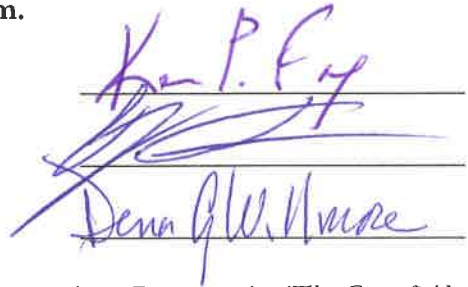


**BUCKLAND SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Buckland Town Hall
February 13, 2018, 5:30 p.m.**

Kevin P. Fox

Zachary J. Turner

Dena G. Willmore



Handwritten signatures of Kevin P. Fox and Dena G. Willmore, each on a horizontal line.

Attendees: Kevin Fox, Zack Turner, Dena Willmore, Karen Blom, Diane Broncaccio (*The Greenfield Recorder*), Ricky Halloran (*West County Independent News*), Lynne Kelsey, Larry Langford, Andrea Llamas, Dana McNay (Falls Cable), Linda Overing, Whit Sanford, Mike Slowinski, Bill Storti (Weston & Sampson), Tim Todd, Phoebe Walker-West

Dena Willmore opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m..

1. Appointments

5:30 p.m., Finance Committee – Karen Blom indicated it is another tight budget year; there is nothing going toward Stabilization, no capital expenses, no COLAs, and only about \$39,000 in free cash; we are at the levy limit. Revenue is flat. Karen Blom indicated the Finance Committee is considering a multi-prong approach – an override, cuts to the operating budget, using Stabilization. She indicated most department budgets are very tight, biggest thing to cut would be personnel hours. May be recommending an override to give us some relief for a few years. The school budget is a big part of the increased expenses. Karen Blom suggested the override be toward the school expense. Andrea Llamas indicated we are working on a meals tax; there is still the zip code issue. Dena Willmore advocated for the lodging tax. Discussion about using Stabilization toward current debt rather than taking on new debt. Discussion about valuation of the hydro plant – do not wait for five years. Discussion about retired employees spouse health insurance; have the benefit for the retired employee only in the future. Discussion about Transfer Station hours. Kevin Fox advocated for the Senior Center Consortium funding.

Lynne Kelsey, Mike Slowinski, and Phoebe Walker-West entered the meeting at 5:55 p.m.. Tim Todd entered the meeting at 5:58 p.m.. Karen Blom left the meeting at 6:00 p.m.. Whit Sanford entered the meeting at 6:02 p.m..

b. 6:00 p.m., Community Development Block Grant Public Hearing, William Street - Dena Willmore opened the Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m. Linda Overing indicated there was a well-attended walking tour for residents earlier that day, at 3:30 p.m.. Bill Storti, Engineer, Weston & Sampson, explained what the existing conditions are on William Street, such as lack of proper drainage, crumbling road bed, telephone poles and fire hydrant in the road, and old, undersized water main. He indicated because the road is very long and funds are limited, Phase I would run from the State Street intersection to the end of the sidewalks, approximately #47 William. Improvements would consist of moving the telephone poles out of the road, installing proper drainage to connect into the existing system, relocating a small portion of sewer to allow for the additional drainage, move a fire hydrant and add a fire hydrant, new sidewalks and street pavement. Phase II would include similar improvements for the remainder of the road, approximately 400 LF. Resident Phoebe Walker indicated that the existing sidewalks have issues with their expansion joints that have required repairs and asked how this would work with the new sidewalks. Bill Storti indicated the work would be done as required to meet engineering standards and it was the engineer's responsibility to make sure this happens.

Linda Overing noted the Town can apply for up to \$800,000 for FY18 and presented a summary budget for the grant. Phoebe Walker indicated her strong support of the Food Pantry component of the application.

Dena Willmore moved to commit \$13,500 of the Town of Buckland CDBG appropriations to the Fiscal Year 2018 CDBG Application for reconstruction of William Street, Phase I, to approve the Fiscal Year 2018 application as presented, and to authorize the Chairperson to sign all related documents; Zack Turner seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor. Dena Willmore moved to award the Fiscal Year 2018 contract for Emergency Food Services for \$25,000 to Community Action Pioneer Valley, dependent on approval of the Fiscal Year 2018 CDBG application by DHCD; Zack Turner seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.

At 6:27 p.m., Dena Willmore moved to close the Public Hearing; Kevin Fox seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.

Whit Sanford, Mike Slowinski, Bill Storti, Tim Todd, and Phoebe Walker-West left the meeting at 6:27 p.m..

2. Agenda Items

a. **Fiscal Year 2019 Budget** – Andrea Llamas indicated the Finance Committee recommends not funding capital requests including a highway truck, a police cruiser, Town Hall siding repair, technology upgrades, Recreation Area improvements. Winter Roads – Andrea Llamas indicated Steve Daby is trying to manage overtime hours with a tight budget. We have been using a lot of sand and salt due to icing conditions; we are at 80%. Discussion of funding changeover of radios to State Police system. Andrea Llamas indicated it would be a warrant article. Will check with Bob Dean at FRCOG for potential funding. Discussion of Highway Department fleet and on-call driver for storms. Agreed to meet with Highway Department and Police Department heads about their fleets at next meeting. Discussion about road improvements and materials needed at Recreation Area and Highway Department involvement.

Kevin Fox expressed his strong support of the Senior Center request. Meetings coming up with Ashfield and Shelburne. Larry Langford volunteered to be the representative to the Senior Center with Andrea Llamas as back-up. Transfer Station – Discussion of possible summer hours. Village Partnership – Discussion of the Salmon Falls parking lot project. Discussion of usefulness of partnership – most of the activity occurred when movies were being filmed a few years ago. Felt it benefits the businesses. Recommended to zero out the budget item. OPEB – Kevin Fox indicated this is a real liability that we have for retirees, and we are funding it at \$1,000. He recommended getting it fully funded; interest pays for the funding liability and provides relief in the operating budget. Put \$1,000 toward a study in the Collector/Treasurer budget. Retiree Health Insurance/Spousal Insurance Coverage – Andrea Llamas will draft policy for the employee only to have retiree health insurance effective February 13, 2018.

3. Documents to Sign

a. **Select Board Meeting Minutes – January 9, 2018** – Kevin Fox moved we sign the Meeting Minutes; Zack Turner seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.

b. **Contract for Designer Services – Town Highway Facility** – Kevin Fox moved to approve sign the contract for designer services as reviewed by our Town Attorney; Zack Turner seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.

c. **Community Compact – Inflow and Infiltration Study Funds** – State funding \$10,000 toward the study. Kevin moved we sign the contract; Zack Turner seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.

- d. **Engineering Services Proposal – Wastewater Facility: Collection System Flow Monitoring** – Kevin Fox moved we sign the contract; Zack Turner seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.
- e. **Curb Cut Permit – Clesson Brook Road** – Zack Turner moved we sign the Curb Cut Permit for Sammy Purington; Kevin Fox seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.
4. **Town Administrator Updates** – Andrea Llamas indicated the Green Communities Grant is due March 9, 2018. Looking at window inserts for the Police Station; getting an estimate. Kevin Fox moved we authorize Dena Willmore as Chair to sign on our behalf for the Green Communities Grant; Zack Turner seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.
5. **Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting** – None.
6. **Public Comment** – None.
7. **Volunteer Recognition** – Finance Committee. Larry Langford for serving as our representative to the Senior Center.
8. **Announcements** – Rabies Clinic on February 24; information on website and at Town Hall.

At 8:03 p.m., Dena Willmore moved to adjourn the meeting; Zack Turner seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m..