



# Town of Berwick

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN/BOARD OF ASSESSORS MINUTES

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Tuesday, August 11, 2020

6:30pm

Via Zoom  
11 Sullivan Street  
Berwick, ME 03901

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### 1. Call to Order

Chair Wright called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

### 2. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Chair Thomas Wright, Vice Chair Ed Ganiere, Selectman Noah Cobb (via Zoom), Selectman Kenneth Manning, Jr. (via Zoom) and Selectman Mark Pendergast (via Zoom)

Board Members Absent:

Staff Members Present: Town Manager Stephen Eldridge, Planner James Bellissimo, Code Enforcement Officer Jenifer McCabe (via Zoom) and Town Clerk Patricia Murray (via Zoom)

### 3. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Wright led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- July 28, 2020

**Motion:** Selectman Manning moved to accept the July 28, 2020 minutes as written. Vice Chair Ganiere seconded the motion.

**The motion carried: 4:0 with Selectman Pendergast abstaining**

### 5. First Public Comment

Chair Wright opened the first public comment.

Mr. Jamie Blood, 1 Sullivan Square, spoke. He is interested in expanding his brewery business and is looking at the Fire Station on School Street. He asked for the Town's process and timeline for putting the building up for bid or sale. Town Manager Eldridge replied that the new fire station should be move in ready mid-September. He will look at policies regarding the sale of Town owned property. The Town Manager will schedule an appraisal. Chair Wright stated a survey should also be done.

There being no further comments, Chair Wright closed the first public comment.

**6. Public Hearing**

None.

**7. Reports of Committees**

- **BCTV Committee**

None.

- **Envision Berwick Committee**

James Bellissimo stated the committee is working on replacing the Town welcome sign. Committee Member Jeremy Kasten is working on a video series featuring Berwick stories.

**Department Reports**

None.

**8. Appointments/Presentations/Other Guests**

None.

**9. Unfinished Business**

None.

**10. Town Manager Report**

Town Manager Eldridge reported the following:

- Two proposals were received for the Water Department project looking into eliminating the manganese issue. The manganese content increases during a drought. The \$1.2 million bond from EPA through the Maine Drinking Water Program included work to fix the issues. Town Manager Eldridge is reluctant to borrow \$1.2 million with no definitive solution. Recommendations on two proposals were to seek an alternate water source. The loan application will be put on hold until a more definitive plan is in place.
- The Town hired a Director of Public Works and Water Utilities. Jody Gigon will start September 8, 2020.
- Fire Station Update: Paving is complete, topsoil is installed. Some equipment has been moved into the building.

**11. Selectmen Communications**

None.

**12. Approval of Warrants**

<b>08-06-2020</b>	<b>Payroll Warrant #8</b>	<b>\$ 67,282.94</b>
<b>08-13-2020</b>	<b>Payroll Warrant #9</b>	<b>\$ 66,580.11</b>
<b>08-12-2020</b>	<b>A/P Warrant #10</b>	<b>\$1,618,657.58</b>

**Motion:** Chair Wright made a motion to accept the Accounts Payable Warrants as presented and on the condition of the inspection of a majority of the Board of Selectmen. Vice Chair Ganiere seconded the motion.

**The motion carried: 5:0**

**13. New Business**

- MMA Vice President and Executive Committee Members Ballot

The MMA annual election for Vice President has one opening and one candidate. The Executive Committee has three openings and three candidates.

**Motion:** Vice Chair Ganiere made a motion to cast votes for James Bennett for the MMA Vice President seat and for Robert Butler, Terry Helms and Diane Hines for Executive Committee Members. Selectman Manning seconded the motion.

**The motion carried: 5:0**

- Administrative Consent; 344 Diamond Hill Road

The public hearing was held at the July 28, 2020 BOS Meeting. Code Enforcement and GEG Builders, LLC agreed upon a fine of \$2,835.00 for the violations to the Land Use Ordinance Sections 9.6 and 9.7.

**Motion:** Vice Chair Ganiere made a motion to authorize Town Manager Eldridge to sign the Administrative Consent Agreement between GEG Builders, LLC and the Town of Berwick. Selectman Cobb seconded the motion.

**The motion carried: 5:0**

- Lounge License Corner Point Brewery

Mr. Jaime Blood, Corner Point Brewery was present. He stated the current license they hold is a small brewers license. This license allows the making and selling of beer on site. The lounge license will allow for the sale of alcohol. They would like to add wine and cider to the product list which are compliments to craft beer. They would also add a small food option.

Selectman Manning noted several items on the application that were blank or incomplete.

**The Board tabled this item until the application is complete.**

- Pandemic Policy Adoption

Town Manager Eldridge stated this policy will manage employees during the pandemic and will cover such items as employees leaving the State and quarantine etc.

**The Board tabled this item until legal reviews the policy.**

- MMA Workers' Compensation Safety Incentive Program Resolve Form

**MMA WORKERS' COMPENSATION SAFETY INCENTIVE PROGRAM  
RESOLVE FORM**

WHEREAS, the Town of Berwick is a member of the Maine Municipal Association Workers' Compensation Fund (hereinafter "WC Fund"); and

WHEREAS, Maine Municipal Association (hereinafter "MMA") provides risk management services and workers' compensation coverage; and

WHEREAS, MMA developed the Workers' Compensation Safety Incentive Program (hereinafter "the Program") to help reduce the incidents and impact of workplace injuries by implementing WC claim best practices; and

WHEREAS, MMA will provide necessary written program information, and offer assistance to participants; and

WHEREAS, WC Fund members that participate in the Program and complete the required activities, will have the opportunity to earn a credit to their annual contribution; and

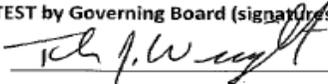
WHEREAS, the Town of Berwick is committed to providing a safe environment for its employees, citizens, and visiting public; and

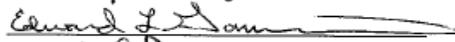
WHEREAS, the Program will help enhance such an environment and promote a self-sustaining culture of safety with participating members,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE** Berwick Board of Selectmen  
to elect to participate in the MMA Workers' Compensation Safety Incentive Program.

DATED THIS 11<sup>th</sup> DAY OF August, 2020

ATTEST by Governing Board (signatures or e-signatures):

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**Motion:** Vice Chair Ganiere made a motion to accept the MMA Workers' Compensation Safety Incentive Program Resolve. Selectman Manning seconded the motion.

**The motion carried: 5:0**

**14. Quitclaim Deeds and/or Installment Contracts**

None.

**15. Abatements/Supplements**

None.

**16. Second Public Comment**

Chair Wright opened the second public comment.

Noah Cobb, Worster Road, spoke. He will be having a yard sale this weekend.

There being no comments, Chair Wright closed the second public comment.

**17. Executive Session**

None.

**18. Other Business/Non-Agenda Items**

None.

**19. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:11pm.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Patricia Murray**  
**Town Clerk**

**The August 11, 2020 BOS Meeting Minutes – Signed as approved at the Board of Selectmen’s August 25, 2020 meeting.**

**On behalf of the Board**

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