**Select Board Meeting Minutes**

**April 9, 2024 at 5:00PM**

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

Board Members Absent: Robert J. McHatton, Sr.

Administration Present: Town Manager Robert Peabody, Jr.; Deputy Town Manager Georgiann Fleck; Interim Town Clerk Veronica LaCascia; Public Services Director David Madsen; Fire Chief Glen Garland.

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

a. March 26, 2024 Select Board Meeting

Member Castleman-Ross made a **motion** to approve the minutes. Vice-Chair Murphy **seconded** the motion. **4 approve/ 0 oppose.**

b. April 2, 2024 Executive Session

Member Castleman-Ross made a **motion** to approve the minutes. Vice-Chair Murphy **seconded** the motion. **4 approve/ 0 oppose.**

4. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

5. Committee/Liaison Reports

6. Correspondence, Presentations, and Other Pertinent Information

a. MSAD #61 Superintendent Discussion: SRO Warrant Article.

MSAD 61 Superintendent addressed the Board regarding the new School Resource Officer (SRO) Warrant Article. Mr. Smith encourage voters to attend the May 7, 2024 budget meeting to voice their opinions on this matter. Mr. Smith explains that there would need to be a motion made from the floor and a second and a vote, because each article is an article to appropriate funds. You cannot put this out for a vote until the funds are appropriated. If at the May 7th meeting the article passes, then the second article will be its own article. The first article will be voting on the school budget. The second article is to raise $110,000 for the SRO. If the citizens decide against this and it is not approved on the floor, then this article will still be available to be voted on. However, it’s strictly an advisory vote at that point because the money would never have been appropriated.

b. Bridgton Farmer’s Market – 2024

Brenna Mae presented updates to the Board which included 24 vendors and 29 tents. 3 community tents for an information booth and non-profits in the area. There are also guest vendors booths available. April 19th insurance information is due at the town office. Brenna Mae would like to come back this fall to discuss spacing and mapping with the Board. The Director of the Community Center should be involved in this meeting also.

7. Public Hearing

a. Renewal of Special Amusement Permit from Campfire Grille, located at 518 Portland Rd.

b. Renewal of Special Amusement Permit from Bridgton Highlands Country Club LLC, located at 379 Highland Rd

8. Action Items Following Public Hearing

a. Renewal of Special Amusement Permit from Campfire Grille Located at 518 Portland Rd.

Member Tworog made a **motion** to approve Campfire Grille’s Special Amusement permit (renewal). Vice-Chair Murphy **seconded** the motion. **4 Approve/ 0 Oppose**

b. Renewal of Special Amusement Permit from Bridgton Highlands Country Club LLC, located at 379 Highland Rd. Member Tworog made a **motion** to approve Bridgton Highlands Country Club LLC Special Amusement Permit (renewal). Member Castleman-Ross **seconded** the motion.

**4 Approve/ 0 Oppose**

9. New Business

a. Awards and Other Administrative Recommendations

1. Open-Ended or Capped Warrant Articles for Budget Items

A warrant article seeking an appropriation can be stated in an open-ended form or include a cap or limit. In the latter, the appropriation may be amended reducing the amount, but may not be increased.

Member Tworog made a **motion** to approve capped warrant articles for budget items. Chair Lone **seconded** the motion. **4 Approve/ 0 Oppose**

2. Election Clerk Appointments for 2024-2026

Pursuant to MRS Title 21-A § 503, the Municipal Officers shall appoint election clerks to serve for two-year terms. Member Tworog made a **motion** to approve the list of election clerks. Chair Lone **seconded** the motion. **4 Approve/ Oppose**

3. Warrant and Notice of Election Calling Maine School Administrative District No. 61 Budget Validation Referendum on May 21, 2024

Member Tworog made a **motion** to sign the Town of Bridgton Maine School Administrative District No. 61 Referendum Warrant and Notice of Election. Vice-Chair Murphy **seconded** the motion.

**4 Approve/ 0 Oppose**

b. Permits/Documents Requiring Board Approval

1. Victualer’s License Restaurant 50+ seating (renewal) Bridgton Highlands Country Club LLC, located at 379 Highland Rd.; Victualer’s Fast Food License (renewal) for the Big Apple located at 16 Portland St.; Victualer’s Fast Food License (renewal) for the Big Apple located at 93 Main St. Chair Lone made a **motion** to approve all Victualer License’s presented. Member Tworog **seconded** the motion. **4 Approve/ 0 Oppose**

c. Select Board Comments

**Member Castleman-Ross-** Stressed the importance of the Bridgton News in the community. There have been legitimate talks of the Bridgton News closing.

**Chair Lone -** Continued on the subject the Bridgton News being a lifeline to the communities when it comes to schools. She suggested the Chambers of Commerce encourage membership.

**Vice Chair Ken Murphy** – None

**Member Paul Tworog** – Continued the importance of the local paper for local businesses. He also mentioned the parking lot behind Bridgton House of Pizza facing the playground does not have a guard rail. He is worried for the kids on the play ground. He would also like signs back up since the snow is gone.

9. New Business *continued*

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

Town Manager Peabody read the following report into record,

“General Information

An important reminder that with April 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 propelty. 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. The Town Office will be closed Monday, April 15 th, for Patriot's Day.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office

A reminder that quarterly real estate taxes are due May 15. Nomination papers are available until April 12th for the following: 2 Select Board Members, 2 MSAD 61 Directors for 3 years, 1 MSAD 61 Director for 2 years, 2 Planning Board members, 1 Planning Board Alternate, 1 Water District Trustee.

Community Development Department

Please visit the Community Development page on the Town of Bridgton website to answer the Question of the Month and to learn more about the Comprehensive Planning process.

Recreation

Upcoming Events:

May 4th: Four Square World Championships

Men, Women's, Children Divisions

May .18tKKids To Parks Day

Story Book Walk through Pondicherry

Skate Park Fun

MLB Pitch Hit and Run Regional Qualifier

Bike Rodeo

Archery, Crafts, Food and More Games

June 29th R.B. Hall Day

July 3rd Fireworks and Craft and Vendor Fair

August 24th — Maine Senior Games Table Tennis Tournament @ Bridgton Town Hall 2025 will be a National Qualifier

Programs: Last Call for Sign UPS, Spring Sports are beginning this month, Baseball, Softball, Lacrosse

In May Run Club begins

Archery and Karate begin their Spring Session on Saturday

Town Hall programs are weekly, see the town hall gym calendar.

Hiring: Lifeguards and Swim Instructors, we will get you trained!

Public Services Department

The Director was pleased with how the Departments: PW, FD and EMA worked together during this spring storm. All wastewater is now going to the treatment plant. Howard Trusdell, WW Foreman, did a great job maintaining the flow during the storm successfully.”

9. New Business *continued*

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

Public Services Director David Madsen spoke to the Select Board on how the wastewater pumps faired during the recent spring snowstorm. Depot Street powers the Francis Bell Pump and Depot St Pump. Since there was no power to these pumps he enlisted the help of Dyer Septic. They brought waste from the two non-working pumps to one pump with power. Director Madsen noted that the last steps of the projects is giving generator power to all pumps. He thanked Dyer Septic for helping throughout the storm.

10. Old Business

a. Project Status updates

Town Manager Peabody updated the Board on several ongoing projects.

11. Treasurer’s Warrants

Member Tworog made a **motion** to approve treasurer’s warrants numbered: 292, 293, 294, 295.

Vice-Chair Murphy **seconded** the motion. **4 approve / 0 oppose**

12. Public Comments on Non- Agenda Items

13. Dates for the Next Select Board Meetings

a. April 11, 2024 Deadline for completed nomination papers

b. April 23, 2024 @ 5:00PM Next Regular Selectboard Meeting

c. May 7, 2024 @ 6:30PM MSAD #61 District Budget Meeting @ LRHS

14. Adjourn

Chair lone adjourned the meeting at 5:45PM.

Sincerely,

Veronica LaCascia

Interim Town Clerk