

Select Board Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2023; 5:00 P.M.

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

Staff Members Present: Town Manager Robert Peabody, Jr.; Deputy Town Manager Georgiann Fleck; Town Clerk Laurie Chadbourne; Community Development Director Victoria Hill

1. Call to Order

Chair 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: September 26, 2023

Motion was made by Vice-Chair McHatton to approve the September 26, 2023 Select Board Meeting minutes; second from Member Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose

4. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

There were no comments on non-agenda items.

5. Committee/Liaison Reports

a. Recycling Committee Application from Patricia Bisang

Recycling Committee Liaison Member Castleman-Ross thanked Ms. Bisang for her interest in serving on the Recycling Committee and reported that due to reformation, the Committee is not recommending new membership until their future direction is determined. Member Castleman-Ross also noted that Ms. Bisang has withdrawn application.

b. Pondicherry Park Committee Application from Anne Mann

Ms. Mann was not able to attend the meeting. Member Tworog noted the difficulty in obtaining membership adding that her background proves she would be an asset to the Committee which the other Members agreed. **Motion** was made by Member Tworog to appoint Anne Mann to the Pondicherry Park Committee; second from Vice-Chair McHatton. 5 approve/0 oppose

c. Resignation of Norman Nicholson from the Investment Committee

Motion was made by Vice-Chair McHatton to accept, with regret, Norman Nicholson's resignation of membership from the Investment Committee; second from Member Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose

6. Correspondence, Presentations and Other Pertinent Information

a. Stephany Jacques, ~~Interim~~ President of Bridgton and Rumford Hospitals

Stephany Jacques, President of Bridgton and Rumford Hospitals, thanked the Board and provided a brief overview of the plans for the hospital. She responded to several questions asked by the Board. Ms. Jacques added that her door is open and she welcomes feedback. The Board welcomed her to Bridgton and she was thanked for her encouraging words.

7. New Business

a. Awards and Other Administrative Recommendations

There were no awards and other administrative recommendations.

b. Permits/Documents Requiring Board Approval

1. Abatement Corrections as Recommended by the Assessor's Agent

Assessors Agent Denis Berube was present and reported that due to an error, some of the abatements approved by the Select Board on August 22, 2023 were not correct. He provided an affidavit to correct local records as well as the corrected abatement amounts. **Motion** was made by Chair Lone to approve the Affidavit to Correct Local Government Record; second from Member Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose **Motion** was made by Chair Lone to approve the recommended September 12, 2023 corrected abatement value/tax totaling \$13,897.37; second from Member Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose Assessor's Agent Berube reported that he will be resuming his regular office presence every other Wednesday. The Board welcomed him back.

2. Victualer's Licenses to Players Billiard & Bar (224 Portland Road); McDonald's (5 Lumberyard Drive); Sail Away Coffee Co. (151 Portland Road); Beth's Kitchen Café (108 Main Street)

Motion was made by Chair Lone to approve Victualer's Licenses to Players Billiard, McDonald's, Sail Away Coffee Co., Beth's Kitchen Café; second from Member Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose

c. Select Board Comments

- **Chair Lone** thanked the Public Services Department for their work at Farragut Park noting that it looks good.
- On behalf of the news from Israel, **Member Murphy** called for a moment of silence for all the people that lost their lives this weekend.
- On behalf of the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, **Member Murphy** thanked all that volunteered and showed up at the Brewfest.
- **Member Castleman-Ross** agreed with Member Murphy and added that it was wonderful to see municipal employees volunteering at Brewfest.
- **Member Tworog** asked when the lines on Kansas Road will be repainted to which Town Manager Peabody will follow up with the Public Services Director.
- **Member Tworog** suggested that Community Development Director Hill utilize the Community Page on Facebook to solicit public input. Director Hill responded that she will be using social media, including the community page, for public notification.

Chair Lone brought agenda item 8 forward at 5:30 P.M.

8. 5:30 P.M. Public Hearing

a. Automobile Graveyard / Junkyard Permit to Ovide's Cars Located at 730 Portland Road

Chair Lone opened the public hearing at 5:30 P.M. to receive public comment on an Automobile Graveyard / Junkyard Permit to Ovide's Used Cars. There were no public comments. Chair Lone closed the hearing at 5:31 P.M.

b. New Liquor License to Players Billiard & Bar Located at 224 Portland Road

Chair Lone opened the public hearing at 5:31 P.M. to receive comments on a new liquor license to Players Billiard & Bar. There were no public comments. Chair Lone closed the hearing at 5:32 P.M.

9. Action Items Following Public Hearing

a. Automobile Graveyard / Junkyard Permit to Ovide's Cars Located at 730 Portland Road

Motion was made by Member Murphy to approve an Automobile Graveyard/Junkyard Permit to Ovide's Used Cars; second from Member Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose Mr. Corbeil thanked the Board noting that he has been operating this business for thirty-one years.

b. New Liquor License to Players Billiard & Bar Located at 224 Portland Road

Motion was made by Vice-Chair McHatton to approve a new liquor license to Players Billiard & Bar; second from Member Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose

Chair Lone returned to agenda item 7.c.

c. Select Board Comments

- **Member Tworog** suggested that the Board review the day-to-day process of setting goals and priorities, how staff time is spent and the role of the Select Board in establishing priorities on a day-to-day basis. This will be addressed at the goal setting workshop.
- **Vice-Chair McHatton** commented that the goal setting workshop is going to be a long one.

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

Town Manager Peabody read the following report into the record:

General Information

The Brewfest Event, held for the first time at the Ham Complex, was well attended. The following Town employees volunteered their Saturday to help with parking and raise money for the Complex: Myself, Georgiann Fleck, David Madsen, Nikki Hopkins, Diane Kiriaji (and her husband, Charlie), Chris McGuire, Eric Drew, and Toni Criscitelli. A total of \$2,147.84 was raised. Thanks to the Bridgton Area Chamber of Commerce for choosing Bridgton as the new site for this annual event.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office

A reminder that quarterly real estate taxes are due August 15, November 15, February 15, and May 15.

Absentee ballots are available for the November 7, 2023, State of Maine Referendum Election. You can vote absentee at the Town Clerk's Office, make a telephone request for your own ballot, request your ballot by electronic means through the Secretary of State's online Absentee Ballot Request Service, or complete a written application. All absentee ballot requests must be received by the Town Clerk by the close of business on Thursday, November 2, 2023, unless special circumstances exist. Voted absentee ballots must be received by the Town Clerk by 8:00 P.M. on November 7, 2023. Please contact the Town Clerk's Office or visit our website for additional information.

Beginning October 15th, you can renew your dog licenses for 2024. Please bring the current rabies certificate with you. You can also obtain your dog's registration online via the State of Maine dog licensing service from October 15, 2023, until January 31, 2024. Kindly be advised that a late fee of \$25 per dog will be imposed after January 31, 2024, per State Law.

Community Development Department

Please join your community at the Bridgton Town Hall on Wednesday, November 1st at 6PM for the Comprehensive Plan Project Kick-Off! The event includes a brief presentation followed by an open-house style activity to help you learn why a comprehensive plan is important and why you should get involved! Food and beverages will be provided, and children are welcome.

Questions or comments? Visit our new comprehensive plan project website (accessible through the Town of Bridgton Website) or email Community Development Director, Victoria Hill at vhill@bridgtonmaine.org.

Police Department

Officer Hammond is currently in week 8 of the 18wk police academy, he is doing well and is excited to complete the training and return to duty.

Officer Deshensky completed a two-week instructor course which will allow him to use his skills as a firearms instructor to help train the department.

We would like to welcome Officer Jacob Gormely to the PD as a reserve officer. Officer Gormely has been serving as a sworn police officer for the warden's service as their part time lake deputy. Although he is a certified reserve officer, he will still go through the standard field training program before being able to work independently and cover patrol shifts.

BPD is still advertising for two open full time patrol positions. Applications can be directed to Chief Jones at pjones@bridgtonmaine.org.

Finance Department

October 19th, Shred-It will be at the Town Office to pick up and shred some 80 boxes of documents. This will free up space in the vault and storage trailer. If you recall, Chairman Lone suggested budgeting for this project during budget discussions.

Recreation

The Rec Department is seeking local Actors and Actresses to volunteer to be in our Haunted House this October.

Adult programs such as Jumping Janes Senior Fitness, Tai Chi, Pickleball, Archery, Walking, Ping Pong, and Karate take place weekly at the Bridgton Town Hall.

Magic of Christmas Adult Trip is on December 10th and tickets are \$45 for the show and bus ride.

Halloween Palooza is on Oct. 28th come dressed in your costume! We are looking for parade entries to be in the Halloween Parade at 6PM!

Save the Date to Celebrate Lights on After School with Bridgton Rec. Come out and check out and celebrate Recreation Department and our Community Partners offer to children outside of school hours!

8. 5:30 P.M. Public Hearing

9. Action Items Following Public Hearing

Items 8 and 9 were addressed earlier in the meeting.

10. Old Business

a. Project Status Updates

Town Manager Peabody provided a brief project status update.

11. Treasurer's Warrants

Motion was made by Vice-Chair McHatton to approve Treasurer's Warrants numbered 228-232; second from Member 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 Select Board Meetings

~~October 19, 2023 at 5PM~~ November 8, 2023 - 5PM (Transfer Station Workshop)

October 24, 2023 - 5PM Regular Meeting

October 26, 2023 - 6PM-8PM (NIMS Training Certification)

November 1, 2023 - 6PM Comprehensive Plan Meeting at Town Hall

November 15, 2023 - 5PM (Goal Setting Session)

14. Adjourn

Motion was made by Vice-Chair McHatton to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 P.M.; second from Member Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie L. Chadbourne
Town Clerk