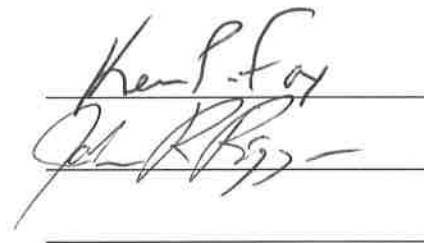


**BUCKLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
Buckland Town Hall
January 24, 2017, 5:30 p.m.**

Kevin P. Fox

John R. Riggan

Dena G. Willmore



Attendees: Kevin Fox, Rob Riggan, Dena Willmore, Diane Broncaccio (*The Recorder*), Cathy Buntin, Ellen Eller, Chief James Hicks, Penny Spearance, James Sullivan (Falls Cable), Eric Temple

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

1. Appointments

5:30 p.m., Senior Center Budget – Cathy Buntin indicated the Senior Center would like to request \$15,000 to begin funding the Senior Center expansion; funds would be used for surveys, legal fees, etc.. Would like to measure community support for some sort of project. Proposing a warrant article. Ashfield is doing a capital request. Andrea Llamas said it has to be a separate article on the warrant. Cathy Buntin indicated people could donate to the Senior Center Foundation Fund. She will return with a more defined article.

Diane Broncaccio entered the meeting at 5:42 p.m.. Cathy Buntin, Ellen Eller, Penny Spearance, and Eric Temple left the meeting at 5:48 p.m..

2. Documents to Sign

a. **Selectmen Meeting Minutes – December 27, 2016, December 30, 2016** – Dena Willmore moved to approve those Meeting Minutes; Kevin Fox seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.

3. Agenda Items

- a. **Animal Control Officer Designation** – Kevin Fox moved to designate Edward Grinnell as the Animal Control Officer; Dena Willmore seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.
- b. **Discussion of February 7, 2017 Special Town Meeting** – Rob Riggan spoke about the lack of information on Article I. Kevin Fox indicated we do not want to design/engineer a project that no one wants; engage the interest and gauge what people want to do. Rob Riggan reminded the Board of a nearby town that spent a lot of money designing and engineering a project that the residents voted against; Buckland does not have an architect, etc., at this point. Andrea Llamas will provide a fact sheet as to how we arrived at the Article figure. Andrea Llamas will call the Building Inspector as we need a change of use and a Certificate of Occupancy for the Highway Garage. Kevin Fox moved to support Articles I, II, and III; Dena Willmore seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.
- c. **Future MassWorks Application Discussion – Apply for Highway Garage Renovation?** – Kevin Fox indicated this might be a long shot as we applied for the Recreation Area last year without success (we will be reapplying this year). Andrea Llamas will find out if this is a possibility. Put on the next meeting agenda.
- d. **Retiree Health Insurance – Eliminate Spousal Coverage?** – Kevin Fox indicated we cannot enforce longevity; we are not required to supply 50% for spouses of retirees. Not sure the Town can afford this anymore. Chief Jim Hicks indicated this is a benefit that could keep people from working for the Town. Will refer to the Personnel Committee.
- e. **Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Discussion** – Andrea Llamas indicated the Finance Committee made recommendations regarding capital requests. Kevin Fox indicated some of the capital requests are a result of long-term planning, and it is important that the Select Board provide some guidance and

solve a disconnect. Andrea Llamas indicated she will answer their questions on the budget. Set up a meeting before the Special Town Meeting with the Finance Committee; meet at 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, February 7, 2017.

f. **Discussion of Pay Down of USDA Loan for Town Hall Renovation** – Kevin Fox indicated our interest rate on this loan is 4.5%; we only make about 1% interest on Stabilization. Dena Willmore indicated it might be advantageous to pay down the Town Hall renovation from General Stabilization and then borrow more (at a better rate) for the Highway Garage. Will discuss at next meeting.

g. **Zip Code Discussion** - Andrea indicated she had a letter from the Town Clerk and a resident who want only one zip code for the Town of Buckland – 01338. Kevin Fox moved we approve Dena Willmore’s letter for two zip codes; Rob Riggan seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.

h. **Approve Community Development Strategy** – Andrea Llamas incorporated changes as suggested by the Board. Dena Willmore suggested adding Veterans Services under Social Services. Kevin Fox moved we approve the Community Development Strategy with Dena Willmore’s addition of Veterans Services under Social Services; Dena Willmore seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.

4. **Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting – Recreation Committee** – Rec Committee would like to remove some trees that will interfere with the planned playground; labor will be provided by the Tech School. Dena Willmore moved we give them permission to begin the removal of the trees; Kevin Fox seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.

Increase for Highway Department Worker – Dena Willmore moved we bring Norman Daby’s salary up by \$.15 per hour retroactive to November 22, 2016; Kevin Fox seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.

Wilder Homestead Letter of Support – Kevin Fox moved we sign the Historical Society’s letter of support to the Massachusetts Historical Commission for the Wilder Homestead; Dena Willmore seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.

Wells in Buckland, Colrain, Shelburne Update – Andrea Llamas said Carolyn Ness, Deerfield, said they are working on a grant for the wells in Buckland, Colrain, and Shelburne (damage resulting from Tropical Storm Irene); requested some funding, have matching funds – not sure when it is going to happen; this is a heads up.

FEMA Reimbursement – Andrea Llamas said she received a call from Senator Warren’s Office regarding when is FEMA going to respond to us. Andrea Llamas will call Representative Kulik’s office – we have to get the PWs this year. Our interest on our loan is \$9,000 this year.

Placemaking Project – Rob Riggan said the Partnership met and they are in the process of applying for funding – this is highly competitive. Trolley Museum Deck – Andrea Llamas said Sam Bartlett is rethinking his request – if one has an easement, one needs a layout, survey, Town Meeting. Will send him an email.

5. **Public Comment** – None.

6. **Volunteer Recognition** – Emma Guyette again for her assistance to the Town Clerk in sending out the annual Street Listing.

7. **Announcements** – None.

At 7:29 p.m., Dena Willmore moved to adjourn; Kevin Fox seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m..