

**Minutes**  
**Bar Harbor Town Council**  
**By Video Conference**  
**February 2, 2021**

- I. CALL TO ORDER** – 5:00 P.M. - In attendance were Councilors Jefferson Dobbs, Matthew Hochman, Valerie Peacock, Gary Friedmann, Joe Minutolo, Erin Cough, Jill Goldthwait; and Town Manager Cornell Knight.
- A. Excused Absence(s)** – all present.
- II. 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. Comments may be emailed in advance to the Council Chair at [jdobbs@barharbormaine.gov](mailto:jdobbs@barharbormaine.gov) to be read during the meeting or through the Zoom webinar using the raise hand function.* – None.
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- A. January 19, 2021 Regular Meeting**  
**B. January 21, 2021 Budget Workshop Special Meeting**  
**C. January 26, 2021 Budget Workshop Special Meeting**  
**D. January 28, 2021 Budget Workshop Special Meeting**

Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to approve the January 19, 2021 Regular Meeting, the January 21, 2021 Budget Workshop Special Meeting, the January 26, 2021 Budget Workshop Special Meeting and the January 28, 2021 Budget Workshop Special Meeting minutes as presented. Roll Call Vote:

<u>Dobbs</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>Hochman</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>Peacock</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>Friedmann</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>Minutolo</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>Goldthwait</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>Cough</u>	<u>Y</u>

Motion passed 7-0.

- IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote:

<u>Dobbs</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>Hochman</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>Peacock</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>Friedmann</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>Minutolo</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>Goldthwait</u>	<u>Y</u>
<u>Cough</u>	<u>Y</u>

Motion passed 7-0.

**V. 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. Certification of Property Owners and Abutters Mailing Lists** – *Possible motion to sign the certification of the mailing list used for notice of the Town Council’s Public Hearing February 16, 2021 for the Signage LUO Amendment for the June 8, 2021 annual town meeting warrant.*
- B. Working Capital Designation** – *Possible motion that the Town, in accordance with its Fund Balance Policy, designate in the Assigned Fund Balance section of the General Fund an amount equal to \$2,246,000 to be labeled Assigned For Working Capital.*
- C. Maine Bureau of Highway Safety Grant** – *Possible motion to authorize the PD to apply for the grant to facilitate use of the statewide electronic citations system and accept the funds if awarded.*

Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Goldthwait, moved to approve the Consent Agenda as published. Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs            Y  
Hochman       Y  
Peacock       Y  
Friedmann    Y  
Minutolo       Y  
Goldthwait    Y  
Cough           Y  
Motion passed 7-0.

**VI. REGULAR BUSINESS:**

- A. FY20 Audit Review** – *Possible motion to accept the 2020 fiscal year audit by James Wadman, CPA. Mr. Wadman presented the audit report. He provided a handout in advance. Mr. Wadman, along with Wanese Lynch and Mr. Knight, answered Council questions. Mr. Friedmann, with second by Mr. Hochman, moved to accept the 2020 fiscal year audit and thank Jim and Wanese. Roll Call*

Vote:  
Dobbs            Y  
Hochman       Y  
Peacock       Y  
Friedmann    Y  
Minutolo       Y  
Goldthwait    Y  
Cough           Y  
Motion passed 7-0.

**B. Cruise Ships**

- 1. **Cruise Ship Committee** – *Review of the 2020 Annual Report by Committee Chair Eben Salvatore and possible motion to accept and file report. Mr. Salvatore presented the report. Mr. Hochman, with second by Mr.*

Friedmann, moved to accept the 2020 Cruise Ship Committee Annual Report and place it on file. Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs Y

Hochman Y

Peacock Y

Friedmann Y

Minutolo Y

Goldthwait Y

Cough Y

Motion passed 7-0.

2. **Cruise Ship Survey** – *with Pan Atlantic Research*. President Patrick Murphy and Director of Research Jason Edes spoke to the methodology and requested Council's thoughts on specific issues to help develop the draft survey. It will be a 4-page mailed survey with supplemental online version. The minimum sample size needed is 400. Next step is to develop the draft questionnaire. No action taken.
3. **Cruise Ship 2021 Season** – *Review request regarding Seabourn Encore*. In anticipation of an announcement from the Canadian government, Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Goldthwait, moved to table this item until the February 16 meeting. Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs Y

Hochman Y

Peacock Y

Friedmann Y

Minutolo Y

Goldthwait Y

Cough Y

Motion passed 7-0.

**C. Recycling** – *Update by PW Director Bethany Leavitt*. Ms. Leavitt highlighted her memo and answered Council questions. The anticipated opening for Fiberright is April/mid-May. Council agreed to continue things as they are for now. No action taken.

**D. Cell Phone Tower Lease** – *Possible motion to approve the lease extension with Verizon for the cell phone tower at the Fire Station*. Fire Chief Matt Bartlett presented the request. He stated it would be 10-year extension, not 15 years as the memo stated. 15 years is the maximum lease length and they are already 4 years into the lease. Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to approve the lease extension with Verizon for the cell phone tower at the Fire Station for the 10 years requested. Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs Y

Hochman Y

Peacock Y

Friedmann Y

Minutolo Y

Goldthwait Y

Cough \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Motion passed 7-0.

**E. Task Force on Climate Emergency**

1. *Recommendation and possible motion to expend \$2,000 for 50% of the cost for the Higgins Pit Solar Feasibility Study.* Ms. Goldthwait presented the recommendation and answered questions. Ms. Goldthwait, with second by Mr. Hochman, moved to spend \$2,000 out of our budgeted \$17,000 for the purpose of a feasibility study for a solar farm at the Higgins Pit location.

Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Hochman \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Peacock \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Friedmann \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Minutolo \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Goldthwait \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Cough \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Motion passed 7-0.

2. *Report by Councilor Goldthwait on cooperation with other MDI towns.* Ms. Goldthwait spoke to what some of the other communities on MDI are doing. She recently was on the agenda for the League of Towns to discuss the possibility of the towns working together on climate initiatives. No action taken.

**F. Marijuana – Possible motion to schedule a workshop.** Following discussion, Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to schedule this workshop at 5pm on Tuesday, February 23 unless we can't have a town attorney representative.

Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Hochman \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Peacock \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Friedmann \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Minutolo \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Goldthwait \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Cough \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Motion passed 7-0.

**G. Snow Plows/Sanders – Request by Councilor Cough for a naming contest.** Ms. Cough presented the idea. Following discussion, Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to hold a contest for residents to name the highway plow trucks. Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Hochman \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Peacock \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Friedmann \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Minutolo \_\_\_\_\_ Y

Goldthwait \_\_\_\_\_ N

Cough \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Motion passed 6-1 (Nay: Goldthwait).

**H. 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. Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Hochman \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Peacock \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Friedmann \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Minutolo \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Goldthwait \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Cough \_\_\_\_\_ Y  
Motion passed 7-0.

**VII. TOWN MANAGER'S COMMENTS** – None.

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

**Mr. Hochman** reminded people to be respectful during meetings. Our meetings are open to the public. But per the Freedom of Access Act, directly from the State's webpage, it does not require an opportunity for public participation be provided at open meetings. We do tend to allow people to speak. I don't see that during a meeting in person they would stand up and interrupt a meeting. And if they did, would not be surprised to be escorted from the room. Please be respectful. These meetings tend to be long and distractions just make them longer.

**Ms. Peacock** commented that not all meetings are the same in the way they are run in town. The assumption that people know how to use things or know what they are allowed or not allowed to do in a meeting, I tend to give people the benefit of the doubt. Maybe to be specific before we start about what's allowed and what's not allowed and what the consequences of that are. Not reacting in the moment but starting proactively.

**Ms. Goldthwait** will be thinking about Public Works when she hears the plow blade drop in the middle of the night. Thank you for all that you do.

**Mr. Minutolo** stated the Bangor City Council has approved some consistent surveys for public outreach. Kind of validating the survey we're proposing. It's nice that other councils are looking to reach out to their people to get a real feel for what they're up for.

**Ms. Cough** asked how Canada deciding the ferry will not run this year will affect our revenues. Also, the impact of the border issue. Mr. Knight responded that for the CAT we have \$205,000 and the minimum they will pay is \$200,000. Stan would say that is not worth making any changes to. He said the cruise ship question could have an affect if looking at 40% of passengers in calendar 21 and we get near 0%. They are looking at that and will have more information by the next meeting when there is the public hearing on the budget. Ms. Cough also would like to see an annual report from each committee. We put that in the handbook so Council's on the same page with the other committees. If we could get a written annual report or presentation.

**Mr. Dobbs** spoke about sledding at Kebo, that they decided they wanted to close that down. It was also discussed at Parks & Rec yesterday. Kebo is worried about damage and

insurance. Parks & Rec talked about something at the athletic field, which Bethany addressed. Mr. Knight stated Kebo called him and left a message to talk about options. When he returned the call the next day they said they were all set. They had concerns about liability but they're covered. They're waiting for a board meeting to reconsider.

**IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** (None)

**X. ADJOURNMENT** – Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to adjourn at 7:56 p.m. Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs Y

Hochman Y

Peacock Y

Friedmann Y

Minutolo Y

Goldthwait Y

Cough Y

Motion passed 7-0.

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Sharon M Linscott, Town Clerk