

KENSINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

95 Amesbury Road

MONDAY January 10, 2022 – 6:30pm

Minutes – Approved 1/24/2022

At 5:59pm B. Gustafson made a motion to enter a nonpublic session under RSA 91A:3, II(a). B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.

At 6:16pm B. Gustafson made a motion to exit the nonpublic session. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.

At 6:16pm B. Solomon made a motion to recess the meeting until 6:30pm. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

At 6:30 J. Pace called the meeting to order.

J. Pace opened the public hearing for the proposed warrant articles and noted that the Board will wait until after this public hearing to vote on them. The Board read through the proposed warrant articles. J. Pace asked for any public comment as they were read. He explained that the warrants would then go to deliberative session and then to ballot in March after the public hearings. Chief True spoke about Warrant Article 12, Initial Payment from EMS Fund for a New Ambulance. He asked that the remaining funds of up to \$175,000 be changed to \$200,000. The Town will pay for the remainder of purchasing a new ambulance from the income of the current ambulance, which is approximately \$150,000. J. Pace noted that the funds would not be appropriated if the grant is not met. Chief True stated that the ambulance would only be ordered if the funds are met. The Board discussed that if the warrant is passed and the department fails to get the grant, the option for the fire department would be to ask again in another warrant article next year. A second public hearing will be held for this change.

Benjamin Cole, a member of the public, asked if Article 17, To Appropriate to Fire and Emergency Services Capital Reserve Fund, could be moved to be in order with other Fire Department articles for clarity. The Board discussed changing the titles of Fire Department articles to make them more easily understood. Article 14 was amended to add the words “Water Fund” to make it clearer to voters. Article 17 would change to add “of permit income”. The warrant article positioning was changed. J. Pace noted that the citizens petition should be the final article listed. A member of the public asked if the citizen petition could cause tax impact, although the article states it has no impact. J. Pace returned to Article 8, Operating Budget, and read it in its entirety. The operating budget will be \$2,327,010, and the default budget would be \$2,239,260 if the operating budget fails to pass.

J. Pace closed the public hearing.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

• Police Department – Chief Scott Cain –

- The Chief noted there are rodents downstairs in the Town Hall that are being trapped. JP Pest services were contacted. The Board requested other quotes be sought out as well.
- Police Department server equipment has been ordered.
- The Chief explained that on Friday 1/14/2022 Route 150 will be shut down from 8:30am to 2:30pm for work at 165 Amesbury Road. He noted that signs have been posted and the Fire chief and Road Manager have been notified. Police will be on duty.
- Police responded to a bomb threat in Seabrook.
- The Chief spoke with the Town Moderator about detail at the deliberative session.

- Fire Department – Chief Jon True

- Chief True introduced Jessica Minghella and Reed Holland for appointments to the Fire Department.

At 7:01pm B. Gustafson made a motion to appoint Jessica Minghella for Firefighter / EMT and Reed Holland for Firefighter. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.

- Members of the Fire Department shoveled hydrants in Kensington and did some pump training with Hampton Falls.
 - The Chief is finishing a grant for a new ambulance which must be reviewed and in by January 15, 2022. If approved with grant this will take anywhere between 10-16 months. The RFP is being created now- but grant isn't awarded until summer. The rescue tool is included in this. There is also an RFP for refurbishment of Engine 3.
 - The Fire Department recently purchased an ice rescue suit with training to follow next month. The department now has three.
 - The Chief is working on new State database that has lots of adjustments, but no cost.
 - The gear dryer purchased last year should be in this coming week. This allows a set of fire gear to be dried in an hour or less and holds two sets.
- Emergency Management - Chief Jon True –
 - Fire Fighter and EMT Benjamin Cole worked the Booster Blitz and the Vaccination Aid Agreement for allows reimbursement from the state for the time worked at the program.
 - The Chief discussed Covid statistics in the State of New Hampshire, the County and the Town.
 - The Chief noted ClearChoice MD at JC Penny has both tests for free from 8am-4pm and is a walk in for those that need it.

At 7:10pm B. Solomon made a motion to approve the Chairman sign the booster blitz reimbursement. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

- The Chief discussed his thoughts on a mask mandate at the Town Offices and what actions could should be taken. Interior spaces versus Town buildings were discussed. The Library Director spoke of wanting a mask mandate. Library policies were discussed. The Board discussed different buildings where this would be applied. J. Pace noted a letter could be sent notifying others that the Town has implemented a mask mandate for guidance. There was a discussion about the difference between a recommendation versus a mandate.

At 7:32pm B. Gustafson made a motion to returning to require masks in Town buildings. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.

The Board discussed drafting a letter to other businesses and organizations to explain that the Town has made this decision for its own buildings, however there is no Town wide mandate. This would allow these businesses to review their own policies.

The Fire Chief noted that ARPA sent out a template for projects to use the funding that had been granted. The Chief would like to investigate a system to clean the air in the Town Hall and Library. The investigation would not cost anything and the units could be installed in the mini-splits. The chief will return with quotes.

J. Pace noted letters are being sent out about the Safety Complex and that the letter should be sent out from the Board.

- Road Manager – Matthew Armstrong-
 - The 4th load of salt for the salt shed has been delivered.
 - Doug's Tree Service removed trees on Cottage Road.
 - Dug out inverts at the intersection of Shaw's Hill and Amesbury Road and cleaned pipes there and regraded.
- Tax Collector- Carlene Wiggin was not present.
- Building Inspector- Gino Rignoli spoke about permitting and following up on permits.
- Treasurer- Sara Belisle was not present.
- Town Clerk – Sarah Wiggin was not present.
- Recreation Committee- Elaine Bodwell was not present.
- Conservation Commission – Sydnee Goddard was not present.

Town Moderator Harold Bragg stated that he needs to establish rules and procedures for the deliberative sessions. Mr. Bragg had discussed procedures with Chief Cain and noted that the rules would be available to the legislative body and in the report he had created. J. Pace and Mr. Bragg discussed having a summary document for the night of the deliberative sessions. Benjamin Cole noted that this was not a final draft.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Additional trash carts were discussed as was the cost and criteria for these carts. The cost of additional carts would be \$185 a year annually per cart. A timeframe was discussed for swapping out carts.
- The Board discussed an email from Al Brandano. The Town will send a response.
- The Board discussed the Safety Complex.
- The Building Inspector and Board discussed the addressing of Accessory Dwelling Units. J. Pace stated that there had been discussion about denoting the ADU with an "A". Chief True asked if they should report the ADUs as they find them. Rental housing ordinances were discussed. Chief True noted having an occupancy permit that could be reviewed.

At 8:11pm B. Solomon made a motion that ADUs have the alphanumeric designation in which the primary home is numeric, and the secondary home is an alpha. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

Kathleen discussed a parcel on the edge of Exeter and Kensington on Powder Mill Road, Map 16 Lot 4-4 in which the Town never got a transfer. The owners are looking to have interest waived on their tax bill.

At 8:26pm B. Solomon made a motion to waive the interest on Map 16 Lot 4-4 for both July 2021 and December 2021 tax bills through Thursday the 13th of 2022. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

At 8:27pm B. Solomon made a motion to approve the open-air assembly permit for Eastman's Corner on 02/25/2022 from 11am to 3pm. B Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

At 8:28pm B. Solomon made a motion to allow the Chairman to sign the Auditor Option Schedule under RSA 41:31-b. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

At 8:29pm B. Gustafson made a motion to allow Mr. Solomon to sign the contract for the State Mosquito Control Permit and Contract. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.

At 8:30pm B. Solomon made a motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the contract for the printer. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

At 8:35pm B. Gustafson made a motion to accept the minutes of December 6th and the 20th. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.

- The Board signed off on Bills and Payroll.

At 8:37pm B. Gustafson made a motion to adjourn. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.

- **Next Meeting Dates –January 24, 2022**

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Clarke