

## Select Board Meeting Minutes December 12, 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

Administration Present: Town Manager Robert Peabody, Jr.; Deputy Town Manager Georgiann Fleck; Town Clerk Laurie Chadbourne; Community Development Director Victoria Hill; Recreation Director Gary Colello.

### 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: November 28, 2023

**Motion** was made by Vice-Chair McHatton for approval of the November 28, 2023 meeting minutes; second from Member Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose

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

Planning Board Chair Deb Brusini reported that there will be additional amendments to the Land Use Code Revisions for LD 2003/1706 and will be conducting another public hearing in January.

Through personal experience, Deb Brusini highly recommends that the Sleepers' and Peter Lowell be appointed to the Open Space Committee.

### 5. Committee/Liaison Reports

#### a. Appointments to the Open Space Committee

Chair Lone noted that all the applications were impressive and thanked the applicants for their interest. Community Development Director Victoria Hill reported that Christina Wilson withdrew her application. **Motion** was made by Member Tworog to appoint Laura Pickford to the Open Space Committee; second from Chair Lone. 5 approve/0 oppose **Motion** was made by Chair Lone to appoint Peter Lowell to the Open Space Committee; second from Member Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose **Motion** was made by Chair Lone to appoint June Sleeper to the Open Space Committee; second from Member Castleman-Ross. 5 approve/0 oppose **Motion** was made by Chair Lone to appoint Brian Mayhew to the Open Space Committee; second from Member Castleman-Ross. 5 approve/0 oppose **Motion** was made by Chair Lone to appoint Matt Markot to the Open Space Committee; second from Member Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose **Motion** was made by Chair Lone to appoint Glen Jukkola to the Open Space Committee; second from Member Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose Community Development Director Hill will notify new members and call the first meeting.

Vice-Chair McHatton reported that there was a great turnout for the CDAC Meeting at Walker Hall.

Member Castleman-Ross reported that the Recycling Committee is on hiatus until January, 2024.

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

#### a. Presentation of Inventory and Analysis (Phase 1) of the Comprehensive Plan

Representatives from Berry Dunn reviewed the attached presentation and responded to several questions asked by the Board.

b. Review of November 27<sup>th</sup> Select Board Workshop on Priorities

Member Tworog was concerned with voting on the short-term priorities and suggested that the Board consider this document to be a working draft for further refinement.

Chair Lone brought agenda item 7 forward.

7. Public Hearing

a. Special Amusement Permit from Maine 4-H Foundation/Magic Lantern Located at 9 Depot Street

Chair Lone opened the public hearing to accept written and oral comments on an application from Maine 4-H Foundation/Magic Lantern for a Special Amusement Permit at 5:51 P.M. There were no public comments. Chair Lone closed the public hearing at 5:52 P.M.

8. Action Items Following Public Hearing

a. Special Amusement Permit from Maine 4-H Foundation/Magic Lantern Located at 9 Depot Street

**Motion** was made by Member Tworog to approve the Special Amusement Permit to Maine 4-H Foundation/Magic Lantern; second from Member Castleman-Ross. 5 approve/0 oppose

Chair Lone returned to 6.b.

b. Review of November 27<sup>th</sup> Select Board Workshop on Priorities

Consensus of the Board was that the document is an accurate representation of the workshop.

c. Continued Discussion of EV Fast Charging Opportunity

Town Manager Peabody received legal feedback and **motion** was made by Member Tworog to authorize the Town Manager to send the red lined version from legal to Revision Energy and have a discussion related specifically to \$3,000 annual payment for exclusivity privilege and a to be determined amount for grating the 20-year license; second from Vice-Chair McHatton. Member Tworog **amended the motion** to include a \$5,000 escrow account for legal fees; second from Vice-Chair McHatton. 5 approve/0 oppose

*7. Public Hearing and 8. Action Items Following Public Hearing*

Items 7 and 8 were addressed earlier in the meeting.

9. New Business

a. Awards and Other Administrative Recommendations

1. Request \$1,900 Expenditure from the Fire Department Donation Account

Fire Chief Glen Garland requested use of up to \$1,900 from the Fire Department Donation Account for the purchase of one blue polo shirt for each member of the Department with the insignia and individuals name embroidered on each shirt. **Motion** was made by Member Murphy to approve the request for up to \$1,900 expenditure from the Fire Department Reserve Account; second from Member Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose

2. Request from Emergency Management to Reschedule G-402 Class

The Board set a meeting date of January 4, 2024 from 6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. for the G-402 Class.

3. Adoption of NIMS Resolution

**Motion** was made by Member Tworog to adopt the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Resolution effective as of December 12, 2023; second from Member Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose

b. Permits/Documents Requiring Board Approval

1. 2024 Appointment of Robert A. Peabody, Jr. as Town Manager, Tax Collector, Treasurer and Road Commissioner

**Motion** was made by Vice-Chair McHatton to re-appoint Robert A. Peabody, Jr. as Town Manager, Tax Collector, Treasurer and Road Commissioner; second from Member Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose

## 2. Confirmation of the 2024 Town Manager's Appointments

Chair Lone reported the Michael Chaine is now a Police Sergeant and congratulated him on his promotion. **Motion** was made by Chair Lone to confirm the 2024 Town Manager's Appointments, as amended; second from Member Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose

## 3. Annual Approval of "Treasurer's Disbursement of Municipal Education Costs Policy"

**Motion** was made by Member Castleman-Ross to approve the policy permitting disbursement of education costs; second from Member Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose

## 4. Annual Approval of "Treasurer's Disbursement of Employee Wages and Benefits Policy"

**Motion** was made by Member Castleman-Ross to approve the policy permitting disbursement of employees' wages and benefits; second from Member Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose

## 5. Annual Approval of "Treasurer's Disbursement of Payments of State Fees Policy"

**Motion** was made by Member Castleman-Ross to approve the policy permitting disbursement of state fees; second from Member Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose

6. Victualer's Licenses to: Blizzards Pub @ Pleasant Mountain Located at 119 Mountain Road (renewal); The Little Mountain Store Located at 1382 North High Street (renewal); Mainly Melts Located at 257 Main Street (renewal)

**Motion** was made by Member Murphy to approve Victualer's Licenses to Blizzards Pub, The Little Mountain Store, and Mainly Melts; second from Member Castleman-Ross. 5 approve/0 oppose

### c. Select Board Comments

- **Vice-Chair McHatton** and **Member Tworog** had no concerns.
- **Member Castleman-Ross** is proud to be a Bridgton resident and commended Bridgton for its beauty. She would like to explore what it would take to get the church bells ringing again.
- **Member Murphy** wished all a Merry Christmas.
- **Chair Lone** said she was driving during the snowstorm and everywhere looked like a postcard.

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

Town Manager Peabody read the following report into the record:

#### General Information

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.

Save the date for the Maine Lakes Winter Carnival. It will be held Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at Highland Lake Beach,

On December 14<sup>th</sup>, the Municipal Complex will close at 3:30pm and the Transfer Station and Public Works will close at 4:00pm for the Annual Employee Holiday Party.

#### Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office

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

It is time to 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 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 check out our page on the Town of Bridgton website to learn more about our Comprehensive Plan Update – there are multiple ways for you to share your thoughts with us online. Also, be on the lookout for our Vision Bridgton logo around town, in the newspaper, and in your mailbox. The Town is hoping to engage as many people in this important

planning process as possible. For more information visit our new comprehensive plan project website, accessible through the Town of Bridgton Website, [bridgtonmaine.org](http://bridgtonmaine.org), or email the Community Development Director, Victoria Hill, at [vhill@bridgtonmaine.org](mailto:vhill@bridgtonmaine.org).

#### Police Department

Ofc. Hammond is graduating next week from the Police Training Academy; we are excited to celebrate his accomplishments and welcome him back.

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

#### Fire Department

The Bridgton Center Village Firemen's Association are selling Maine grown Christmas Trees at the Food City Parking lot. The hours are 2pm-5pm Thursday-Friday and 10am-4pm Saturdays and Sundays.

#### Recreation

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.

Please note, the Magic of Christmas adult trip is full for this Friday. Also, the Gardens Aglow adult trip was full on Sunday.

The Festival of Lights float winners are for Best Non-Commercial: Easy Riders Snowmobile Club; Best Commercial: Mains Excavation; Most Festive: Aimes Family; Judges' Choice: Campfire Grille; and Honorable Mention: NFI North.

The Winter Wonderland of Trees at the ice rink is open from 10am to 6pm until Christmas Day. It is free, but donations are accepted and help support scholarships for after school enrichment programs.

This Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 10pm is the annual Parents Night Out for ages kindergarten to 6<sup>th</sup> grade kids. There will be games, dinner, a movie, and crafts all at the Bridgton Town Hall. The cost is \$25, and registration is online at [www.bridgtonmaine.org](http://www.bridgtonmaine.org).

Youth basketball has just over 100 participants for the first time in 10 years.

### 10. Old Business

#### a. Project Status Updates

Town Manager Peabody provided a brief project status update.

### 11. Treasurer's Warrants

**Motion** was made by Member Castleman-Ross for approval of Treasurer's Warrants numbered 252, 253, 254, 255, and 256; second from Member Tworog. 5 approve/0 oppose

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

Deb Brusini appreciates the efforts of the Public Services Department in cutting trees that were hanging over the road on Commons Drive and Summit Drive and thanked the Town.

Deb Brusini noted that Nouria Energy is expanding their gas pumps and creating space for electric charging stations but not planning to install the electric vehicle charging stations at this time.

### 13. Dates for the Next Select Board Meetings

January 4, 2024 @ 6PM (G-402 Class); January 9, 2024 @ 5PM; January 23, 2024 @ 5PM

### 14. Adjourn

**Motion** was made by Member Murphy to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 P.M.; second from Vice-Chair McHatton. 5 approve/0 oppose

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie L. Chadbourne, Town Clerk