

Town of West Bath
Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 21, 2021

Town of West Bath Kathleen Lavallee, Chair - **Present**
Board of Selectmen: Suzanne Andresen - **Present**
Madelyn Hennessey - **Present**

Town Staff Present: Kristine Poland, Town Administrator
Karly Perry, Town Clerk

West Bath Planning Board: Darlene Estabrook, Chair
Jeremie Whorff

Members of the Public: David Hennessey

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held via Zoom on **Thursday, January 21st at 5:30 pm**

- I. CALL TO ORDER at **5:30 pm**
- II. ATTENDANCE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM – **Yes**
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS SAID.
- IV. CONSENT AGENDA
 1. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. January 7, 2021
 2. Approval of Warrant(s):
 - a. Municipal
 - b. School
 3. Upcoming Board of Selectmen Meeting(s):
 - a. Thursday, February 4, 2021 (This meeting will be held remotely using Zoom conferencing)

Selectman Hennessey moved to accept the consent agenda, seconded by Selectman Andresen.

Town Clerk Karly Perry reviewed procedure for roll call votes when meeting remotely.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Selectman Hennessey, Selectman Andresen, Selectman Lavallee

Nays: None

Motion passed 3/0

- V. SELECTMEN COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Selectman Andresen asked if the Board would agree to move the second meeting in February from the 18th to the 25th in order to accommodate school vacation, to which the Selectmen agreed. The second meeting in February will be held Thursday, February 25 at 5:30pm using Zoom conferencing.
- VI. BUSINESS ITEMS
 1. **Planning Board, Review and Consideration of Work List and Application Revisions**

Darlene Estabrook, Planning Board Chair, asked if the Selectmen had reviewed the work list via email, then asked which priorities listed the Selectmen would like to address. Selectman Hennessey asked what changes are of the highest priority, to which Mrs. Estabrook noted that work is listed by priority. Mrs. Estabrook also noted that some work items only require Selectmen approval, whereas Ordinance changes require approval of the Town at a Town Meeting.

Selectman Lavallee suggested that the Planning Board use their judgement for prioritizing work, to which the Board agreed.

Selectman Andresen asked about fee increases, to which Selectman Hennessey noted that she has begun compiling fees from neighboring municipalities. The Board agreed to review research at the next meeting. David Hennessey noted that application fees should be increased as well.

Mrs. Estabrook reviewed revised applications as well as new applications which have been edited for consistency and also more comprehensible for both staff and applicants. The Board agreed to review and revisit for approval at the next meeting.

Selectman Andresen asked for a progress report on the proposed noise ordinance, which is currently in queue for attorney review. Discussion followed regarding the impact of a noise ordinance on local businesses.

Jeremie Whorff inquired as to the timeline for Town Meeting, to which Selectman Andresen noted would be discussed under Business Item 2.

Mrs. Estabrook reviewed Ordinance changes approved at the September 2020 Town Meeting, which need to be formatted prior to final proofreading. Town Administrator Kristine Poland agreed to take on the formatting prior to Mrs. Estabrook's review.

Mr. Whorff noted that fees should also be reviewed by the Code Enforcement Officer, to which Selectman Hennessey confirmed that CEO Beane will be involved in the process. Mr. Whorff further suggested research Dresden's fee schedule, to which discussion followed regarding other comparable communities.

2 Town Administrators Report

Mrs. Poland presented a letter of resignation from the Planning Board by Keith Perry.

Selectman Hennessey moved to accept Mr. Perry's resignation with regret, seconded by Selectman Andresen.

Selectman Andresen complimented Mr. Perry on his work for the Planning Board.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Selectman Hennessey, Selectman Andresen, Selectman Lavallee

Nays: None

Motion passed 3/0

Mrs. Poland went on to review proposed timeline for Town Meeting. Discussion followed on adding a vote regarding support of the Patten Free Library to the ballot, with Selectman Andresen proposing that residents have a choice of which library they patronize. Selectmen agreed to allow Selectman Andresen to present a proposal at the next Selectmen's meeting. Discussion continued on presenting information prior to Town Meeting as well as Public Hearings for Ordinance changes.

Mrs. Poland reminded the Board that the Sagadahoc County Budget Advisory Committee will hold their annual caucus on Tuesday, February 2 at 6:00pm, with David Hennessey's term expiring. Mr. Hennessey agreed to volunteer for another term, should he be elected.

Mrs. Poland announced that the traffic meter inspection will be completed by Tuesday, January 26, at which point Central Maine Power will send a signal in order for further progress on the traffic light. The Department of Transportation has also projected surface treatment of the State owned portion of New Meadows Road (from State Road to Route 1) this summer.

Mrs. Poland confirmed with Selectman Andresen that the Broadband Committee will hold its first meeting February 4 at 4:00pm, to which Selectman Andresen agreed.

Mrs. Poland finalized her report by presenting concerns from a resident at 19 Hennessey Drive regrading a holding pond located on the property which feeds from Hill Road and has uprooted trees on the property. Mr. Hennessey noted that the pond was built by a previous owner and used by the West Bath Fire Department. Mr. Whorff noted that the Fire Department had looked into decommissioning the pond.

3 Future Agenda Items

David Hennessey asked for an update on abandoned boats in Mill Pond, to which Mrs. Poland noted she had not received any update from the Shellfish Warden. In order to proceed with removal of boats, the Town will need to send out certified letters again with timelines for removal of boats. Selectman Hennessey recommended discouraging parking. Discussion followed on jurisdiction and possible resolutions. Mrs. Poland agreed to reach out to Representative Joyce “Jay” McCreight to encourage changes to DMR legislation.

Selectman Lavallee discussed the Sabino grant and suggested that land formerly owned by Scott Cantrell may be worth purchasing. Selectman Hennessey suggested researching the right of way for the Sabino boat launch. Discussion followed on other boat launches and parking areas in Town.

Mr. Whorff noted that the Pearson’s property (adjacent to the boat launch) has a discrepancy on the deed and further agreed that the assessor research this property.

Selectman Lavallee noted concern from Marine Resource Committee Chair Warren Swanson that the issue has been forgotten and urged that this is the time to take action.

4 Other

None

VII PUBLIC COMMENT: None

VIII EXECUTIVE SESSION

Selectman Lavallee moved to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRS §405 (6)(C) to discuss lease terms for a prospective solar project on Town property, seconded by Selectman Hennessey.

Roll call vote: Yeas: Selectman Hennessey, Selectman Andresen, Selectman Lavallee

Nays: None

Motion passed 3/0

Selectmen entered into executive session at 6:38pm

IX ADJOURNMENT

Selectmen adjourned by unanimous acclamation at 7:00 pm.

A true attested copy,

Karly A. Perry, Town Clerk