

Select Board's Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2023; 4:30 PM

Board Members Present: Carmen E. Lone, Chair; Paul A. Tworog; Carrye Castleman-Ross; Kenneth J. Murphy

Board Member Absent: Robert J. McHatton, Sr. Vice Chair

Administration Present: Town Manager Robert A. Peabody Jr.; Deputy Town Manager Georgiann Fleck; Executive Assistant Nikki Hodgkins; Community Development Director Victoria Hill; Public Works director David Madsen; Recreation Director Gary Colello; Deputy Town Clerk Jamie L. Ferguson

1. Call to Order

Chair Lone called the meeting to order at 4:30 P.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Board recited the "Pledge of Allegiance."

3. Executive Session per MRS Title 1, Section 6.D for Discussion of Labor Contract

Motion was made by Select Board Member Tworog to enter executive session at 4:30 P.M. per MRS Title 1, Section 6.D for discussion of Labor Contract; second from Select Board Member Castleman-Ross. 4 approve/0 oppose **Motion** was made by Select Board Member Murphy to exit executive session at 5:22 P.M.; second from Select Board Member Tworog. 4 approve/0 oppose

4. Action Items Following Executive Session

Motion was made by Chair Lone to reopen the Town of Bridgton and Public Works Department Contract; second from Select Board Member Castleman-Ross. 3 approve/1 oppose (Select Board Member Tworog was opposed)

5. Approval of Minutes: December 27, 2022

Motion was made by Select Board Member Murphy to approve the minutes from the December 27, 2022, Select Board Meeting; second from Select Board Member Castleman-Ross. 4 approve/0 oppose

6. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Bridgton resident and former Depot Street business owner Ann Overman presented her idea for the Memorial School Project. Select Board Member Tworog reminded the public that a committee is forming to consider uses for the Memorial School. The application is available online. The Board thanked Ms. Overman for her presentation.

7. Committee/Liaison Reports

a. Community Development Director Update on Open Space, Comprehensive Plan, and CBDG Funds

Community Development Director Victoria Hill advised that the deadline for the Memorial School Project Committee application is January 20, 2023. Ms. Hill updated the Board on CDBG applications and the Highland, Elm, and Church St. sidewalk projects. She also advised that the Open Space survey will be open until January 31, 2023, and that the Community Development consultants will be presenting their preliminary findings of the survey in early February to the CDAC. Ms. Hill advised the Board that the data collected through Open Space directly feeds an entire chapter of the Comprehensive Plan. She also clarified that Vision Bridgton is a way to streamline all the different engagement efforts and is the new face of the Comprehensive Plan outreach, the Open Space outreach, and Community Heart and Soul. Ms. Hill gave the Board notice that she will be presenting a proposal at a future date for the potential use of funds available in her budget.

8. Correspondence, Presentations and Other Pertinent Information

a. Request from Greater Bridgton Chamber of Commerce to Use Highland Lake Beach on February 18, 2023, for Winter Carnival

Dan Harden asked for permission to use the Highland Lake Beach facilities for the Winter Carnival on February 18, 2023. Mr. Harden detailed the events that will be taking place during the Winter Carnival. **Motion** was made by Select Board Member Tworog to grant permission for the Greater “Lakes Region” Bridgton Chamber of Commerce to use Highland Lake Beach on February 18, 2023, from 7 A.M. to 8 P.M. for the 2023 Winter Carnival; second from Select Board Member Castleman-Ross. Select Board Member Murphy stated he must recuse himself as he is a Board Member on the Chamber of Commerce, to which Chair Lone clarified that, as he is not financially benefiting from the Winter Carnival, he does not have to do so. 4 approve/ 0 oppose

9. New Business

a. Awards and Other Administrative Recommendations

1. Appointment of Select Board Member Castleman-Ross to the Recycling Committee

Motion was made by Chair Lone to appoint Select Board Member Carrye Castleman-Ross as liaison to the Recycling Committee; second from Select Board Member Murphy. 4 approve/0 oppose

2. Recreation Department Child Care Subsidy Scholarship Process

Recreation Director Gary Colello detailed how the Recreation Department’s current Child Care Scholarship works, as well as how it would work in conjunction with the State Child Care Subsidy Program. Mr. Colello clarified that he is asking the Board for formal permission for applicants to apply for the State subsidy before applying for the Recreation Department’s scholarship. Discussion ensued. **Motion** was made by Select Board Member Murphy to approve the Bridgton Recreation Department’s Child Care Subsidy Scholarship Process; second from Select Board Member Tworog. 4 approve/0 oppose

b. Permits/Documents Requiring Board Approval

None

c. Selectmen’s Concerns

- **Select Board Member Tworog** is concerned about signage for parking. He also voiced concerns about the plowing and sanding of the Elegance parking lot. Public Services Director David Madsen clarified that per a “handshake” agreement with the business, the Elegance parking lot is used for snow storage while plowing and is removed the following day. Discussion ensued about signage for municipal parking on Main Hill.
- **Select Board Member Castleman-Ross** thanked Victoria Hill for her ongoing work and voiced her appreciation for Ann Overman’s presentation. She also congratulated former Community Development Director Ann Krieg on her new position in Bangor.
- **Select Board Member Murphy** echoed Select Board Member Castleman-Ross’s sentiments and thanked the Public Services Department for an awesome job sanding the roads.
- **Chair Lone** noted Mr. William Morriveau’s passing and shared that he will be missed. Chair Lone also congratulated Public Works on the consistency of the Main Street decorations and expressed her hopes that Public Works is talking with EMA about the past storms we have recently had.

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

Town Manager Robert Peabody read and submitted the following into the record:

Manager's Report, 01/10/23

General Information

The Town Office, Recreation Department, and Public Services Department will be closed Monday, January 16, for Martin Luther King Day.

An important reminder that with winter weather upon us, 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.

Regarding weather events, please be aware that we post information on the Town's Facebook page and the Town's website. Additionally, all the local television channels are notified when the Town Office closes.

Community Development Department

The Open Space Survey Plan public survey will be available through January 31st. It may be taken online, by phone, or by paper copies available at the Bridgton Town Office, Bridgton Community Center, or the Bridgton Public Library. Please visit the Community Development website to learn more or contact Victoria Hill or Leri Montague at the Bridgton Town Office with any questions.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office

Bridgton was awarded Keeping Cumberland County Warm Grant funding through Cumberland County to provide additional heating assistance for persons or families that otherwise would be ineligible to receive General Assistance due to income guidelines. The goal of the program is to target families with incomes exceeding both general assistance and LIHEAP income caps for Cumberland County. Please visit the website: keepingcumberlandcountywarm-Town of Bridgton, Maine at bridgtonmaine.org.

The 2020 real estate taxes must be paid by January 27, 2023, to avoid foreclosure. If you are unsure of the status of your account, please contact the Tax Collector's Office at 207.647.8786.

A reminder to license your dogs before January 31, 2023, to avoid a \$25 late fee.

Finance Department

A reminder to the Board that the quarterly warrant signer is Ken Murphy through March 31st. Paul Tworog is responsible from April 1st to Town Meeting.

10. Old Business

a. Wastewater Status Update

Select Board Member Tworog asked for a table or breakdown on the fiscal sustainability plan that was submitted. Town Manager Peabody responded that he would work with the Public Services Director on that. Selectboard Member Tworog asked for clarification on the clean water needs survey rates. Town Manager Peabody stated he would reach out to the Town Engineer on that subject.

11. Treasurer's Warrants

Motion was made by Select Board Member Murphy to approve Treasurer's Warrants numbered 1062, 1063, 1064, 1065, 1066, 1067; second from Chair Lone. 4 approve/0 oppose

12. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Community Development Director Victoria Hill advised that there will a GPCOG meeting will be taking place at the Town Hall on January 11, 2023, at 5:00 P.M.

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

January 18, 2023 @ 4:30 P.M. (EMA Workshop), January 24, 2023, February 14, 2023

14. Adjourn

Chair Lone adjourned the meeting at 6:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie L. Ferguson, Deputy Town Clerk