

**Buckland Select Board
Meeting Minutes
March 30, 2021 4:30 p.m.
Meeting Via Zoom**

Appointments

5:30 p.m.- Verizon Pole Hearing
5:45 p.m.- Town Clerk, General Election

Agenda

FY22 Budget Continued: Discussion, Use of Free Cash
Appointments: Animal Control Officer and Animal Inspector
Ashfield Street Reconstruction - FY20 CDBG, FY20 Complete Streets
 Grant Administration Notice of Award
 Construction Services Notice of Award
 Eminent Domain Taking, Sidewalk Easements
Library Projets
 Poetry in the Rain, Arms and BPL
 Little Free Library, Wilde Road
Personnel
 Approval of Employees Probation Period Graduations
 Employee Evaluation Forms and Schedule

Documents to Sign

Minutes
Marble Productions Location Agreement

Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting

Select Board Member Concerns

Town Administrator's Report

Public Comment

Volunteer Recognition

Announcements

Attendees - Regular Session

Dena Willmore - Select Board Chair
Barry Del Castilho - Select Board Member
Zachary Turner - Select Board Member
Heather Butler - Buckland Town Administrator

James Sullivan - Falls Cable
 Mary Bolduc - Boards' Clerk
 Paul Davis - Verizon
 Marilyn Kelsey - Resident

Meeting

Ms. Willmore opened the meeting at 4:32, and moved to go into executive session under provisions of Mass GL Ch 30A, Sec 21, exemption 1 and 3. Mr. Del Castilho seconded the motion. Vote: Del Castilho, yes; Turner, yes; Willmore, yes. Regular session resumed at 5:30 p.m.

Appointments

5:30 p.m. - Verizon Pole Hearing - Mr. Paul Davis of Verizon explained that due to an engineering error, the pole proposed for Bray Road has been deemed not necessary. Verizon withdrew their petition. Ms. Butler asked if Verizon would please forward a letter stating that the petition is null and void.

5:45 p.m. - Town Clerk, General Election - Town Clerk Karen Blom stated that early town voting is at the discretion of the Town Clerk. Mail in and absentee ballots must be provided. Due to the number of people still not fully vaccinated and the presence of the filming crew in and around Town Hall, Ms. Blom did not believe early voting was a necessary option. Another contributing factor is the fact that the election ballot consists of twelve uncontested positions. Select Board members concurred.

Agenda Items

FY22 Budget Continued; Discussion, Use of Free Cash - N/A

Appointments: Animal Control Officer and Animal Inspector - Mr. Del Castilho moved to reappoint Kyle Dragon as Animal Control Officer and Marti Taft-Ferguson as Animal Inspector, seconded by Ms. Willmore. Vote: Turner, yes; Del Castilho, yes; Willmore, yes.

Ashfield Street Reconstruction - FY20 CDBG, FY20 Complete Streets -

Grant Administration Notice of Award - Ms. Butler reported that one bid had been received to administer the FY20 CDBG grant; that bid was from Breezeway Farm Consulting. Included in this award is the administration of the reconstruction of lower Ashfield Street, administration of Buckland's support of the Food Pantry, and most importantly, writing of next year's grant. Ms. Butler recommended that the Board award the contract to Breezeway Farm Consulting for administration of the FY20 CDBG grant. Mr. Turner so moved, seconded by Mr. Del Castilho. Vote: Turner, yes; Del Castilho, yes; Willmore, yes.

Construction Services Notice of Award - Two bids were received, the lower being from A. Martins and Sons Construction Inc. Mr. Del Castilho moved to award the contract to A. Martins and Sons Construction in the amount of \$689,645.75 as recommended by GCG Associates, the design engineering firm who conducted the bid

review. Motion seconded by Mr. Turner. Vote: Turner, yes; Del Castilho, yes; Willmore, yes.

Eminent Domain Taking, Sidewalk Easements - Ms. Willmore read the motion: *“I move, pursuant to the vote taken under Article 1 of the February 13, 2021 Special Town Meeting, to take by eminent domain, for the public way purposes and for the purpose of undertaking the Ashfield Street Reconstruct Project, permanent and temporary easements on the parcels of land located on Ashfield Street and identified more particularly in the Order of Taking, to execute said Order of Taking, and, further, to award damages in the amounts set forth in Schedule B of said Order of Taking. No betterments are assessed for the taking.”* Mr. Turner seconded the motion. Brief discussion followed during which Ms. Butler gave a review of the process. Property owners have the option to donate their parcel or receive monetary compensation. To date, one property owner has donated their parcel; deadline for opting to donate is March 31, 2021. Ms. Butler will follow up with property owners to confirm their intentions. Next step will be for town counsel to prepare easements and record in the Registry of Deeds. Vote: Del Castilho, yes; Turner, yes; Willmore, yes.

Library Projects -

Poetry in the Rain, Arms and BPL - Select Board received a letter from Arms Librarian Laurie Wheeler asking permission to use public sidewalk space for the public art project Poetry in the Rain. A biodegradable spray will be used to stencil curated lines from literature which will only be visible on rainy days, and not visible otherwise. Individual businesses will also be contacted should those executing the project wish to use their sidewalks. Mr. Turner moved to allow the Poetry in the Rain Project, seconded by Mr. Del Castilho. Vote: Del Castilho, yes; Turner, yes; Willmore, yes.

Little Free Library, Wilde Road - Permission has been requested to install a Little Free Library on Wilde Road. Mr. Turner moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Del Castilho. Vote: Turner, yes; Del Castilho, yes; Willmore, yes.

Personnel -

Approval of Employee Probation Period Graduation - Ms. Butler recommended to take Jake Purington of the Highway Department and Lisa Provencher of the Waste Water Treatment Facility off probation. No salary increases are involved. In two weeks Anthony Gutierrez will have all his licenses and can then also be taken off his probationary period. Mr. Turner moved to take Jake and Lisa off probation as recommended, seconded by Mr. Del Castilho. Vote: Del Castilho, yes; Turner, yes; Willmore, yes.

Employee Evaluation Forms & Schedule - Ms. Butler screen shared the new series of employee evaluation forms and accompanying instructions, and gave a brief overview of the forms and process. Mr. Turner moved to accept the new forms, seconded by Mr. Del Castilho. Brief Board discussion followed. Vote: Del Castilho, yes; Turner, yes; Willmore, yes.

Documents to Sign

Minutes - Minutes for the March 9, 2021 Select Board meeting had been reviewed by Board members. Mr. Del Castilho moved to accept, seconded by Ms. Willmore. Vote: Del Castilho, yes; Willmore, yes. (Mr. Turner did not vote because he had not attended the March 9 meeting).

Marble Productions Location Agreement - Mr. Turner moved to allow Ms. Willmore to sign the document as written, seconded by Mr. Del Castilho. Vote: Turner, yes; Del Castilho, yes; Willmore, yes.

Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting - Ms. Butler asked if anyone had attended the meetings with Adam Hinds. Ms. Willmore attended the one at Arms Library, and Ms. Thurber, School Committee Chair, attended the meeting at Mohawk. Brief discussion on monies received for schools and for business loans.

Select Board Member Concerns - Mr. Turner reported that before the next meeting he will send out a survey to neighboring towns for their input on regionalizing services, to be reviewed at next meeting. Ms. Butler stated that a survey was a great way to start the process.

Town Administrator's Report - In her report Ms. Butler covered the Marble Filming Schedule, update on completion of LED streetlight modifications, upcoming grant opportunities, and in person meetings. After discussion of the upcoming grant opportunities, Ms. Butler asked for a vote to designate the Select Board Chair to sign letters of support as necessary. Mr. Turner so moved, seconded by Mr. Del Castilho. Vote: Turner, yes; Del Castilho, yes; Willmore, yes.

Public Comment - Marilyn Kelsey asked if the Town of Buckland is being compensated for the current filming project, and if so, how much and where will it be used. Ms. Willmore explained the town received compensation in the amount of \$20,000, plus individual ways in which town departments are being compensated, as in police and public safety details and highway department. Ms. Butler explained the route the money will take through the budgeting/finance project, landing in a revolving account, the use of which will need to pass Select Board approval.

Volunteer Recognition - Ms. Willmore read, "To all our citizens who are working the vaccination clinics via MRC and Camela Lanza-Weill's band of volunteers - a big thank you - it could not be done without you. We would like to especially highlight Regina Purinton who has been tirelessly giving jabs - over a thousand so far. Thank you, Regina!"

Announcements - There were no announcements, and with no further business, Mr. Turner moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Del Castilho. Vote: Turner, yes; Del Castilho, yes; Willmore, yes. Meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Bolduc, Boards Clerk, April 13, 2021

Signed:

Dena Willmore_____

Barry Del Castillo_____

Zachary Turner_____