

BUCKSPORT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
7:00 P.M., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2016
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS – BUCKSPORT TOWN OFFICE

1. The meeting was called to order by Mayor David Keene at 7:00 P.M.
2. Members Present: Joseph York, Paul Rabs, David Kee, David Keene, Peter Stewart and Paul Gauvin. Members Absent: Robert Carmichael, Jr.
 - a. Presentation by Representative Richard Campbell District 130
 - Representative Richard Campbell addressed the Council to provide an update of the Maine State Legislature activity in Augusta. Representative Campbell has introduced two legislative bills that are of interest to the Town of Bucksport. Both bills have been tabled and probably won't be moved in this session. The first bill deals with energy and gas issues. The proposal is for a lower energy zone at the AIM site. Local generation and on site distribution could lower prices dramatically. The problem comes when you try to deliver energy across public roads. This is now not allowed and Representative Campbell feels the power companies would fight it. The power could only be transmitted on site, or off site into the same power generating company. The second bill deals with transportation. The potential of setting up offshore wind energy systems, indicates Bucksport could be an important port and would be eligible for port repairs and upgrades. Finally, Representative Campbell reported Jeff McGlin of AIM Corporation had indicated he had received no interest related to wind energy for the AIM site.
 - Mayor David Keene asked about the current rules regarding selling power to a neighboring industry. Representative Campbell indicated that you can sell it, as long as you don't cross a public way.
 - Representative Campbell also will help with extending the Bucksport Marina slips and working with the DEP.
 - Councilor Peter Stewart requested Representative Campbell be aware of the uncertainty of the current Town water system. We all need to keep an eye on the situation.
3. Presentation of any Town Council Recognition – **None**
4. Consider the Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - It was motioned by Peter Stewart, seconded by Paul Gauvin, and unanimously voted to approve Town Council meeting minutes of February 11, 2016 as presented.
5. Receive and review correspondence and documents

- a. State Revenue Services letter establishing new valuation re: Sudden and Severe application
-Interim Town Manager Susan Lessard explained that the Bucksport assessment reduction was now set at \$242,500,000. This is below the preliminary estimated reduction of \$270,000,000. The difference between the preliminary and final amount was the increased in valuation attributed to Bucksport Generation, LLC account that was overlooked in the preliminary. Representative Campbell addressed the Council and stated the current assessment figures are making for a lot of discussion in Augusta.

6. Public Hearings – **None**

7. New Ordinances to Consider/Introduce – **None**

8. Discussion Items

- a. Presentation of Gratitude and Friendship to the Town of Bucksport by Sherri L. Mitchell, Penobscot Nation, Indigenous Land Rights Attorney
–Postponed until March 10, 2016.
- b. Request for the Town Council to support the Community & Economic Development Department support of a regional food hub
-Community Development Director Rich Rotella briefly reviewed the regional food hub and asked the Council to sign a letter in support of a regional food hub. The letter will be presented to other communities showing Bucksport’s support.
Tom Gaffney discussed the goals and objectives for the organization. The effort will take considerable amount of time and effort, but would tie in with other active groups.
Councilor Peter Stewart told the Council that the letter had the support of the Economic Development Committee.
- c. Economic Development Committee Recommendation related to an electronic sign on the Town CSO building for the Wednesdays on Main program.
-Rich Rotella, Economic Development Director informed the Council, the Economic Development Committee had declined supporting the sign effort.
There could be no advertising or any business name on the sign, thus Committee members could not support it.

It was motioned by Peter Stewart, seconded by Paul Gauvin, and voted to accept the Economic Development Committee’s recommendation to not support the electronic sign project.

Vote In Favor: Joseph York, Paul Rabs, David Keene, Peter Stewart and Paul Gauvin

Abstained: David Kee

Vote: Favorable 5 - 0

9. Agenda Items

- a. Vote on Ballot for Bucksport Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

It was motioned by Peter Stewart, seconded by Paul Gauvin and unanimously voted to send the Ballot vote for Bucksport Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors to the Appointment Committee.

- b. Resolve #R-2016-50 to approve letter for support of regional food hub from Community & Economic Development

It was motioned by Paul Gauvin, seconded by Peter Stewart and unanimously voted to approve Resolve #R-2016-50.

10. Resignations, Appointments, Assignments, and Elections - **None**

11. Approval of Quit Claims, Discharges, and Deeds – **None**

12. Town Manager Report

-Interim Town Manager Susan Lessard briefly review the Town Manager's Report noting; as a reminder to citizens, avoid property tax interest if second half of property taxes are paid by March 31st; attended the RSU25/Camden National/Town/Realtor presentation of an overview of RSU25 and its mission, tours of the schools in Bucksport, and lunch at the Senior Center. This effort was to raise awareness in the real estate community of the excellent programs and services offered in RSU 25 in partnership with the local community; received tablets for Council meetings and need to schedule a time for picking up the tablets and training; and the majority of time lately has been spent on the 2016-2017 Budget.

-Interim Town Manager reported the Town being given a portable speed sign from MDOT which records speed and data whether the sign is on or off. This sign will help with traffic enforcement along all Town roads/streets.

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

- a. Hold public hearing on Jeff Leadbetter, Leadbro LLC, d/b/a Harbor View Grille for renewal of Liquor License and Special Amusement Permit.

- b. Close public hearing and act on application

- c. No public comments

It was motioned by Paul Gauvin, seconded by Peter Stewart and unanimously voted to approve Jeff Leadbetter, Leadbro LLC, d/b/a Harbor View Grille for renewal of Liquor License and Special Amusement Permit

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

- a. Rich Rotella, Economic Development Director reported on the progress and success of the Heart and Soul program noting training on April 30th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm and the regular meeting on March 9th at 6:00 pm.
- b. Councilor David Kee requested that we contact AIM for a meeting to give the Town an update on the progress of the paper mill demolition.
- c. Rich Rotella, EDD indicated that he will be meeting with Jeff McGlin, AIM representative next week and will make the request for him to address the Council.
- d. Councilor David Kee requested the budget process reflect some of the Ad Hoc Committee recommendation.
- e. Interim Town Manager, Susan Lessard indicated that the budget process will offer Councilors options that reflect some of the Ad Hoc Committee recommendations.

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

- a. Solid Waste Committee meeting on either Tuesday, March 1, 2016 or Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at a location to be announced.
- b. Appointments Committee meeting on Thursday, March 10, 2016 at 5:00 P.M. at the Town Office, Conference Room.
- c. Ordinance Committee meeting on Thursday, March 31, 2016 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Office, Conference Room.

16. Agenda Items Requiring Executive Sessions – **None**

17. Adjournment

It was motioned by David Kee, seconded by Paul Gauvin, and unanimously voted that the meeting be adjourned.
Meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy L. Downes
Council Secretary