

**TOWN OF BREMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 5, 2020**

Selectpersons present: Wendy Pieh, John Marsh, Henry Nevins
Public: Jennifer Villeneuve, Esq.; Mary Voskian, Bremen Town
Center Project Committee; Ann Nesslage; Bremen
Conservation Commission; Sharon Marchi, Christa Thorpe,
Matthew Hanly, Bremen School Committee; Stanley Waltz,
Code Enforcement Officer

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted unanimously to go in to Executive Session at 4:08 p.m. pursuant to 1 MRSA §405(6)(A), personnel.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted unanimously to go out of Executive Session at 4:58 p.m. pursuant to 1 MRSA §405(6)(A), personnel.

Mary Voskian indicated there will be a meeting at the Bremen Library on March 25, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. to meet with the organizations involved in the Bremen Bicentennial Celebration.

Mary Voskian, Bremen Town Project Committee, indicated the Committee met on March 3rd to talk about equipment for the play area. Consultant Ann Stires is working on her contract with the Town. Mary is working on a grant with the Bangor Savings Bank. Mary requested the Town get a survey of all property lines. One issue is a barrier between the Library and the children's play area; it will require a barrier. Kevin Redline estimated the barrier would cost \$4,000 plus labor.

The Bremen School Board was in attendance to discuss the school budget. There were fewer secondary students and fewer special education costs for 2019/2020, so there is a \$130,000 carryover. The State allows an \$18,000 carryover. There will be \$87,600 extra funds. Bremen still has a \$30,000 contingency fund. Selectman Nevins suggested moving the extra funds to the Town Education Reserve Fund.

The 2020/2021 review of budget shows an increase of 5.6% (\$31,000) for tuition. To keep the increase at zero, Bremen could take \$30,000 from the \$87,600 carryover and move \$57,600 into the Education Reserve Fund.

Sharon Marchi indicated that the Great Salt Bay preliminary review of the budget will begin next week. The school is considering a 1/2-day Pre-K program. This would require a separate playground, teacher, and bus monitors. They are trying to reach parents who cannot afford the YMCA and Coastal Kids Pre-K programs.

Matt Hanly and Christa Thorpe were also in attendance to discuss broadband services. Matt suggested using some of the school surplus to fund broadband for families who cannot afford the cost. Matt will check with the State to see if they have resources. Christa indicated they should hold Tidewater accountable to offer a reduced rate for low-income families.

Ann Nesslage, Bremen Conservation Commission, asked if their Bylaws would have to be voted on by the Town or just approved by the Selectmen. The Town will check into this. Ann has given the Selectmen a list of Town properties to review. For now, the Commission has banned all chainsaw use. Susan Davis has spoken with property owners on Bremen Long Island. They acknowledge the Town Road is a public road. There is a private dock on one access point at the south end.

The Conservation Commission will continue with trail work, possibly utilizing a licensed forester, on the Town Forest trail. They have plans for bog bridging and will update the Selectmen. The Commission indicated the ramp at the Hillside trail is not secure and that the trash is full. The Town mowing contractor will remove the trash. Joan Ray and Steve Laurich will visit the Hillside trail and report back to the Selectmen on its condition.

Once again, the Bremen Conservation Commission is requesting volunteers for membership.

Selectman Nevins indicated the Town was contacted about land on Route 32 which abuts Webber Pond; possibly it will be donated. This would need to be approved by Town vote.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted unanimously to go in to Executive Session at 6:06 p.m. pursuant to 1 MRSA §405(6)(A), personnel.


On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted unanimously to go out of Executive Session at 6:12 p.m. pursuant to 1 MRSA §405(6)(A), personnel.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted unanimously to approve the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of 2/20/2020.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted unanimously to approve the Warrants of 2/28/2020 and 3/06/2020.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:15 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:



Kelly A. Clancy, Admin. Asst.

BREMEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN



Wendy Pieh, Chair



John Marsh



Henry Nevins