

Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
June 28, 2022; 5:00 P.M.

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

Administration Present: Town Manager Robert A. Peabody, Jr.; Deputy Town Manager Georgiann Fleck; Town Clerk Laurie Chadbourne; Public Services Director David Madsen; Fire Chief Glen Garland; Finance Director Holly Heymann; Executive Assistant Nikki Hodgkins

1. Call to Order

Town Manager Peabody called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Board recited the "Pledge of Allegiance."

3. Elect Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Motion was made by Selectman McHatton to nominate Selectman Lone to serve as Chairman of the Board; second from Selectman Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose

Motion was made by Selectman Murphy to nominate Selectman McHatton to serve as Vice-Chairman of the Board; second from Chairman Lone. 4 approve/1 oppose (Selectman Tworog was opposed)

Town Manager Peabody turned the meeting over to Chairman Lone.

4. Organizational Matters

a. Meeting Schedule Dates and Times

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman McHatton to continue to meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/0 oppose

b. Schedule for Review of Treasurer's Warrants

Chairman Lone will review the warrants from July through September 2022; Vice-Chairman McHatton will review the warrants from October through December 2022; Selectman Murphy will review the warrants from January through March 2023; , Selectman Tworog will review the warrants from April through June 2023.

c. Committee Liaisons

- Vice-Chairman McHatton will serve as liaison to Community Development Advisory Committee, Recycling Committee, and Investment Committee.
- Selectman Tworog will serve as liaison to the Pondicherry Park Committee, Comprehensive Plan Task Force Committee and Cumberland County Finance Office.
- Selectman Murphy will serve as liaison to the Comprehensive Plan Task Force Committee.
- Chairman Lone will serve as the liaison to the Ordinance Review Committee.
- Selectman Packard will serve as liaison to the Fryeburg Airport Authority.

5. Approval of Minutes

a. June 14, 2022

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman McHatton for approval of the minutes from the June 14, 2022, Board Meeting; second from Selectman Packard. 4 approve/0 oppose/1 abstention (Selectman Murphy abstained)

6. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Fifty-four-year resident Robert Howe commended employees of the Town and the Select Board for doing a terrific job.

Robert Howe encouraged the Board to come up with a contingency plan to help residents that may not be able to afford their mortgage, taxes or necessities as inflation continues.

Robert Howe owns a piece of property adjacent to the Middle Ridge Cemetery and would be willing to negotiate a sale to the Town if interested.

7. Committee/Liaison Reports

There were no committee liaison reports.

8. Correspondence, Presentations and Other Pertinent Information

a. Recreation Trail Easement (tabled from 6/14/2022)

Motion was made by Selectman Packard to take this item off the table; second from Selectman Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose **Motion** was made by Selectman Tworog to approve the Recreation Trail Easement on land of Lakes Environmental Association; second from Vice-Chairman McHatton. 5 approve/0 oppose Town Manager Peabody thanked Matt Markot for his efforts. Mr. Markot provided a brief update of the project and noted some impact to trail access during that time

b. Presentation of Audited Financial Statements

William Hall representing RHR Smith & Company presented the June 30, 2021, audit report and responded to several questions asked by the Board. The Board thanked Mr. Hall and Finance Director Heymann for a job well done.

9. New Business

a. Awards and Other Administrative Recommendations

There were no awards and other administrative recommendations.

b. Permits/Documents Requiring Board Approval

1. 2022 Wastewater Budget

Public Services Director David Madsen reviewed the proposed 2022 wastewater budget. **Motion** was made by Selectman Packard for approval of the 2022-23 Water Reclamation Budget and rate as presented; second from Selectman Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose

2. 2022 Tax Commitment

Assessor's Agent Denis Berube reviewed the Municipal Tax Rate Calculation Form. **Motion** by made by Selectman Tworog to set the mil rate at 15.01; second from Selectman McHatton. 2 approve/3 oppose (Chairman Lone, Vice-Chairman McHatton and Selectman Murphy were opposed) **Motion** was made by Vice-Chairman McHatton to set the mil rate at 15.20; second from Selectman Murphy. 4 approve/1 oppose (Selectman Tworog was opposed)

3. Victualer's License to Breakroom 248 located at 248 Main Street

Motion was made by Selectman Packard to approve a Victualer's License to Breakroom 248; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/0 oppose

4. Victualer's License to Bridgton House of Pizza located at 256 Main Street

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman McHatton to approve a Victualer's License to Bridgton House of Pizza; second from Selectman Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose

5. Certificate of Commitment of Sewer User Rates Commitment #264

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman McHatton to commit the March 1, 2022 to May 31, 2022 Sewer User Rate Commitment #254 comprising of 3 pages totaling \$14,641.19 to the Treasurer for collection; second from Selectman Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose

c. Selectmen's Concerns

- **Selectman Packard** noted that the construction company has done a good job on Route 302 and looks forward to the completion soon.
- **Selectman Murphy** had no concerns.
- **Selectman Tworog** asked what the policy is for the Town Manager's performance review to which Town Manager Peabody responded that this is typically conducted in May. Selectman Tworog requested that it be scheduled.
- **Vice-Chairman McHatton** asked for the status of the crosswalks to which Public Services Director Madsen responded that the goal is to have the ones on Main Street completed by the holiday weekend but the cross roads will take a bit longer.
- **Vice-Chairman McHatton** commended the Public Services Director for a great job with the speed bumps at Highland Lake.
- **Vice-Chairman McHatton** asked for a status update on the Moose Pond Boat launch to which Public Services Director Madsen responded that he has provided a temporary fix and is now waiting on the State.
- **Chairman Lone** asked for the cost of insurance for the Harvest Moon Fest to which Deputy Town Manager Fleck responded that the original estimate was \$2,500 and is waiting for the final amount to include the bounce house.
- **Chairman Lone** asked if the uneven pavement on Route 302 will be fixed before the fourth of July to which Public Services Director Madsen responded that they are not able repair prior to the holiday.

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

Deputy Town Manager Fleck read the following report into the record:

"TOWN OF BRIDGTON DEPUTY TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT, June 28, 2022

General

I would like to congratulate Carmen Lone on being re-elected chair and Bob McHatton on being elected Vice Chair. I would like to welcome newly elected, Ken Murphy, to his first Board of Selectmen's meeting and thank out-going Glen "Bear" Zaidman for his years of service as a Selectboard member. At the May 26, 2022 Land for Maine's Future Program ("LMF") meeting the Board selected a proposal for funding from Loon Echo Land Trust entitled *The Muddy River Forests Project*. LMF staff will work with the applicant and will hold public meetings for public comment prior to the Board's vote for a finalist. Written comments can also be submitted to Chair, Land for Maine's Future Boards, 22 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333-0022. If you have any questions about the project, please contact Loon Echo Land Trust, 8 Depot Street, Bridgton, Maine 04009, execdir@lelt.org

Town Clerk's Department

After Monday, July 18th a lien will be filed on any unpaid 2021 tax accounts. Please call the Town Clerk's Office if you are unsure of the status of your account. As you are aware the taxes were just committed, therefore, the 2022 tax bills will be issued soon and the first payment will be due on or before August 15, 2022.

Finance Department

RHR Smith, Town of Bridgton auditors, have been on site Monday, June 27th and Tuesday, June 28th to conduct the FY22 pre-audit. We will be performing the close of the fiscal year FY22 on June 30th. I would like to thank Holly Heyman, Finance Director and Jenna Domer, Deputy Finance Director for their diligence during this audit which resulted in a favorable audit.

Bridgton Recreation

CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE! Sunday, July 3rd there will be something for everyone! Craft and Vendor Fair 8:00a.m. to

5:00p.m.; Kids Fun Run/Walk 4:30p.m.; Music Concert 7:00p.m. and Fireworks at dusk at Stevens Brook Elementary School (school lobby bathrooms will be open for the use during the evening.) On Monday, July 4th is the parade and the Four on the Fourth Road Race. The submittal of registrations for swim and summer camp has been closed because they have reached 350 registered participants. Lifeguards started at Woods Pond and Highland Lake on Monday. Both beaches will be staffed with at least one lifeguard per day and two on busy days 10:00a.m. to 6:00p.m. Applications are still being accepted for certified lifeguards. For information on these events and many others please refer to our website or call Gary Colello, Recreation Director at 207-647-1126

Bridgton Public Works Department

Fine Line Pavement Striping and Bridgton Public Works are working on restoring the crosswalks throughout town. The Public Works Department is responsible for keeping our town beautiful and “going the extra mile” when additional preparation is needed for special events. This week they are busy prepping for the upcoming Independence Day weekend festivities. The footbridge in Shorey Park has been completed (plantings to come) and the Highland Lake dam has been repaired. They also did some work to level out the ramps on the public boat ramp at Moose Pond.

Bridgton Police Department

We had a very successful “Cop on Top” fundraiser at Hayes True Value this past weekend. Two days, five different law enforcement agencies, we raised \$5,660 for Special Olympics Maine. Our two Park Rangers, Libby Blais and Taylor Dastoli, started this week. They will each work approximately 20 hours doing foot and bicycle patrol and will have a positive presence at our parks and beaches. We would like to remind the public that the following are not allowed at our public beaches, pets, smoking, alcohol, fireworks and glass bottles and please remember to carry in and carry out. Let’s all be safe and enjoy our summer!

Bridgton Fire Department

The Fire Department would like to remind everyone as we approach the July 4th holiday weekend to be very care with any outside fires and please make sure they are completely extinguished when done using. For those that will be using consumer fireworks use extreme caution and follow the proper safety guidelines. Bridgton does have a Consumer Fireworks Ordinance which allows fireworks on the 4th of July and the following weekend between the hours of 9:00a.m. and 12:30a.m (full text is available on our website). Children using sparklers need to be closely supervised and make sure to dispose of the leftover wires safely (many burn injuries occur each year from people stepping on, or handling, the hot wires improperly). Have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Community Development Director

The first 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update Task Force meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 13th from 5:30p.m. to 7:00p.m. at the Bridgton Ice Rink (behind the Town Hall at 26 North High Street) The public is welcome to attend this, and all, future task force meetings.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Georgiann M. Fleck
Deputy Town Manager”

Vice-Chairman McHatton asked the Public Services Director how the roads will impact the fourth of July parade on Route 302 and down Main Street to which Director Madsen responded that the roads will be swept, clean and ready for the parade.

Selectman Murphy encouraged public attendance at the Music on Main event scheduled for Saturday evening.

10. Old Business

a. Wastewater Status Update

A workshop meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, July 6, 2022 at 5:00 P.M. to meet with Brent Bridges for a status update of the current project and the extension.

Town Manager Peabody provided a brief update regarding funding to which the Board thanked him for his efforts. He will keep the Board informed.

11. Treasurer's Warrants

Motion was made by Selectman Packard for approval of Treasurer's Warrants numbered 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131 and 132; second from Selectman Murphy. 5 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

July 6, 2022 Wastewater Workshop at 5:00 P.M.

July 12, 2022 Regular Meeting at 5:00 P.M.

July 26, 2022 Regular Meeting at 3:00 P.M. (to view wastewater site)

14. Adjourn

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman McHatton to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 P.M./; second from Selectman Packard. 5 approve/0 oppose

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie L. Chadbourne
Town Clerk