

**BUCKLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
Buckland Town Hall
December 13, 2016, 5:30 p.m.**

Kevin P. Fox

John R. Riggan

Dena G. Willmore



Attendees: Kevin Fox, Rob Riggan, Dena Willmore, Karen Blom, Diane Broncaccio (*The Recorder*), Cynthia Caporaso, Ed Grinnell, Andrea Llamas, Davin Ojala, Martha Thurber, Otis Wheeler (Falls Cable)

Rob Riggan opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m..

1. Appointments

5:30 p.m., Dog Hearing – Davin Ojala, Stone Road – Rob Riggan opened the Dog Hearing at 5:30 p.m.. He swore in the participants. Ed Grinnell said he had received many complaints about Murray, owned by Davin Ojala, going back to 2015. He said Murray was off property and being a nuisance to the neighbors. Davin Ojala said Murray got loose at times when his child let Murray out. He will try to get Murray altered in the spring and install an invisible fence. Ed Grinnell suggested that the Ojala family be more diligent in keeping Murray under control. At 5:35 p.m., Kevin Fox moved to close the Dog Hearing; Dena Willmore seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor. Rob Riggan agreed with Ed Grinnell's suggestion that Murray be kept under control and licensed with the Town Clerk. Dena Willmore moved that as per the recommendation of our Animal Control Officer that the fence will be installed no later than April 15, 2017, to keep the dog confined, and that the dog be registered by December 15, 2016; Kevin Fox seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.

Ed Grinnell and Davin Ojala left the meeting at 5:42 p.m..

5. Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting – Possible Executive Session under M.G.L. Ch. 30A, Section 21, (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so desires. At 5:42 p.m., Rob Riggan moved to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Ch. 30A, Section 21, (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so desires; Kevin Fox seconded.

Roll Call: Rob Riggan – yes, Kevin Fox – yes, Dena Willmore – yes.

Went into Executive Session at 5:42 p.m.. Exited Executive Session at 5:55 p.m..

Karen Blom and Martha Thurber entered the meeting at 5:57 p.m. Cynthia Caporaso entered the meeting at 5:59 p.m..

6:00 p.m., Finance Committee, Buckland School Committee Members Re: Discussion of BEST Recommendations and Fiscal Year 2018 School Budget – Karen Blom said the BEST Committee had recently made a presentation of their proposals. Discussion about possible closing of Heath Elementary School. Discussion about 'mothballing' costs for Heath's school. Discussion about weighted votes. Discussion about Fiscal Year 2018 School Budget. Rob Riggan indicated our

taxpayers received a 6.8% increase in their property taxes. Karen Blom indicated the school budget should be at a 0% increase and the case made for increases if needed. Dena Willmore indicated we are beginning to see the problem of no new-growth. Discussion of School Committee vacancy. People interested in filling the position through June 30, 2016 should contact Town Hall.

Karen Blom and Martha Thurber left the meeting at 6:42 p.m.. Took a short recess until 6:48 p.m..

2. Documents to Sign

- a. Selectmen Meeting Minutes – October 25, 2016 – Kevin Fox moved to sign the Meeting Minutes; Dena Willmore seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.
- b. Third Party Inspection Report – Transfer Station – Kevin Fox moved we approve the third party inspection report; Dena Willmore seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.
- c. 2017 Licenses – Kevin moved we sign the 2017 business licenses; Dena Willmore seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.
- d. Regional Sheltering Agreement – Kevin Fox moved we sign the Regional Sheltering Agreement; Dena Willmore seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.

3. Agenda Items

- a. Appoint Carol Kelshaw to Buckland Cultural Council – Kevin Fox moved to appoint Carol Kelshaw to the Buckland Cultural Council; Dena Willmore seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.
- b. Highway Facility – Owner Project Manager – Andrea Llamas indicated references for GM-2 and Pinck were both excellent. Dena Willmore moved we select GM-2 as our Owner Project Manager for the Highway Facility; Kevin Fox seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor. Discussion about funding. Will set a Special Town Meeting/Election at the end of January 2017.
- c. PARC Grant Status – Andrea Llamas said we received a PARC grant for \$50,000 which is matched by a donation from TransCanada for \$50,000. Waiting for the State contract, then we will purchase the Cricket Field from the VFW.
- d. Recreation Area – End of Season Update – Andrea Llamas said the Recreation Committee recommends that the pool not open next season due to severe leaking in the pool and piping; the pool has reached the end of its life. We did not get a MassWorks grant. Thinking about putting in a playground. We need to consider removing the pool. Consider funding for it at a Special Town Meeting with Free Cash because it would be less expensive to do this work during the winter; a guess-timate is \$40,000. Put on December 27, 2016 agenda.

4. Town Administrator Updates – Andrea Llamas gave notice that her contract is up and needs to be renegotiated in the spring.

6. Public Comment – None.

7. Volunteer Recognition – Glenn Cardinal – he did so much for the Town of Buckland.

At 7:37 p.m., Kevin Fox moved to adjourn; Dena Willmore seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m..