

**MINUTES**  
**Bar Harbor Town Council**  
**September 21, 2021**

**I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:00 P.M.**

- A. Excused Absence(s)**—Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to excuse Councilor Friedmann as provided by Town Charter section C-12.B(1)(d). Motion passed 6-0.

**II. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**—*Council to consider Appointments Committee recommendations to appoint the following with terms expiring July 31 of the given year:*

**A. Board of Assessment Review**

1. *Kevin Knopp, term expiring 2024*—Appointments Committee recommends and Ms. Peacock moved to appoint Kevin Knopp to the Board of Assessment Review. There were no further nominations. By a vote of 6-0, Kevin Knopp was appointed.

**B. Conservation Commission**

1. *Christian Barter, term expiring 2024*— Appointments Committee recommends and Ms. Peacock moved to appoint Christian Barter to the Conservation Commission. There were no further nominations. By a vote of 6-0, Christian Barter was appointed.

**C. Design Review Board**

1. *Maya Caines, term expiring 2024*— Appointments Committee recommends and Ms. Peacock moved to appoint Maya Caines to the Design Review Board. There were no further nominations. By a vote of 6-0, Maya Caines was appointed.

**D. Housing Authority Board of Commissioners**

1. *Kevin Knopp, Community Member at Large, term expiring 2023*— Appointments Committee recommends and Ms. Peacock moved to appoint Kevin Knopp to the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, Community Member at Large. There were no further nominations. By a vote of 6-0, Kevin Knopp was appointed.

**E. Parks & Recreation Committee**

1. *Robert Huff, YMCA Representative, term expiring 2022*— Appointments Committee recommends and Ms. Peacock moved to appoint Robert Huff to the Parks & Recreation Committee, YMCA Representative. There were no further nominations. By a vote of 6-0, Nancy Howland was appointed.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** - *The Town Council allows at this time up to fifteen minutes of public comment on any subject not on the agenda and not in litigation with a maximum of three minutes per person.* Enoch Albert spoke about the Shared Accommodations and Employee Living Quarters ordinances and about cruise ships. Nancy Lambert spoke about speeding on Ledgelawn Ave. Mr. Dobbs read an email from Phil and Mary Galperin about fire safety for employee housing.

- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES—Sept. 7, 2021 Regular Meeting**—Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to approve the September 7, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed 6-0.
- V. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**—Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed 6-0.
- VI. FINANCIAL REPORT**— *Review and possible motion to accept the financial report as presented.*—Finance Director Sarah Gilbert highlighted her report and answered Council questions. Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to accept the financial report as presented. Motion passed 6-0.
- VII. CONSENT AGENDA** - *A single vote has been scheduled to approve the following routine items of business without discussion, unless individual agenda item action is requested by a Councilor:*

**A. Special Town Meeting November 2021**

- 1. Special Town Meeting Warrant**—*Possible motion to sign the Special Town Meeting November 2, 2021 Warrant as presented.*
- 2. Notice of Public Hearing**—*Possible motion to sign the Special Town Meeting Notice of Public Hearing scheduled for October 19, 2021.*

- B. Bar Harbor Firefighter’s Association**—*Possible motion to accept the \$5,000 donation from the Bar Harbor Firefighters Association and place in account #1042-5644.*

Mr. Hochman, with second by Mr. Minutolo, moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion passed 6-0.

**VIII. REGULAR BUSINESS**

- A. Revaluation**—*Presentation by Steve Weed, Assessor, and Q&A period.* Mr. Weed answered questions from the Council and from members of the public. Residents Jeff Cake, Nancy Lambert, Adele Abolafia, Phil Galperin, Enoch Albert, Mary Galperin, George Lambert, Kevin Knopp, Norene Hunter, and Sean Sweeney asked questions or offered comment. No action was taken.
- B. FY22 Water Budget**—*Introduction of proposed FY22 Water Budget and possible scheduling of a public hearing on October 19, 2021.* Finance Director Sarah Gilbert and Public Works Director Bethany Leavitt presented the budget. Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to schedule a public hearing on October 19, 2021 to hear comments on the FY22 Water Budget. Motion passed 6-0.
- C. FY22 Sewer Budget**—*Introduction of proposed FY22 Sewer Budget and possible scheduling of a public hearing on October 19, 2021.* Finance Director Sarah Gilbert and Public Works Director Bethany Leavitt presented the budget. Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to schedule a public hearing on October 19, 2021 to hear comments on the FY22 Sewer Budget. Motion passed 6-0.
- D. Transfer Station**—*Councilor Peacock’s request to begin discussions to reduce solid waste.* Ms. Cough, with second by Mr. Hochman, moved to add this item to the Nov. 16 agenda and plan for a December workshop. Motion passed 6-0.
- E. ARPA Funds**—*Possible motion to schedule a public hearing.* Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to approve the notice and schedule a public hearing for

October 19, 2021 to hear comments on the use of the American Rescue Plan Act funds. Motion passed 6-0.

- F. Amendments to Ch. 31, Boards and Committees, Planning Board**—*Possible motion to schedule a public hearing on October 19, 2021.* Planning Director Michele Gagnon presented the proposal. Following discussion, Ms. Goldthwait, with second by Mr. Hochman, moved to bring a redraft of this amendment with seven voting Planning Board members to the next Council meeting for possible scheduling of a public hearing. Motion passed 6-0.
- G. Acadia National Park**—*Possible motion to support a proposal to develop affordable and seasonal employee housing on a lot in Town Hill.* Acadia Superintendent Kevin Schneider and Management Assistant John Kelly, and Marla O’Byrne of Island Housing Trust participated in the discussion. Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to support the National Park Service’s plan, as described in a report dated September 14, 2021, for a housing project on a lot they own in Town Hill and to work with the Island Housing Trust and the other Mount Desert Island towns to accomplish that goal. Motion passed 6-0.
- H. Town Manager**—*Possible motion to approve job description.* Without objection, Ms. Goldthwait and Ms. Peacock requested minor changes. Ms. Goldthwait, with second by Mr. Hochman, moved to approve the town manager’s job description as amended. Motion passed 6-0.
- I. Pandemic**—*Possible motion to require masks in municipal buildings.* Following discussion, Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Goldthwait, moved that, effective immediately, in conjunction with Maine CDC guidelines, all persons shall wear a mask when inside municipal buildings where the public is present. Motion passed 6-0.
- J. Treasurer’s Warrant** - *Request of Treasurer to authorize paid bills.* Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to sign the Treasurer’s Warrants for paid bills. Motion passed 6-0.

**IX. TOWN MANAGER’S COMMENTS**—None.

**X. COUNCIL COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

**Ms. Goldthwait** said she attended the Cruise Ship Committee meeting and, as she listened, it seemed that what she thought the Council’s charge to the committee was, was different than what the chair was describing. He seemed to be looking at the numbers we sent as a starting point for a negotiation, and I did not understand that as what we intended. I thought we were asking for a schedule based on those numbers, but he said, “This is how these things happen, they (the Council) put out some numbers that are probably the bottom of the possibilities and then we get back with some other numbers and we work towards a middle ground.” We have a Council meeting before the next Cruise Ship Committee meeting. Do we need to get clearer about that, as well as about whether changes are expected to be in effect for 2022? There are immediate issues in terms of budget preparation, if we’re going to do something that will impact 2022 cruise ship revenues. She did not anticipate a normal cruise ship season and doesn’t think the community does, either.

**Ms. Peacock** said, about cruise ships, we put some numbers out there and we need feedback on whether they’re workable (for town staff, for the cruise ship industry), whether they’re effective (are they going to do what we want them to do?), and about what implications they have for the budget. Can we hear from Chief Willis and Chief Bartlett about how what we put out there impacts them and their work? It would also be helpful to hear from National

Park officials about whether it dovetails or not with what the park is planning in terms of the transportation plan. Are there any rubbing points on any of this stuff that we want to be aware of?

She also said the Harbor Committee voted on the remote participation policy and there were a lot of questions about some of the details. Will there be more information coming out to committees?

**Mr. Hochman** thanked everyone who came to speak about the revaluation. The civility was appreciated. We're looking into what we can do. Our hands are kind of tied, but if there's anything that can be done we'll try and find a way to do it.

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**—None.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**—Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to adjourn at 10:32 pm. Motion passed 6-0.

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Elizabeth Graves, Town Clerk