

Minutes
Bar Harbor Town Council
January 7, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:00 P.M.-In attendance were Councilors: Jefferson Dobbs, Matthew Hochman, Stephen Coston, Gary Friedmann, Erin Cough, Jill Goldthwait, Joe Minutolo; and Town Manager Cornell Knight.

A. Excused Absence(s) – all present.

II. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – *Council to consider Appointments Committee recommendations to appoint the following with expiration date of July 31 of their applicable year:*

A. Communication & Technologies Committee

1. *George Grohs, term expiring 2021*
2. *J. Clark Stivers, term expiring 2021*
3. *Todd Edgar, term expiring 2022*
4. *Matthew Hochman, term expiring 2022*

B. Conservation Commission

1. *Kimberly Zdenek, term expiring 2022*

Mr. Friedmann, on behalf of the Appointments Committee, nominated the slate as printed. By a vote of 7-0, the slate 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.* – None.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *December 17, 2019 Regular Meeting*

Mr. Hochman, with second by Mr. Friedmann, moved to approve the December 17, 2019 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

V. ADOPTION OF AGENDA – Mr. Hochman, with second by Mr. Friedmann, moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

VI. 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. State of Maine Election March 3, 2020 – *Possible motion to appoint the Town Clerk as Warden for the March 3, 2020 State of Maine Presidential Primary and Special Referendum Election.*

B. Biennial Appointment of Election Clerks – *Possible motion to appoint the slate of election clerks for 2020-2022 as presented.*

C. Climate Grant – *Possible motion to participate with the Gulf of Maine Research Institute and apply for and accept grant funding if awarded from the Environmental Protection Agency for effects to the MDI from sea level rise.*

D. Martin Luther King Day March – *Possible motion to approve use of the following streets High, Cottage, Main and Mount Desert Street for Martin Luther King Day March, on January 20, 2020.*

Ms. Cough requested moving items B and C to Regular Business items A1 and A2 respectively.

Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Motion passed 7-0.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Vehicles and Traffic Ordinance Amendment #2020-01 – *Public comment and possible adoption of the ordinance amendment.* There being no public comment, Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to adopt the amendment to Vehicles and Traffic Ordinance Chapter 194 of the Municipal Code as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

Vehicles and Traffic Ordinance Amendment
Town of Bar Harbor
#2020-01

An Amendment to change Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples’ Day.

The Town of Bar Harbor hereby ordains that Chapter 194, Vehicles and Traffic, of the Town Code is amended as follows:

[Please Note: Old language is ~~stricken~~. New language is underlined.]

CHAPTER 194 – VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC

§ 194-38 Idling of motor vehicles.

A. Five-minute limitation. No person may cause or allow a motor vehicle to idle for more than five consecutive minutes while that vehicle is parked in any of the downtown areas during the time from May 1 to ~~Columbus~~Indigenous Peoples’ Day.

[End of Ordinance]

VIII. REGULAR BUSINESS:

A1. Biennial Appointment of Election Clerks – *Possible motion to appoint the slate of election clerks for 2020-2022 as presented.* Ms. Cough inquired about Councilor Goldthwait’s name being on the list. Town Clerk Sharon Linscott stated Ms. Goldthwait previously served as an election clerk. Sometimes election clerks have conflicts for a specific election and don’t serve for that election, but can serve for other elections during the two-year period. With Councilor Goldthwait’s name being on the list, Mr. Hochman, with second by Mr. Coston, moved to recuse Councilor Goldthwait due to the appearance of a conflict of interest. Motion failed 0-6-1 (Abstain: Goldthwait.) Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to appoint the slate of election clerks for 2020-2022 as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

A2. Climate Grant – *Possible motion to participate with the Gulf of Maine Research Institute and apply for and accept grant funding if awarded from the Environmental Protection Agency for effects to the MDI from sea level rise.* Councilor Friedmann requested recusal as a board member for Climate to Thrive. Mr. Hochman, with second by Mr. Coston moved to recuse Councilor Friedmann for the appearance of conflict of interest. Motion passed 6-0-1 (Recused: Friedmann.)

Climate to Thrive Board Member Ken Colburn attended to address Council questions. Following discussion, Ms. Goldthwait, with second by Mr. Minutolo, moved to participate with the Gulf of Maine Research Institute and apply for and accept grant funding if awarded from the Environmental Protection Agency for effects to the MDI from sea level rise. Motion passed 5-1-1 (Nay: Cough, Recused: Friedmann.)

A. Kids Corner – *Request to Town to fund fire alarm system.* Kids Corner Executive Director Lori Krupke and Fire Chief Matt Bartlett answered Council questions. Since the town owns the building, Matt Bartlett will coordinate the upgrade. Mr. Coston, with second by Mr. Hochman, moved to fund the fire alarm upgrade at the Kids Corner building, not to exceed \$8,721 in cost, from Council contingency account #1036-5906. Motion passed 7-0.

B. Rules of Order – *Request by Councilor Cough to review.* Ms. Cough addressed three items. First was reviewing the Rules of Order annually. Second was Public Comment Period. Following a lengthy discussion, Mr. Coston, with second by Mr. Hochman, moved to table discussion on Public Comment Period to the next agenda. Motion passed 7-0. Third was Councilors identifying where they serve as board members. After additional discussion, Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to table continued discussion of Council Rules of Order to our next meeting. Motion passed 7-0.

C. 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 7-0.

IX. TOWN MANAGER'S COMMENTS – Mr. Knight announced the Planning Department is starting the vacation rental land use amendment process and will hold three public listening sessions:

Tues, January 28 at 6:30 at the MDI Bio Lab

Wed, January 29 at 6:30 in the Council Chambers

Thur, January 30 at 6:30 at the Town Hill VIS

X. COUNCIL COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Ms. Cough truly appreciates the work of everybody as items come to us but giving Council a little bit more notice would be much appreciated.

Mr. Minutolo wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mr. Hochman, Mr. Dobbs and Mr. Friedmann echoed New Year wishes.

Mr. Coston stated he will try to speak more clearly next time.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: (none)

XII. ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Hochman, with second by Mr. Coston, moved to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Motion passed 7-0.

Sharon M Linscott, Town Clerk