

TOWN OF BUCKFIELD
Select Board Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2025
Location: Buckfield Municipal Center

Present: Robert Hand, Sandra Fickett, Azalea Cormier, Peter Fickett, Cameron Hinkley, Heather Henley (Zoom), Judy Berg (Zoom), Martha Catevenis

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Robert Hand at 6:32 PM.

2. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

3. New Business - Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion: Sandra Fickett moved to accept and approve the consent agenda as written.

Second: Robert Hand

Vote: All in favor (5-0)

Total disbursement warrants approved: \$266,326.43.

Town Manager Report

Auditing Update: Cameron Hinkley reported that RHR Smith, the town's auditing firm, was on site to wrap up the 23-24 audit requirements. The town is expected to be back on schedule soon.

Deputy Clerk Introduction: Rebecca Wunsch was introduced as the new Deputy Clerk.

LED Lighting Project: The town completed the conversion to LED lighting with a cost of \$4,551 after rebates. This included the Fire Rescue Station, Public Works Complex, and Transfer Station.

Budget Preparation: Cameron Hinkley is finalizing the 25-26 budget, to be presented to the Select Board at the next meeting on the 18th.

Rescue Report

January: 44 calls for service in January, with details on timing and locations.

Library Report

January: 389 visitors, 12 programs, and new initiatives including a tech help session.

4. Approval of the January 21, 2025, Select Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Sandra Fickett moved to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2025, Select Board Meeting as written.

Second: Peter Fickett

Vote: (4-0) Azalea Cormier abstained – not in attendance.

4. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Discussion

Motion: Sandra Fickett moved to accept the MOU with amendments.

Second: Azalea Cormier

Discussion: The Board asked for verification of the dam's name. The MOU has it listed as the C. Withington Dam and Son Dam.

Revise the language to reflect that financial assistance was granted by FEMA to aid in reconstruction of Faunce Rd. Strike *“to render aid and evacuation to the road’s residents.”*
Modify the language to indicate that the Town supports MMBTU’s efforts to research the impact of the dam’s removal and share information, rather than jointly supporting all efforts.

Ensure the language specifies that MMBTU is responsible for securing funds, with the Town’s support.

Vote: All in favor (5-0)

5. Reschedule March 4, 2025, Select Board Meeting

Motion: Sandra Fickett moved to reschedule the March 4th Select Board Meeting to March 11th at 6:30 PM.

Second: Azalea Cormier

Vote: All in favor (4-0)

6. 2025-26 Budget Process Discussion

Motion: Azalea Cormier moved to hold workshops on March 4th at 6 PM, March 6th at 1 PM, and March 8th at 9 AM.

Second: Sandra Fickett

Vote: All in favor (5-0)

7. Public Hearing Scheduling

Motion: Sandra Fickett moved to hold a public hearing on April 1st at 6:30 PM.

Second: Robert Hand

Vote: All in favor (5-0)

9. Other Business

Nomination Papers: Available starting March 2nd for 1 – School Board Director seat and 2 – Select Board seats.

Planning Board Update: Erica Bufkins to reschedule a presentation on the comprehensive plan.

Emergency Management: Cameron Hinkley is currently handling responsibilities, including updating the Emergency Plan.

10. Executive Session

Motion: Robert Hand moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(F) to discuss a poverty abatement.

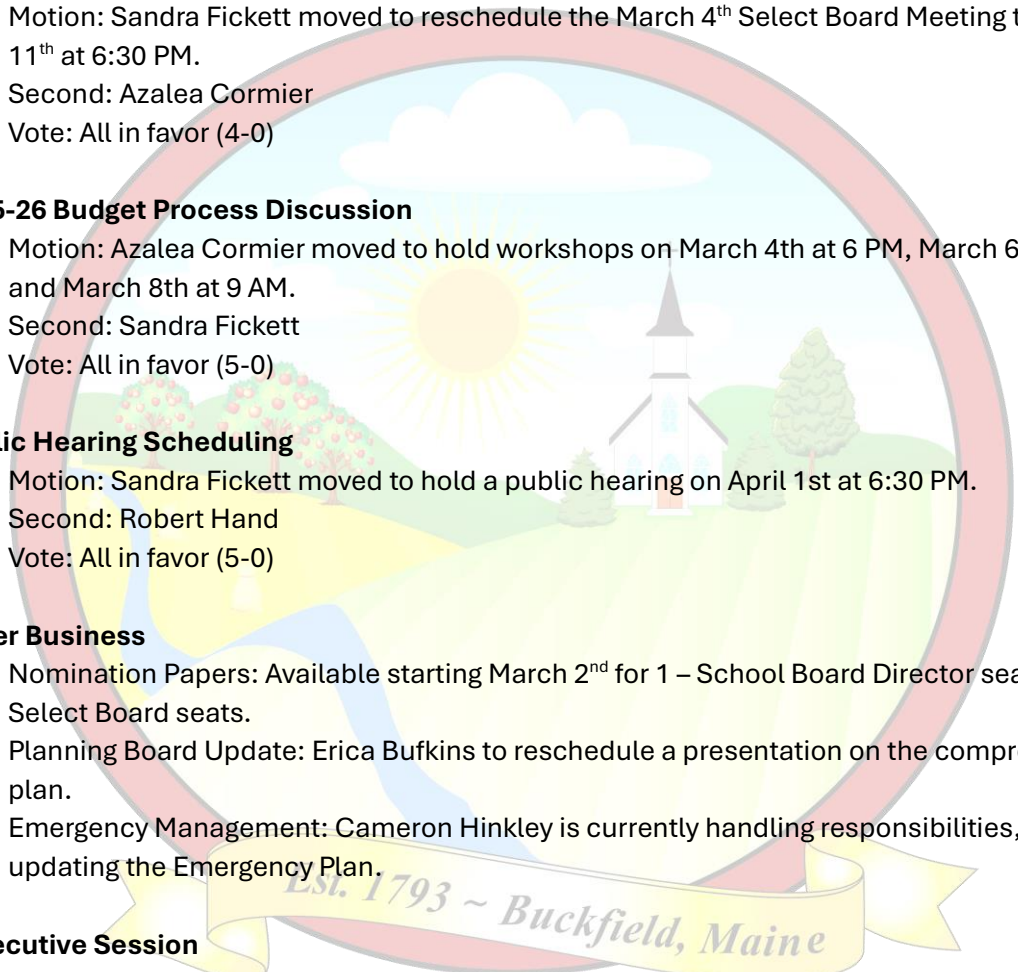
Second: Azalea Cormier

Vote: All in favor (5-0)

Time: Entered at 7:27 PM, exited at 8:25 PM. No action taken. A letter will be sent to the applicant requesting more documentation.

11. Adjournment

Motion: Robert Hand moved to adjourn the meeting.



Second: Azalea Cormier
Vote: All in favor
Meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.



Minutes approved at the February 18, 2025, Select Board Meeting.