

Town of Kensington
Board of Selectmen - Special Meeting
Thursday, May 7, 2020
1:00
Via Zoom Videoconference
APPROVED JUNE 1, 2020

Attendance: Kathleen Felch, Vanessa Rozier, Carlene Wiggin, Linda Buxton, Bob Solomon, Chief Scott Cain, Chief John True, Susan Gilbert, Officer Sean Wlasuk, Carol Beers-Witherell, Sarah Wiggin.

Chairman Pace called the meeting to order at 1:08pm.

Chairman Pace opened with the explanation that this meeting is primarily to meet as a group to discuss the re-opening guidelines recently provided by the Governor. Chief True then led the discussion regarding guidelines from the CDC, Primex and Executive Order #40 and the opportunity to re-open town operations in different phases. He emphasized that we will likely need to reassess and manage things as we go. He added that there is one confirmed case of COVID 19 in town.

Chairman Pace discussed how this process might be different from the current plan in place. Facilities related items were discussed, for example, the air system. Chief True recommended further discussion of the air system and needing to get more information.

Discussion continued extensively as to the need to change the current protocol of the town. It was agreed that the needs of the town are being met and we are able to serve the residents in a timely manner. Member Rozier requested the feedback of the Town Clerk, who added that the current protocol would be acceptable until June 1, 2020. There was further discussion about setting a requirement that anyone making an appointment with the Town Clerk or Tax Collector wear masks to be able to conduct town business. The decided requirements will be posted on the town website. Discussion was encouraged from all departments and participants and it was concluded that operationally, there is not a need to change protocol at this time.

With tax season approaching, it was also discussed about procedures to help facilitate that in a safe manner. It was discussed that Carlene would include a short note with the tax bills to help the residents understand and improve compliance for the health and safety of everyone involved.

Discussion shifted to the Goferr Grant which Chief True and Kathleen have been working on was the next topic. Chief True added that all departments should keep track of any receipts as they may be covered by this grant. The idea of postage was discussed and will be followed up on.

Chief True reiterated, that whenever re-opening occurs, that a detailed plan will need to be in place. He will create a draft to be able to plan for the needs of PPE and provide that for review. Chairman Pace added that at the BOS meeting on 5/18/20 this can be discussed as well.

Susan Gilbert spoke about the guidance she has been getting from the state as it relates to the Library. She has been able to acquire gloves and masks. She is working on Plexiglass shields and the potential for curbside service and appointments. She has participated on many calls to navigate the process for the library.

Regarding the Goferr Grant, there was discussion about what would be covered by it and the guidelines stated in the Grant. This will act as another resource to any FEMA aid. The board needs to adopt and authorize a signature for this Goferr Grant which is a state agreement. It was discussed that this is a resource that if not utilized would be a disservice to the town. **Member Rozier made a motion to sign the Goferr COVID 19 Relief Grant and authorize Chairman Pace to sign it on behalf of the board.**

Member Solomon seconded. Roll Call vote:

Vanessa Rozier – yes

Bob Solomon – yes

Joe Pace – yes.

Kathleen discussed that there will need to be a notice for the next meeting if they will be accepting any large sum of money. Everything will be going through Emergency Management to help simplify the tracking process. Chairman Pace stated that clarity on how to proceed with this process would be appreciated.

Chief True discussed the Care Act for the Fire and Police departments as it has been in the news a lot. It will be paid by stipend with the applicable taxes deducted.

Other business before the board: The manifest for the Citizens bill will be signed by the board.

There was a clarifying question asked by Susan Gilbert regarding the advice she was given to seek legal counsel for any re-opening procedure and wondering who would pay. Clarification will be however, it is assumed that the Library has funds for this task. Chief True will ask Representative Hobson for advice.

Appointments and re-appointments for the Kensington Conservation Commission: **Member Rozier made a motion to appoint Andrew Roberts and Courtney Preneta to the Conservation Commission, Bob seconded. Roll call vote:**

Vanessa Rozier – yes

Bob Solomon – yes

Joe Pace – yes

Member Rozier made a motion to re-appoint Robert Gustafson and Pam Holland to the Conservation Commission, Bob seconded. Roll call vote:

Vanessa Rozier – yes

Bob Solomon – yes

Joe Pace – yes

Under RSA 91A:3,II a, the board will go into non-public session regarding a personnel matter. **Member Rozier made a motion to continue in non-public session to discuss a personnel matter, Member Solomon seconded. Roll call vote:**

Vanessa Rozier – yes

Bob Solomon – yes

Joe Pace – yes

The Board entered non-public at 2:19pm – No decisions were made. The board exited non-public session at 2:48pm. Member Rozier made the motion to leave non-public session, Member Solomon seconded. Roll call vote:

Vanessa Rozier – yes

Bob Solomon – yes

Joe Pace – yes

There was no other business before the board. **Member Rozier made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Member Solomon seconded. Roll call vote:**

Vanessa Rozier – yes

Bob Solomon – yes

Joe Pace – yes

Meeting adjourned at 2:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah J. Wiggin