

**BUCKSPORT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**7:00 P.M., THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 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**

*Councilors Present: Mark Eastman, Paul Bissonnette, David Kee, Peter Stewart, Daniel Ormsby, Paul Gauvin*

*Councilors Absent: Robert Carmichael, Jr.*

**3. Presentation of any Town Council Recognitions**

- a. Service Recognition – Craig Bowden

*Town Manager Lessard and the Town Council thanked retired Fire Chief Craig Bowden for his 39 years of service to the town of Bucksport. The town's Poet Laureate, Pat Ranzoni, also honored Craig with a poem.*

**4. Consider minutes of previous meetings**

- a. Town Council Minutes 3-9-17
- b. Town Council Minutes 3-23-17
- c. Town Council Minutes 3-30-17
- d. Town Council Minutes 4-13-17
- e. Town Council Minutes 5-11-17
- f. Town Council Minutes 4-11-19
- g. Town Council Workshop/Meeting Minutes 4-18-19
- h. Regulatory Review Committee Minutes 4-11-19

*Councilor Gauvin moved and Councilor Ormsby seconded to approve the above listed minutes. **Motion Passed 6-0.***

**5. Receive and review correspondence and documents**

- a. Police Call to Verona – 4-13-19 -- *Noted.*
- b. Downeast Transportation – March Ridership Report -- *Noted.*
- c. Life Flight Thank you -- *Noted.*
- d. Thank you – Kathy Downes -- *Noted.*

**6. Ordinances to Consider/Introduce**

- a. First Reading – Article 4, Weight Limits & Restrictions

*Code Enforcement Officer Jeffrey Hammond addressed the Council in regards to the first reading of Article 4. He explained various updates and corrections to the Weight Limits & Restrictions ordinance.*

b. First Reading – Council Rules Update

*Town Manager Lessard explained various updates to the Council Rules. She stated that one would be adding notification to the media in the event of a special meeting. She also stated that this first reading would require a quorum for all meetings. It would also create a Deputy Council Chair that would be elected annually in case the Chair is absent. She further stated that this update would require unanimous approval of the council in changing the scheduling of an item on the agenda.*

c. First Reading – Proposed Charter Change – Attendance

*Town Manager Lessard explained that this change would state that Councilors who miss more than five meetings can result in the loss of office. This change would require a charter change which would need to be a referendum question on the November ballot.*

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

- a. Regulatory Review Committee Update
- b. Infrastructure Committee Update

*Councilor Bissonnetee updated the Council and stated that the Infrastructure Committee met and reviewed a request for an extension on Woodland Heights. The Committee felt that they should seek legal counsel before making any decisions.*

8. **Agenda Items**

- a. To approve Resolve 2019-44 to award the parking lot bid for the Nason Parking Lot

*No action was taken on Resolve 2019-44 as the bids are still being reviewed.*

9. **Resignations, Appointments, Assignments, and Elections – None.**

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

11. **Town Manager Report**

*The Town Manager's Report is attached hereto and is made apart of these minutes.*

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

- a. Holding Tank Permit – Gail Creath

*Councilor Gauvin moved and Councilor Eastman seconded to approve the above listed holding tank permit. **Motion Passed 6-0.***

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

*Councilor Kee reminded the Council to take a look at the survey compiled by Heart and Soul that outlines the expectations of residents of Bucksport.*

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

a. Infrastructure

*The Infrastructure Committee will meet on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.*

**15. Budget Review**

a. General Government

*Town Manager Lessard explained the proposed budgets for Administration, Municipal Planning, and the Assessors Office. She further explained a change in the custodian salary. Town Manager Lessard is proposing that the town hire a local company to clean the Town Office, Public Safety Building, and Senior Center. She further stated that this would be cheaper than hiring a full-time employee with benefits.*

*Resident Jim Morrison inquired to Town Manager Lessard whether or not the decrease in electrical costs were a result of the new LED Lights or solar panels. Town Manager Lessard stated that the town hasn't had these new features long enough to be able to compile data on their efficiency.*

*Town Manager Lessard explained an increase in the Insurance and Benefits budget. She stated that employee coverage change based on life situations. She further stated that the fire department has added two positions that weren't in last years budget. She explained to the Council that the town has an option to provide the same level of coverage to employees in a different, less costly manner. Mayor Stewart advised Town Manager Lessard that he would like to see the town look into that option. Councilor Gauvin suggested offering an incentive program to employees who switch to their spouses insurance. Town Manager Lessard said that the town could consider this, and further stated that she could put out a survey to employees to see whether or not they would switch.*

*An extensive conversation was held between Ron Russell, a member of the board for Main Street Bucksport, and the Town Council. They are requesting \$20,000 from the town.*

*Leslie Wombacher addressed the Council on behalf of the Bucksport Bay Area Chamber of Commerce. They are requesting \$9,000 from the town.*

*Natalie Arruda addressed the Council and spoke on behalf of the Bucksport Bay Festival appropriation request of \$15,000.*

*Paula Kee addressed the Council on behalf of Wednesday On Main Summer Event Program. They are requesting \$4,000 from the town.*

b. Sewer

*Town Manager Lessard explained to the Council that the Sewer budget uses no tax dollars –*

*it is funded solely by user fees.*

c. Revenues

*Town Manager Lessard explained an increase in the Revenues budget due to increases in revenue sharing from the state and excise taxes. She further stated that there were funds left over in the 2018 year school budget account. It was carried over this year and used to fund part of the school budget account. There is also \$400k in an education fund that was the result of the school consolidation. Town Manager Lessard is proposing using \$100k of that to help offset the school cost for 19-20.*

**16. Executive Session pursuant to MRSA Title 1§405 (6)(A) – Performance Evaluation for the Town Manager**

*Councilor Bissonnette moved and Councilor Gauvin seconded to enter into Executive Session pursuant to MRSA Title 1§405 (6)(A) at 8:40 p.m. **Motion Passed 6-0.***

*Councilor Gauvin moved and Councilor Bissonnette seconded to re-enter into regular session at 9:15 p.m. **Motion Passed 6-0.***

**17. Adjournment**

*Councilor Ormsby moved and Councilor Gauvin seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. **Motion Passed 6-0.***

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacob R. Gran". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jacob R. Gran  
Town Clerk/Council Secretary

Minutes approved by the Town Council on: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Yes    \_\_\_\_ No    \_\_\_\_ Abstained