



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN/BOARD OF ASSESSORS
MEETING MINUTES**

July 7, 2015

6:30 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Call to Order: 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Wright, Selectman Crichton, Selectman Ganiere, Selectman Pendergast, Selectman Plante

OTHERS PRESENT: Interim Town Manager Bruce Benway, Town Clerk Jo Anne Lepley, Finance Director Maureen Finger, Water Department Chief Operator Chris Weismann

II. MINUTES

a. June 16, 2015 BOS Meeting

Motion: It was moved by Selectman Crichton and seconded by Selectman Ganiere to approve the June 16, 2015 BOS Meeting Minutes as submitted.

The motion carried unanimously; 5 – 0.

b. June 30, 2015 Special BOS Meeting

Motion: it was moved by Selectman Ganiere and seconded by Selectman Pendergast to approve the June 30, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes as submitted.

The motion carried unanimously; 4 – 0. (Plante was not present at that meeting)

III. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

IV. PUBLIC HEARING – NONE

V. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

a. BCTV Committee - NONE

b. Envision Berwick Committee (EBC)

Donald Young, Preservation & Heritage Sub-Committee – Mr. Young read a letter addressed to Chairman Wright that identified what the tasks the sub-committee has organized for it to work on; for instance:

- 1. Compile a listing of sites, structures**
- 2. Work with the Berwick Historical Society**
- 3. Identify the cemeteries that are in Town**

The sub-committee is not intending to form an historic district due to the fact that there is not a “single” identifiable historic in Town, but there are historic buildings and sites throughout.

VI. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/OTHER GUESTS

a. Public Utilities Commission – Water Rate Case Sandy Bolotsky

Ms. Bolotsky explained that she was there at the request of the PUC to find if there was an acceptable range to come to an agreement regarding the proposed rate case. Ms. Bolotsky explained that she could not go into detail on what either side was looking at for a rate because the PUC has decided that the settlement proposal cannot be made public at this time. The Public Advocate and Ms. Bolotsky are looking at a range between 7.5% and 10%. Another item that she

was instructed to get permission to go forward with would be a new rate structure which would allow for "low" users to pay a lesser rate increase.

The Town Manager explained that even though the BOS is the elected officials of the Town residents, they are responsible for the financial integrity of the Water Department. The formula that is used by the PUC for budgeting includes more than money in/money out; it also includes depreciation of equipment and maintenance.

It was the consensus of the BOS to allow Ms. Bolotsky to continue with the settlement negotiations with in the range she gave.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS – None

IX. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANTS

A/P WARRANT	1551	\$79,233.22
WATER WARRANT	0551	\$2,235.53
PAYROLL WARRANT	1552	\$53,817.56
A/P WARRANT	1552	\$43,743.69
WATER WARRANT	0552	\$4,791.92
PAYROLL WARRANT	1601	\$48,211.69
A/P WARRANT	1601	\$656,105.24
PAYROLL WARRANT	1602	\$46,832.44

Motion: It was moved by Chairman Wright and seconded by Selectman Pendergast to approve the Accounts Payable Warrants as presented.

The motion carried unanimously; 5 – 0.

X. NEW BUSINESS

a. Draft Tax Acquired Property Policy

Ms. Finger explained the changes presented would bring the policy in alignment with the Ordinance and specifically added who was eligible to enter into installment contracts. There was also abutter inquiry section added and rules regarding Town employee bids (all would be rejected...

Selectman Crichton stated that 3.2 needed language for a time frame of thirty days for the property owner to respond. He stated 3.5 also needs a time frame.

The consensus of the BOS was to make the requested changes and send to the Town Attorney for review.

Selectman Pendergast asked for information on where the shared billing with the Sewer District stood. Ms. Finger stated that she sent TRIO information to the District back in September and she has not heard back.

b. Special Event Applications

1. Pumpkinman Triathlon Festival

Motion: It was moved by Selectman Ganiere and seconded by Selectman Crichton to approve the Pumpkinman Triathlon Festival application.

The motion carried unanimously; 5 – 0.

2. Amy's Run-Walk

Motion: It was moved by Selectman Ganiere and seconded by Selectman Crichton to approve the Amy's Run-Walk application.

The motion carried unanimously; 5 – 0.

XI. QUITCLAIM DEEDS AND/OR INSTALLMENT CONTRACTS – None

XII. ABATEMENTS/SUPPLEMENTALS – None

XIII. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT

Joanne St. Pierre – Ms. St. Pierre had questions about the Water District running a deficit for eight years and why that had been allowed to happen.

Starr Glenn – Ms. Glenn asked if there was anything that could be done regarding the truck breaking noise at night on Rochester street. Ms. Glenn stated that she had been in touch with State Representative O'Connor regarding motorized water craft on the Salmon Falls River and they were both looking into what could be done by the Town to limit motorized access.

Joanne St. Pierre – Ms. St. Pierre stated that it had been a year since she had complained about the illegal dump on Bridge Street. She was told that the EPA may have been contacted.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None Planned

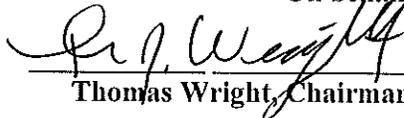
XV. OTHER BUSINESS/NON-AGENDA ITEMS - None

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: It was moved by Selectman Crichton and seconded by Selectman Ganiere to adjourn.
The motion carried unanimously; 5 – 0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

**The July 7, 2015 BOS Meeting Minutes
Signed as approved at the Board's July 21, 2015 Meeting
On behalf of the Board**



Thomas Wright, Chairman, Berwick Board of Selectmen