

TOWN OF BELGRADE

Meeting Minutes

BOARD OF SELECTPERSONS

MARCH 4, 2024 / REGULAR MEETING 6:30 P.M.

BELGRADE TOWN OFFICE

This meeting was conducted in person. The public may also view the meeting

at <https://youtu.be/Fspxu61Ej1A>

Present: Chair Barbara Allen, Vice Chair Carol Johnson, Selectperson Daniel Newman, Selectperson Peter Rushton, Town Manager Lorna Dee Nichols, Christian Bishop, Mary Vogel, Pat Donahue, Dan MacKenzie, Danielle Bedard, Bruce Galouch, Travis Burton, Chris Bradley, Tanya Athanus, Ed Ketch Jr.

Remote participants: Nicholas Alexander, Kate Damren, Scott Damren, Tim Pearson, Lenny Reich, Richard Bourne.

Absent: Selectperson Melanie Jewell

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Barbara Allen.

Quorum established.

Public Comment – none.

Review and approve minutes of February 20, 2024

Motion by Chair Barbara Allen to accept minutes as written, seconded by Vice Chair Carol Johnson, vote 4-0, 1 absent.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Lakes and Natural Resources Committee Request

Discussion on the Board's decision to wait until the April 2 meeting to appoint an ad hoc committee to review the Shoreland Zoning ordinance and address short-term rentals. The Lakes and Natural Resources Committee is meeting twice monthly to begin reviewing the ordinance and felt they were a good fit for part of the charge of the ad hoc committee.

Motion by Chair Barbara Allen to charge the Lakes and Natural Resources Committee to conduct a review of the Shoreland Zoning ordinance, identifying gaps and to recommend ways to strengthen the ordinance; to present to the Planning Board for review and to partner with the Planning Board in this review; and to interface with the Comprehensive Plan Committee, seconded by Vice Chair Carol Johnson, vote 4-0, 1 absent.

NEW BUSINESS

Maine Safety and Health Award for Public Employers (SHAPE) Presentation

Department of Labor/BLS/Workplace Safety and Health Division Director Steven L. Greeley attended to present the award, which highlights significant and consistent efforts to promote employee safety and health at the Fire and Rescue Department in Belgrade.

The Transfer Station also achieved SHAPE status in the fall of 2023.

SHAPE awardees must meet a list of voluntary requirements in order to qualify, that includes: a complete hazard identification survey through a professional consultant; involving employees in the consultation process; correcting all hazards identified by the consultant; implementing and maintaining a safety and health management system; lowering the company's Lost Workday Injury and Illness Rate (LWDII) and Total Recordable Case Rate (TRCR) below the state average; and agreeing to notify the Workplace Safety and Health Division prior to making any changes in the working conditions or introducing new hazards into the workplace.

Acceptance into SHAPE by the Maine Department of Labor distinguishes an organization as a model for workplace safety and health. Upon receiving SHAPE recognition, the worksite will be exempt from programmed inspections during the period that SHAPE certification is valid.

Appointments, Resignations

Motion by Chair Barbara Allen to table the appointment of Andrew McDowall to the Parks and Recreation Board to the next meeting, seconded by Selectperson Peter Rushton, vote 4-0, 1 absent.

Review Annual Town Meeting Warrant with Moderator Christian Bishop

The Board met with Christian Bishop to review the warrant for annual town meeting; discuss the timeline, answer questions on any articles, determine time of presentation of awards, break for intermission etc.

Spirit of America Awards

Motion by Vice Chair Carol Johnson to recognize Kathy Levasseur and Bob Giroux, Peter Rushton, Bert and Sara Languet with the Spirit of America Award and to expense the awards from the Selectboard's special fund, seconded by Selectperson Peter Rushton, vote 4-0, 1 absent.

Request for Proposals (RFP) Pest Services

RFP approved as presented and ready to post.

Abatement 2023-18 to correct the value of the buildings

Motion to approve abatement 2023-18 by Chair Barbara Allen, seconded by Selectperson Peter Rushton, vote 3-0, 1 abstained, 1 absent.

Animal Control Officer Request

After a lengthy discussion on providing an additional phone and another email, the Board unanimously agreed that a precedent has been set by Public Safety (Fire and Rescue) for sharing and declined to approve additional items.

OTHER BUSINESS

Set date for Seasonal Residents meeting:

2024: Tuesday, July 23 at 6:30 p.m.

2025: Tuesday, August 12 at 6:30 p.m.

WARRANTS

BMV Warrant 25 \$2,315.00

Motion to approve warrant 25 in the amount of \$2,315 by Chair Barbara Allen, seconded by Vice Chair Carol Johnson, vote 4-0, 1 absent.

Payroll Warrant 26 \$25,082.79

Motion to approve warrant 26 in the amount of \$25,082.79 by Chair Barbara Allen, seconded by Selectperson Peter Rushton, vote 4-0, 1 absent.

AP Warrant 27 \$625,120.44

Motion to approve warrant 27 in the amount of \$625,120.44 by Chair Barbara Allen, seconded by Vice Chair Carol Johnson, vote 4-0, 1 absent.

Payroll Warrant 28 \$21,054.55

Motion to approve warrant 28 in the amount of \$21,054.55 by Chair Barbara Allen, seconded by Vice Chair Carol Johnson, vote 4-0, 1 absent.

State Payables Warrant 29 \$14,737.69

Motion to approve warrant 29 in the amount of \$14,737.69 by Chair Barbara Allen, seconded by Vice Chair Carol Johnson, vote 4-0, 1 absent.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Sailing program: SailMaine has been running a satellite program at the Center for All Seasons and considering discontinuing. Dan is exploring how to continue the program in the most cost effective and beneficial manner possible. The Yacht Club may pick it up this year, looking to have the Town take it over through the recreation program next year. There is much to work out and plan for in 2025, we will bring additional information to the Board for discussion and consideration at an upcoming regular meeting.

Met with KVCOG, Sara Languet, George Seel, Hans Rasmussen re: DECD Housing Grant (\$50,000) to update ordinances.

McGrath Pond Road and West Road speed studies are being conducted by Maine DOT.

Super Sunday annual training March 10 at the Lakes Fire Station.

Paperwork is all signed for the TAN with Camden National Bank.

The town report was finalized and sent to the printer and should be in the mail soon. A copy is posted to the Town's website.

Map digitization – Axis GIS site is done; we are reviewing and should be able to launch soon for the public.

The New Fire Station request for proposals was sent out to 14 different companies, these are due March 6.

The request for proposals for auditing services went out to 9 different companies, these are due in April.

We had a request for a food sovereignty ordinance, I am including a sample ordinance for your review and consideration at an upcoming regular meeting.

Attended the Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting February 21.

The trees cut on Location Road were measured 20 feet from the center; this is a 3-rod road, so the width is 49.5 feet. Measuring from the center, the town is responsible for anything within 24.75 feet.

We have had four new computers installed in the front office for all clerks and in our treasurer's office to replace outdated systems.

The Center for All Seasons is now testing and recording chlorine residual amounts twice per week. This is not a new requirement; the State is just ensuring the collection and testing is being done state-wide.

Barbara Allen, Carol Johnson, Hans Rasmussen and I met to prepare for the February 21 Comprehensive Plan meeting.

Our new deputy clerk started Friday, March 1. Please welcome Ian King! We said goodbye to Charlene Houle again on Thursday, February 29 with pizza and whoopie pies.

The trees at the Workman field are down, as well as the tree at the library.

Air Quality Management will be collecting samples at the Dalton property.

Motion to adjourn at 8:48 p.m. by Chair Barbara Allen, seconded by Vice Chair Carol Johnson, vote 4-0, 1 absent.