

BUCKSPORT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
7:00 P.M., THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS – BUCKSPORT TOWN OFFICE
MINUTES

1. Call Meeting To Order

Mayor Stewart called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Councilor's Present: Mark Eastman, Paul Bissonnette, David Kee, Peter Stewart, Daniel Ormsby, Paul Gauvin, Robert Carmichael

Councilor's Absent: None.

3. Presentation of any Town Council Recognitions – None.

4. Consider minutes of previous meetings

- a. Town Council Minutes 6/27/19
- b. Infrastructure/Economic Development Meeting Minutes 6/27/19

*Councilor Gauvin moved and Councilor Carmichael seconded to approve the above listed minutes. **Motion Passed 7-0.***

5. Ordinances to Consider/Introduce - None.

6. Discussion Items (Manager Clarification and Direction, or Council Discussion and/or Input on Issues)

- a. Regulatory Review Committee Update

Councilor Eastman updated the Council on what was discussed at the Regulatory Review Committee meeting. They discussed the town's fee schedule, allowing swimming on Silver Lake, and selling a town-owned lot to an abutter on the Town Farm Road. A first reading will be drafted for an ordinance to allow swimming on Silver Lake for the next Council meeting.

- b. Services Committee Update

Councilor Carmichael updated the Council on what was discussed at the Services Committee meeting. The committee discussed changing the Town Office hours to better our service to the community. The committee encouraged the Council to allow Town Manager Lessard to conduct a community-wide survey to see if the change in office hours would be appealing to the community. The committee also discussed a MOU with Bucksport Bay Healthy Communities Coalition, to which the committee encouraged the Council to enter into.

- c. Replacement of Retaining Wall/ Engineering Study – Request to Bid

Chief Geagan addressed the Council on the replacement of various retaining walls in town. He stated that finding a solution to this problem should be of immediate concern to the Council. There is one company in the State that is approved by DOT to replace the walls with

*the materials that they are currently made of. Mayor Stewart questioned whether or not there would be a cheaper solution, to which Town Manager Lessard stated that an engineering study would answer that question. Councilor Carmichael moved and Councilor Kee seconded to authorize Town Manager Lessard to issue a Request for Proposal to see what the town has for options to replace the retaining walls. **Motion Passed 7-0.***

7. Agenda Items

- a. To approve Resolve 2020-01 to accept Local Road Assistance Funds for 2019-20

*Councilor Gauvin moved and Councilor Carmichael seconded to approve Resolve 2020-01. **Motion Passed 7-0.***

- b. To approve Resolve 2020-02 to approve Sewer Commitment for the period 4/1/19 – 6/30/19

*Councilor Ormsby moved and Councilor Eastman seconded to approve Resolve 2020-02. **Motion Passed 7-0.***

- c. To approve Resolve 2020-03 to approve Police cruiser purchases

*Councilor Gauvin moved and Councilor Eastman seconded to approve Resolve 2020-03. **Motion Passed 7-0.***

- d. To approve Resolve 2020-04 to approve Paving Bid for 2019-20

*Councilor Gauvin moved and Councilor Bissonnette seconded to approve Resolve 2020-04. **Motion Passed 7-0.***

8. Resignations, Appointments, Assignments, and Elections

- a. Code Enforcement Officer Resignation

Town Manager Lessard stated that she has received a letter of resignation from Code Enforcement Officer Jeff Hammond effective August 30, 2019. At the time of his retirement, he will have been with the town for 21 years. She asked the Council to be thinking of ways that this position could better serve the town. Town Manager Lessard stated that the town currently has someone on staff with planning experience who could take on the planning part of the position. She stated that there is also the possibility of the Code Enforcement Officer position being someone with fire/EMS experience and having them be a part of Public Safety. There is also the option of just replacing the position as is. This will be discussed further at the next Council meeting.

9. Approval of Quit Claims, Discharges, and Deeds – None.

10. Town Manager Report

The Town Manager's Report is attached hereto and is therefore made a part of these minutes.

- a. Department Head Reports – *Noted.*

11. Set Public Hearings, and/or Hold Public Hearings and Approval of any Licenses or Permits

a. Public Hearing – Whole Oceans TIF

Mayor Stewart opened the public hearing at 7:23 p.m. Jim Saffian, Jason Mitchell, and Kevin Tate were all in attendance to answer any questions on behalf of Whole Oceans. Jim Saffian explained what the TIF would do for Whole Oceans. Jason Mitchell explained some of the progress that has been made on the site and thanked the Council and community for their support thus far.

Resident Donald White questioned whether or not the town will receive any funds from Whole Oceans for the first five years of their TIF. Town Manager Lessard stated that the Town will receive funds from their personal property taxes as well as tax payments on the value of the property before they started building.

Resident Paul Rabbs stated that the TIF applies to the acreage currently in the fence lines. He questioned what would happen when the project moves along and Whole Oceans wants to add more facilities. Town Manager Lessard stated that that would require further action to extend the TIF beyond what it already is.

Councilor Kee stated that he hoped Whole Oceans will be a good corporate neighbor, and questioned what they might do to help advance the community spirit. Jason Mitchell stated that Whole Oceans frequently has meetings that discuss their environmental stewardship as well as social and community values. He stated that they want to be a part of the community.

Mayor Stewart questioned how this compares to other TIF's that the town has done. Economic Development Director Rich Rotella stated that the Family Dollar complex had a TIF, Harborview Restaurant had a TIF, and the former mill site had two TIF's. He explained that TIF's are nothing new for Bucksport.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Stewart closed the public hearing at 7:42 p.m.

*Councilor Gauvin moved and Councilor Ormsby seconded to approve the Municipal Development and Tax Increment Financial District Development Program and Order between the Town of Bucksport and Whole Oceans, LLC. **Motion Passed 7-0.***

b. Bucksport Bay Festival - Festival & Public Entertainment License

*Councilor Gauvin moved and Councilor Carmichael seconded to approve the Festival and Public Entertainment License for the Bucksport Bay Festival. **Motion Passed 7-0.***

c. Liquor License – American Cruise Lines

*Councilor Gauvin moved and Councilor Carmichael seconded to approve the liquor license renewal for American Cruise Lines. **Motion Passed 7-0.***

12. Discussion of Items Not on the Agenda for Council and Public

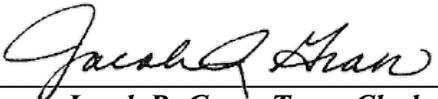
Councilor Ormsby questioned whether or not there is a schedule on when the large stacks at the former mill site will be taken down. Town Manager Lessard stated that she would check into this.

13. Upcoming Public Hearings, Designation of Topics for Committee Assignment, and Scheduling of Committee Meeting

Regulatory Review Committee – July 26, 2019 – 6:30 p.m.

14. Adjournment

*Councilor Carmichael moved and Councilor Gauvin seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.
Motion Passed 7-0.*

ATTEST: 

Jacob R. Gran, Town Clerk