KENSINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

95 Amesbury Road

MONDAY June 6th, 2022 – 6:30pm

Minutes – APPROVED 6/27/22

At 6:28pm J. Pace called the meeting to order.

**Public Comment-**

Skip Heal of Osgood Road asked for an update from the Board for the proposed safety complex. B. Gustafson stated there had been no acquisition and they were investigating potential sites. He also stated there had been letters sent to owners of properties of interest. Mr. Heal stated that he would like to help put the new Town Hall sign up.

Benjamin Cole of 242 North Haverhill Road explained that the Universalist Church Society was looking to apply for an LCHIP grant for restoration which requires evidence of support of the community. He asked for a letter from the Board of Selectmen if they approve of the project. J. Pace described this as a letter of moral support from the Board for the Universalist Church.

**At 6:33pm B. Gustafson made a motion to support the efforts of the Universalist Church and sign the letter. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.**

**AGENDA:**

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

• Police Department –Chief Scott Cain – Chief Cain announced that he would like to promote Officer Brad Von Haden as full-time police sergeant.

**At 6:36pm B. Solomon made a motion to appoint Brad Von Haden to be a full-time sergeant of the Kensington Police Department. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.**

J. Pace read and swore in Sargent Von Haden.

• Fire Department – Chief Jon True

* Still awaiting final draft of Engine 3 refurb contract through Greenwood Apparatus.
* The Chief Advised AFG grants will be released last week in June through second week in August
  + RFP will be put out soon.
  + Regional radio grant is also being awarded, will hear in same time frame.
* The Chief stated there is no state bid for the fire hose the department is looking for, so they will be putting out an RFP next week.
* The Chief is working on multiple plan reviews and code updates and expects new state fire code to be released soon.
* The Chief will be attending a conference for Leading with Compassion:  Navigating Public Safety Mental Health and Wellness on Wednesday at the NHFA.
* The Chief noted the department continues to look for additional members. The area Chiefs are meeting regularly to share resources, train and work together in all aspects of our service. The department is working on a recruitment and retention plan.
* The grant for the gator, trailer and med bed has been approved by the state in the amount of $40,525 with no cost to the town.
* B. Gustafson and the Chief discussed the status of the trails committee. The chief will go to a conservation commission meeting.

• Emergency Management - Chief Jon True –

* The Chief will be attending a class June 29th on rural town resiliency and COOP training and will begin meetings after the July 4th holiday.
* Hurricane season has started, expect to see some info on social media and the website. Also, EM will be sending out weather alerts via email to departments throughout the season.
* Submitted for reimbursement for Seabrook Station drills and training which should be about $3000.
* The Chief will send out an annual review and update of the hazardous mitigation plan by department.
* The Chief will meet with a field rep Tuesday to review equipment for drills, training and other needs.
* The chief gave a summary of Covid statistics in the state of NH.

• Road Manager – Matthew Armstrong-

* On May 17th Matthew responded to a tree that fell on Drinkwater Road and cut it up and disposed of it.
* Matrix Paving patched a hole on Osgood Road.
* Fixed the stop sign on the Drinkwater end of North Road.

• Building Inspector- Gino Rignoli-

* Talked to the owner of a Wild Pasture Road parcel stating that he wants to lift the stop work order. He stated everything has been flagged in the buffer area. He has talked with Pam Holland who has put in a formal complaint to the DES. He inquired about future situations and stated he felt wetlands should be delineated prior to work being done. B. Gustafson noted that the Conservation Commission is advisory and can make recommendations. He felt that it should have been delineated and will discuss at the next Conservation Commission meeting. J. Pace noted that the code enforcement officer only has jurisdiction over town regulations. J. Pace discussed intent to cut, and noted that there may be a process that would require delineation. He felt that arborist and tree companies should know the state and local regulations. B. Gustafson noted that DES would have control of mitigation.

Vanessa Rozier noted the intent to cut and asked if the Town could make a form letter for land owner to refer to regulations for the town. She also suggested to look at tree clearing regulations and add what the process is for clearing. She felt that cease and desist should be lifted but to recommend that Conservation Commission and the Code Enforcement Officer have a wetland scientist inspect at the landowners expense as a condition with a remediation plan if necessary.

• Town Clerk – Sarah Wiggin –

* Discussed dog licenses and noted there were 27 remaining unlicensed dogs. The police department will be authorized to dispense fines.

**At 7:10pm B. Gustafson made a motion to move forward and sign the warrant for unlicensed dogs. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.**

Ms. Wiggin also noted that filing is open until June 10th for delegate to the republican convention.

Jackie Benson discussed a proposal for the cemetery for fence painting that would cost $8,300 as opposed to $7,000. She noted the Trustees have $1,500 for tree service that they don’t anticipate using. She asked the Board if it would be appropriate to reallocate the line item to the budget. B. Solomon asked how long the paint lasts. J. Pace felt it was appropriate to reallocate those funds.

Ms. Benson handed draft forms for burial permits and for claiming existing plots and noted they were given to town counsel, and gave the updated copies of the reports. She noted there were small changes given by town counsel. The Board will review and discuss at a future meeting. She explained that the upper yard may have some activity for stone straightening in the near future.

The Board discussed a request for use of Grange Hall for summer camp during inclement weather.

The Grange committee discussed taking paying rentals in the time period and only have it for use in inclement weather and that paying events take priority over recreation camp usage.

**At 7:19pm B. Solomon made a motion to approve the Grange Hall permit for use by the summer camp. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.**

The difficulty of approval for Grange use was discussed. J. Pace discussed delegation of approval of town buildings.

**NEW BUSINESS**:

The Board discussed bids for Road Reconstruction and compared pricing for reconstruction on Moulton Ridge, Hilliard, Brewer, West School, Hickory and Bartlett Road. Each bid was reviewed with the price of each road denoted. The Road manager will review and come back with a recommendation.

The Planning Board Clerk position was discussed. The Board thanked Andy Clarke for his work in this role. J. Pace noted the understaffing in town and noted there was a time sensitive component to hiring a land use clerk. The position in relation to budget was discussed, as was the wording of the advertisement. The Board discussed possible roles in the Town such as Chief Executive Officer or Town Administrator. The Board will have further discussions about the structure of town staff roles at future meetings.

Vanessa Rozier, Planning Board Chair, discussed abutter listings through Avitar, an online tool. Vanessa would like to adopt the ability to present mailing addresses and noted that there were errors in recent applications due to the current process.

**At 7:53pm B. Gustafson made a motion to implement the owner mailing list information through Avitar. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.**

The Board discussed having a briefing of the Buildout Analysis. The Board will discuss with Ms. Rozier.

The Fire Chief discussed the Until Emergency Exercise, which is generally for the emergency management, fire and police departments and stated that it will be a remote tabletop type exercise.

Chief True noted a request for open air assembly for concerts at Crows Feat Farm and an attached emergency plan. He noted that the location of the concerts had moved to behind the barn. Chief Cain noted the road location and entrance. He stated there is no visibility and would need a police detail. The Chiefs discussed their concerns. Traffic issues were discussed.

**At 8:31pm B. Gustafson made a motion for a conditional approval for Crows Feat Farm for an open-air permit based upon the approval of the Chiefs. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.**

The Board discussed an elderly exemption.

**At 8:45pm B. Gustafson made a motion to abate taxes for Tax Map 12 Lot 17-1. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.**

The Board received a barn preservation application. B. Solomon noted getting an opinion from the Heritage Committee. Kathy will reach out to the Heritage Committee for review.

Kathy and the Board discussed buntings for Old Home Day. The number will be reviewed. The Board agreed to order 5.

Kathy has spoken to a structural engineer to look at the Town Hall floor and will review for the Board.

**At 9:02pm B. Gustafson made a motion to accept the minutes of May 2, 2022 & May 16, 2022. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.**

The Board signed off on bills and payroll.

Kathy has received funds for the fun run and any excess will go into the Conservation Commission’s funds. Money will be transferred from Recreation to Conservation.

**At 9:12pm B. Solomon made a motion to enter a non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 (l). B. Gustafson second. All voted in favor.**

**At 9:51pm B. Solomon made a motion to exit the non-public session. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.**

**At 9:51pm B. Gustafson made a motion to adjourn. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.**

**The Board will meet on the 27th of June, July 11th and 25th.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Andy Clarke