion Post 67 has begun placing flags in anticipation of Memorial Day.

10. Dates for the Next Board of Selectmen’s Meetings

May 10, 2022, at 4:00 P.M. – Solar Farm Workshop

May 24, 2022

June 14, 2022

11. Adjourn

Motion was made by Chairman Lone to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 P.M.; second from Selectman McHatton.
5 approve/0 oppose

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie L. Ferguson
Deputy Town Clerk