

**TOWN OF BREMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
VIA ZOOM
May 20, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.**

Selectpersons present: Wendy Pieh, Henry Nevins, John Marsh

Public Via Zoom: Walter Radloff; Matthew Hanly, School Board and Broadband Committee; Fran and Tom Papell; Ann Nesslage, Bremen Conservation Commission; Walter Voskian, Bremen Planning Board Chairman; Mary Voskian, Bremen Bicentennial Committee; Bill McPadden; Don Leeman, Bremen Fire Chief; Bisi Cameron Yee, The Lincoln County News; and Melanie Pendleton, Town Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m.

Ann Nesslage, Bremen Conservation Commission, reported the first cooperative venture with Coastal Rivers will be held Thursday, May 27. She will put out a notice with a link to its site. CR will be leading the "Trail Tamers" and, hopefully, some local volunteers.

There is a concern about brush cutting along the shoreline at the Hay Property. Selectmen Nevins will check, but the mower has been told to stay back 20 feet from the edge.

Walter Voskian, Bremen Planning Board Chairman, reported on the May 11, 2021, Planning Board meeting. He has asked the Town Office to send out the Board's approved agenda each month through the Town email. He also asked the Town Clerk to notarize applicants' approved plans for the Registry of Deeds.

The Planning Board is looking into how other towns use consultant services.

Walt also recapped a discussion at the Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission meeting on Tuesday regarding relief money from the American Rescue Plan. Selectman Nevins thought Bremen would receive \$80,000 according to the county, but that amount depends on final decisions.

Bremen Fire Chief Don Leeman reported on the replacement tanker truck the Town is hoping to purchase from Minnesota. It will be a 2022 model on a freightliner chassis purchased from Midwest Fire Equipment. The base truck costs a little more than \$286,000 (without shipping) with miscellaneous equipment coming in at a little more than \$6,000. The truck will have a 3,000-gallon tank with a pump that is hardwired to the truck. The tanker will be customized for the Fire Department's needs including a 3,000-gallon dump tank, hydraulic rack with ladders (28-foot ladder and a 16-foot roof ladder), backup camera with audio, space for two air packs, new digital radio and handheld radio with headphone set. There are no taxes on the truck's purchase. The warranty is good for 100,000 miles on the engine and transmission, unlimited on the basic drivetrain, and lifetime on the body. The expected life of the truck is 30 years.

Selectmen Nevins said the contract should be sent to the Town lawyer for review. The Firetruck Reserve Fund will hold \$347,000 after the approval of another \$20,000 is added to the Fund. The truck and associated costs should be covered.

The Fire Department should not need another replacement vehicle for the next 6 to 7 years. The rescue truck is the oldest vehicle which would hopefully be replaced at a later time with an ambulance-style rescue-pumper.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Select Board unanimously approved spending up to \$325,000 from the Firetruck Reserve Account for the new tanker from Midwest Fire Equipment with the Fire Chief managing the transaction with the help of the Town Clerk.

Regarding in-person meetings, Dr. Goth suggested the Town not be in a hurry, since things are in flux at the State and Federal levels. The selectmen determined that the Town will continue with virtual meetings for the time being.

Because of a conflict on the part of Castlebay, the date of the Celebration of the State Bicentennial Centennial Plus One needs to be changed.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Select Board unanimously approved changing the Celebration of the State Bicentennial Plus One to Saturday, August 7, with a rain date of Sunday, August 8.

The Town Clerk announced that Boe Marsh will be doing a write-in campaign for Select Board. Matthew Hanly is running for School Board.

The Selectmen will be requiring masks in Town buildings. Masks also will be required at the Annual Town Meeting.

Matthew Hanly reported that AOS 93 meetings are posted on its website. The Broadband Committee sends out announcements for its meetings that are always held on the last Thursday of the month.

He also reported that broadband installations are progressing. Tidewater is working on meeting with people. The Town now has a Hot Spot at the Fire Station. There is financial assistance for those who need it. The Town needs to look at reauthorizing the Broadband Committee, due to expire in September. There is still work to be done connecting people as quickly as possible, setting up a second Hot Spot at the Town Center, and just recently, the Federal Government has developed standards for Broadband uploads and downloads. The Committee will keep pushing for the best broadband in Bremen.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Select Board unanimously approved continuing the Broadband Committee for an additional year.

The electric bill for Town properties (the Town Center, the Fire Station and the Townhouse) has decreased to \$16.31 from around \$135.00 due to the solar

installation on the Fire Station. That means the Town is making its own electricity for its Town buildings, and that's the lowest the bill will be since the \$16.31 is the service charge.

Matthew Hanly asked for minutes before the meeting, but they are draft minutes until they are approved by the Select Board. He would like any approved minutes to be sent with the agenda, if possible.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to approve the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of 5/6/2021.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to approve the warrants of 5/14/2021 and 5/21/2021.

Upcoming Meeting:


Annual Town Meeting – Saturday, June 26

Voting 8 a.m. to 12 noon at the Fire Station

Annual Meeting 2 p.m. at the Fire Station

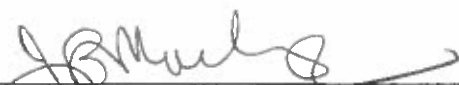
On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:05 p.m.

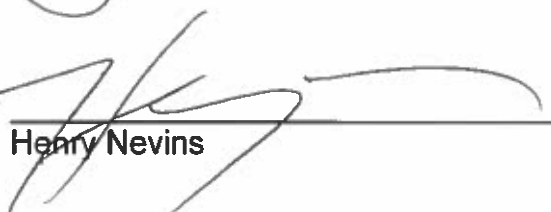
A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:


Cheryl Ferrara, Deputy Town Clerk

BREMEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN


Wendy Pieh, Chair


John Marsh


Henry Nevins