

Minutes
Bar Harbor Town Council
Organizational Meeting
Wednesday, June 15, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER – 5:30 P.M. – Town Clerk Liz Graves called the meeting to order. In attendance were Councilors Jefferson Dobbs, Matthew Hochman, Valerie Peacock, Gary Friedmann, Joe Minutolo, Erin Cough, Jill Goldthwait; and Town Manager Kevin Sutherland.

II. READING OF THE MEETING GROUND RULES

III. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. Oath of Office – The Town Clerk administered the oath of office.

B. Election of Officers

1. Chair – The Town Clerk called for nominations for Chair. Mr. Dobbs nominated Mr. Hochman. Ms. Peacock nominated herself. There were no further nominations. Nominees spoke briefly. Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs Hochman

Hochman Hochman

Peacock Peacock

Friedmann Peacock

Minutolo Peacock

Goldthwait Peacock

Cough Hochman

By a vote of 4-3, Ms. Peacock was elected.

2. Vice-Chair – Ms. Peacock called for nominations for Vice Chair. Mr. Dobbs nominated Mr. Hochman. There were no further nominations. Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs Y

Hochman Y

Peacock Y

Friedmann Y

Minutolo Y

Goldthwait Y

Cough Y

By a vote of 7-0, Mr. Hochman was elected.

C. Selection of Seating – Councilors selected their seats in order of seniority.

D. Council Committee Appointments

1. Appointments Committee – *Appointment of three Councilors.* Eligible to serve this year are Mr. Hochman, Ms. Peacock, Ms. Goldthwait and Mr. Dobbs. Ms. Cough nominated Mr. Hochman, Mr. Dobbs, and Ms. Goldthwait. There were no further nominations. Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs Y

Hochman Y

Peacock Y

Friedmann Y
Minutolo Y
Goldthwait Y
Cough Y

By a vote of 7-0, Mr. Hochman, Mr. Dobbs, and Ms. Goldthwait were appointed.

- 2. **Cruise Ship Committee** – *Appointment of one Council representative.* Ms. Goldthwait nominated Mr. Hochman. There were no further nominations. Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs Y
Hochman Y
Peacock Y
Friedmann Y
Minutolo Y
Goldthwait Y
Cough Y

By a vote of 7-0, Mr. Hochman was appointed.

- 3. **Parking Solutions Task Force** – *Appointment of one Council representative.* Mr. Friedmann nominated Ms. Cough. There were no further nominations. Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs Y
Hochman Y
Peacock Y
Friedmann Y
Minutolo Y
Goldthwait Y
Cough Y

By a vote of 7-0, Ms. Cough was appointed.

- 4. **Task Force on the Climate Emergency** – *Appointment of one Council representative.* Mr. Hochman nominated Mr. Dobbs. Mr. Friedmann nominated Mr. Minutolo. Following discussion, Mr. Hochman withdrew his nomination. Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs Y
Hochman Y
Peacock Y
Friedmann Y
Minutolo Y
Goldthwait Y
Cough Y

By a vote of 7-0, Mr. Minutolo was appointed.

- 5. **Joint (School) Budget Advisory Committee** – *Appointment of two Councilors.* Following discussion, the Council decided to ask the Appointments Committee to discuss recommendations for this committee and bring back to Council. No action was taken.

- 6. **MD/BH Joint Police Chief Sharing** – *Appointment of two Council representatives.* It was noted the name of the committee should be updated to reflect the fact that the agreement now includes the sharing of several

employees. Mr. Friedmann nominated Ms. Goldthwait and Mr. Dobbs. Roll Call Vote:

- Dobbs Y
- Hochman Y
- Peacock Y
- Friedmann Y
- Minutolo Y
- Goldthwait Y
- Cough Y

By a vote of 7-0, Ms. Goldthwait and Mr. Dobbs were appointed.

IV. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Minutolo said he looks forward to the year.

Ms. Goldthwait said town meeting went really well. She was pleased with the strong turnout and appreciated the conversation. She thanked Warrant Committee Chair Seth Libby for emphasizing that the difference between the Council and the Warrant Committee on the school CIP did not reflect a difference in commitment to the school. She suggested a letter to the Islander thanking the community for participating.

Ms. Cough said she will attend a few more meetings of the Climate Emergency Task Force as outgoing Council representative to wrap up projects. She praised the balance, respect and communication at Town Meeting. She congratulated Ms. Peacock on her election to Chair.

Mr. Hochman thanked Ms. Graves, Town Meeting Moderator Bill Ferm, and the tally clerks for their work on Town Meeting; he too was happy with the turnout. He thanked the voters for reelecting him. He paid tribute to the late Art Greif, saying he was saddened to hear of his loss and that while they often disagreed, Mr. Greif always did what he thought was best for the town. He encouraged residents to continue to participate in town government to be directly involved with the path the town is taking by running for office, applying for boards and committees, and participating in public hearings and outreach events.

Mr. Dobbs said he enjoyed serving as chair for three years and is happy to change it up.

Mr. Friedmann said he is excited to be working with this group. He thanked Mr. Dobbs for having served as chair and congratulated Ms. Peacock on her election. He said he loved the turnout, tone, and results of Town Meeting.

Ms. Peacock said we have a lot of work to do and a good team of people to do it with. She shared a list of upcoming projects/topics: MRC and waste management, new school and the school/council relationship, cruise ships, tax relief/ fiscal responsibility/ budgets, alternate revenue sources such as local lodging tax/impact fees, housing, tourism capacity, Comprehensive Plan, a dog park, the Glen Mary pool, Diversity Equity and Inclusion work, youth engagement, a Climate Action Plan, working with new communications and sustainability staff members.

V. ADJOURNMENT—Mr. Hochman, with second by Mr. Dobbs, moved to adjourn at 6:19 p.m. Roll Call Vote:

- Dobbs Y
- Hochman Y
- Peacock Y
- Friedmann Y
- Minutolo Y

Goldthwait Y

Cough Y

Motion passed 7-0.

Elizabeth N. Graves, Town Clerk