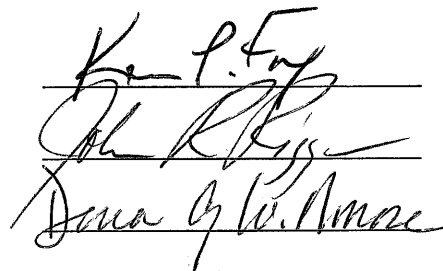


BUCKLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
July 28, 2015, 6:30 p.m.
Buckland Town Hall

Kevin P. Fox

John R. Riggan

Dena G. Willmore



Attendees: Kevin Fox, Rob Riggan, Dena Willmore, Diane Broncaccio (*The Recorder*), Ben Bosco (*Shelburne Falls Independent News*), Jim Cutler (Pipeline Awareness Network), Ellen Kaufmann, Andrea Llamas, Margaret Olin, James Sullivan (Falls Cable)

Rob opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m..

2. **Documents to Sign**

- a. **Selectmen Meeting Minutes – June 9, 2015, June 23, 2015, July 6, 2015** – Kevin moved to approve the Meeting Minutes; Dena seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.
- b. **FRCOG Accounting Contract** – Andrea said there was some discussion about a three-year contract. They ask that you sign as they are trying to get all contracts on the same cycle; you can get out after a year; there is a clause that addresses it. Dena moved to sign the FRCOG Accounting Contract effective July 1, 2015; Kevin seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor. Dena moved to sign the Accounting Software Contract; Kevin seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.

Ben Bosco entered the meeting at 6:37 p.m..

3. **Agenda Items**

- b. **Conway Street Pavement**- Rob said take this off the Agenda.
- f. **New Public Records Law Pending Bill** – Andrea said this has been postponed until the Fall. Kulik says it has gone back to committee; onerous on small communities.
 - a. **Public Safety Committee Appointments** – Kevin moved to appoint Paul J. Herbert to the Public Safety Committee for a one-year term. Dena seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor. Kevin moved to appoint Rob Riggan for a one-year term to the Public Safety Committee; Dena seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.
 - c. **Selectmen Appointment to Personnel Committee** – Andrea said we need someone to serve. We have to put together a job description for a Board Clerk. Rob suggested Paul St. Martin as he runs a good business. Andrea said we are going to meet in August.
 - d. **Technology Committee** – Rob said we need someone to serve. Andrea said we are moving forward with Carbonite (cloud storage). Dena is checking with someone she knows.
 - g. **MTRSD Regional Agreement Working Group Composition** – Dena will talk to Karen Blom, Finance Committee, about the group.
 - h. **Eagles Parking Lot Lease Agreement** – Andrea said # 14 needed to be corrected. The Assessors and our attorney came up with an agreement. Apply deductions to the evaluation. The Eagles are pleased, and it runs with the life of the lease. No changes to the rest of the agreement. Dena moved we make these changes to the lease agreement; Kevin seconded. **VOTED** unanimously in favor.
 - i. **Highway Truck and Related Equipment Bid** – Andrea said we were going to use Chapter 90 money to purchase the vehicle. The vehicle we wanted is too small to use Chapter 90 money. Steve is talking with multiple dealers about a 27,500 vehicle – see if they even do this. It will cost more because it is a heavier vehicle. They last longer. We would have to go to Town Meeting to access

the money. Could use Stabilization or Free Cash. Dena suggested forwarding this to the Finance Committee. Kevin suggested using available funds. Take Chapter 90 and use it somewhere else. Andrea said then you go to Town Meeting to shift the funds. Discuss at next meeting.

Ellen Kaufmann and Margaret Olin entered the meeting at 7:05 p.m.. Diane Broncaccio entered the meeting at 7:10 p.m..

1. Appointments

6:45 p.m., Parking Ticket Appeal – Postponed.

7:00 p.m., Buckland Energy Committee Re: PLAN-NE – Margaret Olin thanked Jim Cutler for coming to tonight's meeting. She said we voted to encourage the Board of Selectmen to become coalition members of the Network Awareness Plan, saying Greenfield, Ashfield, Montague, and Pepperell became members of the coalition. Jim Cutler said we need solidarity – Ashfield, Conway, and Shelburne have expressed strong opposition to the pipeline project. It is an opportunity to be proactive rather than reactive. Southern New Hampshire was caught unaware when the proposed pipeline was changed. There should be transparency at all levels. Opposition to the pipeline demonstrates what the majority of voters came out in favor of on June 18, 2015. This could be the first step in a dialogue. Rob asked if the intervener status has been denied; Jim said in New Hampshire. The Rabb report is a study for the need for gas in New England; studies done in the Patrick and Baker administrations; found the reports wanting. To deny us intervener status is problematic. Get better data into the mix. Berkshire Gas has permission in Whately to expand and they have not done it. They are guaranteed that gas. They are interested in other aspects of this process. The generators do not have the guarantee. ISO winter reliability projects to ensure a reliable source of the fuel for all times of the year. Constraints applied to the generator not the shipper. There are many pipelines in New England.

Kevin said why are they being less than truthful? Jim said Berkshire Gas was bought by a company from Spain. They have a deep interest in getting gas for Europe. In this whole process, Berkshire Gas came out with the moratorium. We see this as disingenuous. To deny us intervener status is pushing acceptability. We will have good solid status to take it to district court. Businesses in Greenfield were threatened with shutoff status. We are seeing strong arm tactics. Our President is Ken Hartledge, Katie Eismann on the Board of Directors as well as Rosemary Wessel, Jane Winn from Pittsfield. Our staff is not paid. The cost of litigation is through donations. Kevin said FRCOG is seeking intervener status on our behalf. Jim said FRCOG is working with the towns for the best outcome for the towns. Making sure sensitive areas are delineated and avoided. Margaret said FRCOG is only for the towns affected. Dena said my concern is energy. The issue is very complicated. Gas is an effective tool to get us to renewables. If we don't grow, we die. The world is grey and complex in black and white. Jim said there are strong forces at play here. We try to give people good salient data. If gas is shipped out to Europe, the price goes up here. The concern we have is on economic impact on towns impacted which can skew numbers on abatement. Dena said abatements on revenues. Jim said everyone else will have to make up the difference. They assess their own value. Compressor stations are extremely hard to assess and the relative value of the company. Impacts fire and emergency departments. The demand for energy in New England has gone down. Dena said if we cannot create a healthy environment for business....

Kevin said it is unprecedented for us to join as we don't know when or where they meet. Rob said I would be uncomfortable for the three of us making this decision. Would like to talk to you more about this. Dena said I want the entire town to express their opinion. Postpone until next meeting.

Jim Cutler, Ellen Kaufmann and Margaret Olin left the meeting at 7:55 p.m..

4. Town Administrator Updates – None.

6. Public Comment – None.

7. Volunteer Recognition – Acknowledged the death of Russell Scott, long-time Buckland Fire Chief. Rob acknowledged the crew from the Franklin County House of Correction who were at Town Hall for much of the week painting and sprucing up Town Hall. Sherry said that Andrea and her husband, Paul, came in over the weekend, did the shopping, and got things ready for the crew to do the work.

j. Possible Executive Session – under M.G.L. c30A, Section 21, 3 – To discuss strategy with respect to potential litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body. At 7:58 p.m., Kevin moved to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. c30A, Section 21, 3 – To discuss strategy with respect to potential litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body; Dena seconded. Rob announced at the conclusion of the first Executive Session, we will go into the second Executive Session, and return to regular session only to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: Rob – yes, Kevin – yes, Dena – yes.

Entered Executive Session at 7:58 p.m..

k. Town Highway Facility Purchase (Possible Executive Session) under M.G.L. Ch. 30A, Section 21, to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, as open meeting might have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Town – At 8: 21 p.m., Kevin moved to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Ch. 30A, Section 21, to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, as open meeting might have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Town; Dena seconded.

Roll Call: Rob – yes, Kevin – yes, Dena – yes. Entered into Executive Session at 8:21 p.m..

At 8:45 p.m., exited Executive Session. At 8:45 p.m., Kevin moved to adjourn the meeting; Dena seconded. VOTED unanimously in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m..