

BUCKFIELD SELECT BOARD
MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2021
(recessed and reconvened on THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2021)
MEETING MINUTES
Remote Participation via ZOOM / 6:30 PM

1. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER AND DECLARE QUORUM

6:35 p.m. Roll Call / Declare Quorum

All Present: Tina Brooks-Chair, Cheryl Coffman, Martha Catevenis, John Andrews
Chair Brooks called the meeting to order.

2. APPROVE MINUTES

- A. Regular Meeting – April 8, 2021 (rescheduled from April 5th)
- B. Amended Minutes – March 22, 2021

The Town Manager requested that the group table approval of the minutes in order to focus on the TM report and budget & warrant discussions.

3. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. AVCOG – we received \$22,477.82 for the second and final payment of our Shedd Hollow project.
- B. We received an Excise Check from the Town of Paris for \$24,086.33.
- C. Kingston Brown has begun work in his role as CEO and E911 addressing.
- D. Mike Rogers from the State Assessor's Office helped us with our Homestead Exemption paperwork, our projection is \$209,947.50.
- E. The final bill from Allegiance Trucking for repairs to the 2009 International. The final total was \$19,265.06, \$5,265.00 more than the original quote.
- F. The Town Clerk received training from MMA on processing liens.
- G. The Economic Development Committee and Planning Board are still looking for members.
- H. The Sand and Salt Shed deconstruction should begin soon as the weather begins to improve.
- I. The striping project for the town parking lots should begin in May. The cost will be reduced by \$1,000.00 since the gutter lineout was done previously.
- J. The Rescue Chief asked TM to relay to the Board that he would like to use excess revenues to replace an ambulance.
- K. The Town Office is now open Tuesday and Friday from 10-3, Wednesday from 8-5 and Thursday from 12-8.
- L. Reminder that semi-annual taxes are due on May 15, 2021 and we are going to be able to process these much more efficiently than the previous period.

4. STATEMENT FROM CHAIR BROOKS

Chair Brooks read aloud a statement of resignation from the Select Board, with an effective date of June 30, 2021.

A discussion ensued as to accepting the Chair's resignation, the term of which will expire on June 30, 2023, with attention to the fact that M. Catevenis' term expires on June 30, 2021. The group discussed the logistics of having two Board members vacate their seats at the same time, and potentially not until after the July 13th election and subsequent swearing-in of the new Board members.

Chair Brooks expressed her goal of achieving a smooth transition. Discussion of revisiting the Board elections ensued. After much discussion and public input, it was suggested that the Board elections will take place on June 8th along with the RSU #10 vote.

Chair Brooks asked the Board if they want to accept her resignation.

Motion made by C. Coffman and seconded by M. Catevenis to table the matter of accepting Chair Brooks' resignation.

YES = 2, NO = 0, ABSTAINED = 1

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Appointment of Committee Member

The Board has been asked to confirm the appointment of Zachary Williams to the Economic Development Committee for a one (1) year term.

Motion made by Chair Brooks and seconded by C. Coffman to appoint Zachary Williams to the Economic Development Committee for a one (1) year term.

YES = 3, NO = 0, ABSTAINED = 0

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. FY22 Budget

The Board reviewed the draft budget and had open discussions with the Town Manager, members of the Budget Committee, rescue and fire department heads, and heard public comments.

The group reviewed each department budget and line items details. There was a lengthy discussion about reallocating funds to alternate line items and the ramifications of doing so. Various people weighed in as the group attempted to gain an understanding of the proposed changes as well as FY21 expense distributions.

C. Coffman made a point of order that the Board guidelines indicate that there should be a two-hour time limit on Board meetings. C. Coffman made a motion seconded by M. Catevenis to adjourn the meeting at 8:30.

YES = 3, NO = 0, ABSTAINED = 0

The meeting resumed despite the successful vote.

The discussion of the FY22 department budgets, and specific line items, continued with comments and questions from the Board members, Budget Committee, members of the public and department heads.

The balance(s) and use of the fund balance(s) were discussed as were the Debt Service line items. The group revisited the public hearing and election timelines and agreed that further discussion of the budget was necessary, and that the Board was not prepared to vote on the proposed FY22 budget at this meeting. The group discussed when to reconvene the meeting.

B. Warrant Articles

The Board agreed to table review of the Warrant Articles until after they vote on the budget.

7. OTHER BUSINESS – NONE DISCUSSED

8. NO WARRANTS WERE PREPARED FOR REVIEW

9. NO EXECUTIVE SESSION

10. ADJOURN

Motion made by C. Coffman and seconded by M. Catevenis to recess and reconvene the meeting until Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

YES = 3, NO = 0, ABSTAINED = 0

At 10:18 pm the meeting was recessed until Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

John Andrews
Town Manager