

TOWN OF BELGRADE  
**Meeting Minutes**  
BOARD OF SELECTPERSONS  
**MARCH 19, 2024 / REGULAR MEETING 6:30 P.M.**  
BELGRADE TOWN OFFICE

*This meeting was conducted in person.*  
*The public may also view the meeting online at [https://youtu.be/ 2fpsB5kL6I](https://youtu.be/2fpsB5kL6I)*

**Present:** Selectpersons Barbara Allen, Daniel Newman, Peter Rushton, Carol Johnson; Town Manager Lorna Dee Nichols, George Seel, Sara Languet, Bruce Galouch, Jeff Worthing, Pat Donahue, Mike Harrington, Craig Alexander, Luke Bean, Ken Scheno, Steve Rogers, Christine Poulson, Ginny Zwakenberg, Garret Zwakenberg, Ellen Wells, Gregory Hunnewell, Barbara S , Jean Manson, Mike Grove, Carol Carothers, Nick Zaccaro, Nicholas Alexander, Andrew McDowell, Laura Rose Day, Carl Cooke, Cathy McKelway, Kayla Levenseller, Meagan Woodman, Peter Dionne.

**Remote participants:** Hans Rasmussen, Jason Flood, Mary Vogel, Ken Scheno, Lenny Reich, Shawn Grant, Tom Bennett, Cory Alexander.

**Absent:** Melanie Jewell (joined meeting in person at 7:35 p.m.)

**Town Manager Lorna Dee Nichols Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30 p.m.**

**Quorum established.**

**Election of Selectboard Chair and Vice Chair**

*Town Manager Lorna Dee Nichols called for nominations for Chair:*

**Selectperson Barbara Allen nominated Selectperson Carol Johnson for Chair, seconded by Selectperson Peter Rushton, vote 4-0, 1 absent.**

*Newly elected Chair Carol Johnson called for nominations for Vice Chair:*

**Chair Carol Johnson nominated Selectperson Peter Rushton for Vice Chair, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 4-0, 1 absent.**

***Open Meeting***

**Public Comment**

- Steve Rogers, Lakeshore Drive resident: concerned with safety of West Road access to parking lot adjacent to the Village Green. Would like to have additional discussion on this.
- Christine Poulson, Lakeshore Drive resident: feels the West Road access to parking lot promotes unsafe conditions as people are leaving hurriedly from events at the Village Green. Many residents use this area for walking and this access puts these residents at risk.
- Jane Manson, West Road resident: successful in getting the speed limit reduced in this area (West Road to Castle Island Road), concerned about speeders.
- Craig Alexander: concerned about Selectpersons attending the Comprehensive Plan Committee meetings.
- Selectperson Daniel Newman: shared past practice of Selectboard members attending committee meetings as advisors of procedure, bringing back information to the full Board.
- Craig Alexander: question about septic systems being repaired prior to sale.
- Bruce Galouch: input on Transfer Station committee and Board participation; Board members answered questions only and gave no input.

## **Review and approve minutes of March 4, 2024**

**Motion to accept minutes of March 4, 2024 as presented by Selectperson Barbara Allen, seconded by Vice Chair Peter Rushton, vote 4-0, 1 absent.**

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### *Buy-back for MainePERS eligible employees*

**Motion by Chair Carol Johnson to approve the amounts listed for the town's portion of the buy-back for each employee into the MainePERS new retirement plan, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 4-0, 1 absent.**

**Town's share for the following employees: Scheno \$47,695.50; Poole \$20,366.50; Bond \$7,771.50; Vogel \$37,086.00; MacGlashing \$5,539.80; Alexander \$9,616.20; Nichols \$15,003.60; Merrill \$3,271.20; Call \$3,389.440; Libold \$1,354.80.**

### *LD 2003 ordinance compliance review (Multi-Family Dwelling, Minimum Lot Size)*

Planning Board Chair Sara Languet, along with member George Seel gave presentations and spoke about the updates to bring the Town into compliance with LD 2003 by July 1, 2024. The Planning Board held an informational public hearing on the ordinances March 7. Both Mrs. Languet and Mr. Seel answered questions from the Board of Selectpersons and those in attendance.

**Motion to move the ordinances forward for legal review by the Town's attorney, seconded by Vice Chair Peter Rushton, vote 5-0.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### *Committee and ballot clerk appointments*

**Motion to appoint Andrew McDowell to the Board of Parks & Recreation by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**

**Motion to re-appoint Patrick Donahue to the Lakes and Natural Resources Committee by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**

**Motion to re-appoint Lenny Reich to the Lakes and Natural Resources Committee by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**

**Motion to re-appoint Michael Barrett to the Lakes and Natural Resources Committee by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Vice Chair Peter Rushton, vote 5-0.**

**Motion to re-appoint Sydney King to Library Trustees by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**

**Motion to re-appoint Thomas Bennett to the Dams Committee by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**

**Motion to re-appoint Michael Belanger to the Dams Committee by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**

**Motion to re-appoint Ted Fontaine to the Dams Committee by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**

**Motion to appoint Cheryl Cook, Judy Johnson Howard Holinger, Frank Haggan, Christian Bishop, Mark Berlinger, Nicholas Alexander, Joan MacKenzie, Becky Seel, Regina Coppens, Alexandra Theriault, Kathy Drolet, Jarod McGouldrick, Nicole Morin-Scribner, Caitlin McGouldrick, Kelly Webster, Valerie Hudspath, Susan Bolduc, Maureen Kibler, Sara Languet, Penny Morrell, Jacqueline Tiner, Steve Young and Denise Hart as election workers for a two-year period by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Melanie Jewell, vote 5-0.**

*Lakes & Natural Resources Committee request / support letter Seven Lakes Alliance*

Chair of the Lakes and Natural Resources Committee Pat Donahue, along with Seven Lakes Alliance representative Laura Rose Day were present to discuss the land acquisition and letter of support with the Board.

**Motion to approve the letter of support by Selectperson Barbara Allen, seconded by Vice Chair Peter Rushton, vote 5-0.**

*Fire Station, review engineering proposals*

Chair of the building committee Bruce Galouch was present to discuss the progress of the committee with the Board. The committee will be interviewing selected bidders on the engineering proposal on March 20 and bring recommendations back to the Board at the regular meeting on April 2.

*Waste Management Contract renewal, inter-local per bag fees*

The Board requested a representative from Waste Management attend the regular meeting of the Board on April 2 to answer questions, discuss the contract renewal.

**Motion by Selectperson Melanie Jewell to increase the per bag fees from \$2.00 to \$4.00, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**

*Resident Petition*

**Motion to not move the petition forward per legal advice from Maine Municipal Association by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 4-1 (Selectperson Daniel Newman).**

*CMP Pole Permit request (West Road)*

**Motion by Selectperson Melanie Jewell to approve the pole permit request, seconded by Vice Chair Peter Rushton, vote 5-0.**

**OTHER BUSINESS – None.**

**WARRANTS**

2023 AP 157                      \$12,103.00

**Motion to approve warrant 157 in the amount of \$12,103.00 by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**

AP 30                              \$12,720.71

**Motion to approve warrant 30 in the amount of \$12,720.71 by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**

Payroll 31                      \$20,894.27

**Motion to approve warrant 31 in the amount of \$20,894.27 by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**

AP 32 \$84,306.82

**Motion to hold the \$6,400 check for All Seasons and approve the amount of \$77,906.82 for warrant 32 by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Melanie Jewell, vote 5-0.**

The Board requested a break-out of the invoice from All Seasons to show what the town owes and what Friends of Belgrade Lakes Village owes for the trees cut at the Village Green.

Payroll 33 \$22,051.20

**Motion to approve warrant 33 in the amount of \$22,051.20 by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**

BMV 34 \$14,801.12

**Motion to approve warrant 34 in the amount of \$14,801.12 by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Melanie Jewell, vote 5-0.**

## **TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

Air Quality Management submitted its reports for 8 Dalton, attached for your review. Personnel have been restricted from entering the building unless they have the proper protective gear on.

Attended building committee meeting for the new fire station March 11 and visited the Lakes and Natural Resources Committee meeting March 12. A request for a support letter for Seven Lakes Alliance is on your agenda for March 19 from the L&NR committee.

Received an animal complaint on the Hulin Road, working with our on-call ACO and KCFSO to come up with a solution for dogs at large, an on-going situation. Also assisted ACO Tracy Malloy in determining the process for submitting summonses to the court system.

Received a complaint about junk at 22 Horse Point Road. The complaint was forwarded to CEO Hans Rasmussen who has addressed and replied to the complainant with follow-up as well as issuing a notice of violation.

We have a meeting with building committee members scheduled to sign papers with property owners for the purchase of land for a new fire station on March 18.

Met with building committee members for Fire & Rescue to review proposals received, this item is on your agenda for March 19. Interviews with selected companies are scheduled for March 20 at the Lakes Fire Station.

Will be attending a Women Leading Government Symposium on April 24 through Maine Municipal Association along with Planning Board Chair Sara Languet.

We received the final audit for 2023, a copy is included in your Board packet for review. Thank you to our Treasurer, Nicholas (Nick) Poole, for a tremendous amount of work on this!

The Comprehensive Plan Committee will meet March 20 to discuss our natural resources (lakes and the land that surrounds them).

Met with several residents with concern of a mandated low-income housing for new construction as part of LD 2003. There is some confusion between low-income housing vs. affordable housing.

Working on fuel pricing for the upcoming year with RSU 18 and Augusta Fuel.

Pest Management RFP as approved at the March 4 meeting is out and due March 28.

The office has been busy preparing for elections and the Annual Town Meeting.

Updated both animal control officers on the request for additional email addresses and phone from the March 4 Selectboard meeting and shared the following. I have been assured this is the current practice:

Good hand-off practices ensure consistency, continuity, and coordination of services to residents of the Town of Belgrade.

At the end of the officer's on-call status, the mobile device (phone) provided by the Town should be given to the in-coming on-call officer, along with any pertinent information for the duration of the previous on-call officer.

Pertinent information should include any calls or in-person follow-ups; reports that need to be followed up on; phone calls to be made; in-process documents; court cases etc.

Calls or requests for assistance or information should be handled by the on-call officer only. If an off-duty officer is contacted by the public, the request should be re-directed to the on-call officer as soon as possible.

Attended Super Sunday annual training put on by our Fire and Rescue Department for all town personnel on March 10. Great training! Thank you to Dan MacKenzie, Travis Burton and Jeremy Damren and all who worked to put this together.

Maine tourism has been promoting the upcoming total solar eclipse. Although we will not see it here in Belgrade, we will likely see an increase in traffic as we approach the April 8 event date. I've attached some information for your review.

KWYSP is working with Facilities Maintenance and Parks and Recreation for getting the dugouts painted, along with plans to put in a couple of benches. The painting will be done prior to the spring games and the request for benches will come to you sometime in April.

Caselli's Custom Painting has offered to donate the labor if KWYSP buys the materials to paint the dugouts. We appreciate the generosity, so both the school and Workman field dugouts will match, along with the storage building on the Workman field. Cory Alexander will be coordinating with Kayla of KWYSP.

**Motion to exit regular session at 9:15 p.m. by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**

**Motion to enter executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)A – personnel matter at 9:15 p.m. by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**

**Motion to exit executive session at 10:07 p.m. by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**

No action was taken.

**Motion to adjourn at 10:08 p.m. by Chair Carol Johnson, seconded by Selectperson Barbara Allen, vote 5-0.**