

**TOWN OF BREMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
VIA ZOOM AND IN-PERSON
May 2, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.**

Selectmen present: Wendy Pieh; Boe Marsh; Steve Page

Town Representatives: Melanie Pendleton, Town Clerk; Keena Cates, Deputy Town Clerk; Bruce Poland, Fire Chief; Tom Papell and Dave Adkins, Road Commissioners; Eric Teele, Assistant Fire Chief

Public present: Juanita Roushdy; Matthew Hanly, School Board Representative; Lynsey Johnston, AOS 93 Superintendent; Ann Nesslage, Bremen Conservation Commission; Kim Hetherington; Greg Hardison; Kerry Kohnert; Richard Marchi; Sharon Marchi; Walter Radloff; Susan Davis; Martha Frink; Debora Elliott; Jonathan Riley, Lincoln County News, Tony Ferrara, Computer Man

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m.

Select Chair Pieh introduced Superintendent Lynsey Johnston of AOS 93, who spoke on the potential reorganization of the current AOS District and Great Salt Bay Community School (K-8). The hope is to uncomplicate the organization by creating an RSU and Service Center to make things easier for the leadership of Great Salt Bay, for the parents of Great Salt Bay students, and for the benefit of Bremen students. Bremen would receive subsidies from the state for joining the RSU. She discussed other benefits including pre-kindergarten. Voters will have a chance to vote on the change at the June 22 Town Meeting.

Selectman Steve Page addressed crack sealing on the parking areas of the Town Center and Fire Station. The Town Clerk said the cost will be \$9,100, and funds will come from savings in the repair and maintenance account of the current budget.

The Town Clerk presented a proposed contract from Gary Castner for roadside mowing. There will be an 8.2-percent increase over last year's contract. The contract is for mowing town-owned roads only. Bremen's Road Commissioners and Fire Department have been proactive in removing brush and debris from this winter's storms, so mowing can be done.

On a motion duly made by Select Chair Pieh and seconded by Selectman Page, the Board of Selectmen unanimously (3-0) moved to accept the 8.2-percent increase and sign the contract with Gary Castner.

The Town Clerk explained that she talked with Paula Harvard, who has been working with the Bremen Historical Society, about a class for local residents to learn how to clean and preserve monument stones in our local cemeteries. The class would be run by Atlas Preservation and would be free of charge. In addition, the Town Clerk asked the BOS to approve the purchase of cleaning products for Paula. The money could come out of the maintenance budget.

On a motion duly made by Selectman Marsh and seconded by Selectman Page, the Board of Selectmen unanimously (3-0) moved to accept the request from the

Historical Society to have the preservation class with two conditions: 1) That the Board receive additional information about the Atlas Preservation Company for the files, and 2) That the Board receive a certificate of liability for any work or classes held on town-owned property.

Ann Nesslage, Bremen Conservation Commission, announced that Terry Marsh has stepped down as steward of the Hilton O'Connor Trail and Kerry Konhart is the new steward. Ann said the Weston Spring work is now finished and looks good. The BCC's public meeting on coastal and wetland concerns will be held at 4 p.m. on July 10th at the Town Center meeting room. On May 16th, there will be a walk on public properties to identify invasive plant species.

Select Chair Pieh praised the Broadband Committee for its public meeting held the previous night and for its accomplishments.

Road Commissioner Tom Papell commented on the debris at the Hay Property. Most of it is naturally occurring and there may be no solution. The Road Commissioners will be triaging all town roads to determine what needs to be done and in what order. Of high importance is Rial Herald Road that is in danger of being eroded.

The Board of Selectmen revisited a lease on the room in the Town Center that is occupied by the Historical Society. Discussion of the lease was tabled at the last meeting. Maine Municipal Association let the town know that it will need a certificate of liability as part of the lease.

On a motion duly made by Select Chair Pieh and seconded by Selectman Page, the Board of Selectmen unanimously (3-0) tabled the lease until the next meeting.

Select Chair Pieh reminded residents that the Special Town Meeting at 6 p.m. on May 7th will include voting on the revised Land Use and Shoreland Zoning ordinances. The Town Clerk explained that town residents also will vote for money to partially fund the Town Landing erosion plan and will vote to move \$125,000 from unexpended funds to road repairs.

Members of the public discussed additional security at the Town Landing such as police patrols or surveillance cameras. The Town Clerk said she had talked to the Sheriff's Office and 6 hours of additional patrolling per month would cost \$14,000 minimum. Selectman Marsh said the town will continue to investigate the possibility of cameras, but many logistical problems needed to be solved.

Select Chair Pieh announced that there will be a Shellfish Committee meeting at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, May 7th. There will be two visiting scientists at the meeting to discuss clam improvement.

Fire Chief Bruce Poland said there are some derelict boats on moorings that need to be addressed. The Harbor Master is working with the Town Attorney to address these issues.

On a motion duly made by Select Chair Pieh and seconded by Selectman Marsh, the Board of Selectmen unanimously (3-0) approved the Board of Selectmen's minutes of April 18, 2024, and the town warrant of April 26, 2024.

On a motion duly made by Select Chair Pieh and seconded by Selectmen Marsh, the Board of Selectmen unanimously (3-0) moved to adjourn at 7:32 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

Cheryl Ferrara
Cheryl Ferrara, Deputy Town Clerk

BREMEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Wendy Pieh
Wendy Pieh, Chair

John Marsh
John Marsh

Stephen Page
Stephen Page