

TOWN OF KENSINGTON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
Kensington Town Hall  
95 Amesbury Road  
Kensington, NH 03833  
MONDAY  
April 3, 2023  
Meeting Minutes  
**6:30PM**

**In Attendance: Joseph Pace, Robert Solomon, Robert Gustafson**

**J. Pace opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance at 6:30pm.**

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

- Police Department –Chief Scott Cain –
    - Informed the board that he has hired a full time officer to replace the one who recently resigned.
    - The prosecutor will be leaving as well but there is someone that will hopefully be doing Kensington and Stratham.
    - The ALS ride will need a detail for all of the bicycle traffic.
  - Fire Department – Chief Jon True - nothing
  - Emergency Management - Chief Jon True –
    - Submitted the budget to emergency management and will have drills in the fall and winter of 2023.
  - Road Manager – Matthew Armstrong-
    - Met with French's Lane residents on a minor drainage issue. Going to wait until the area dries out some before addressing the issues.
    - J. Pace asked if we are on a schedule for paving yet.
      - M. Armstrong will put that out to bid, the plants should be opening up soon, that will determine the pricing for the work needed.
  - Tax Collector- Carlene Wiggin-
    - It is tax lien time, and she has the lien paperwork for the board to sign off on. J. Pace asked if there are any on the list that the board might have to make a decision on later on in the year, C. Wiggin does not believe so. There are seven this year as opposed to having only four last year.
    - The board signed the lien paperwork.
  - Building Inspector- Gino Rignoli-
    - G. Rignoli stated that the dam was removed on a property off of Wild Pasture Road, with DES oversight, and they did a great job doing it with no disturbance to the area.
    - R. Gustafson asked about the water behind the dam, and it was already gone at the time of the removal.
    - G. Rignoli will be contacting the state for them to give a final review of the job.
    - Permits are moving along and there are about 42 permits done so far and they are all entered into the new program.
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**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Update on Energy Committee-
  - The board reviewed the language in the proposed committee charge for Kensington.
  - J. Pace stated that the third bullet down should be changed to advising the board on activities rather than based on one single audit.
  - B. Solomon stated that it is not clear when town is mentioned, how do we state that it is town residents vs. town as government body. Town will be capitalized when referring to the residents in the Town.
  - B. Gustafson would like to state that the effort is admirable, but for them to be careful about trying to implement initiatives that might not make sense for Kensington.
  - J. Pace stated that he has done some research and was unsure about the community power aspect but found out that a lot of communities around us are having great success with these types of committees. They have helped to identify cost benefits to the community.
  - J. Pace asked if the board would be ready to move forward, all agreed.
  - The board adopted the charge for the Energy Committee.
  - They will wait a few weeks before appointing members to the committee.
- Landscaping Contract-
  - J. Pace reviewed the bid package for the landscaping services. The board will open the bids at their May 1, 2023, meeting.
  - K. Felch will post the bid in the paper and post it on the town website.
- Northeast Vegetation Contract
  - The board reviewed the contract for the Mosquito spraying for the upcoming season.
  - **B. Gustafson made a motion to have J. Pace sign on behalf of the board, B. Solomon seconded all in favor. The contract was approved.**
- Revised Ordinances
  - The parking ordinance was reviewed as well as the Winter Parking Ban, Snow Emergency Ordinance, and the Snow Obstruction Ordinance.
  - The board will look these over these and have a public hearing on them at the April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the board.
- Reverting previously changed Regulation.
  - Regulating the use of the town park. The regulation was amended by a previous board of selectmen, but in the statute it states that if the regulation was adopted by vote of the town then it can only be amended by the vote of the town. The board identified the error and will revert back to the 2010 revision by vote of the town for the Regulating of the Town Park.
  - K. Felch will contact the town legal counsel to see if the Kensington/Sawyer agreement allows for updating this regulation.
- Road Permit- ALS Ride 6-25-23- hold until Chief Cain has a chance to discuss the need of a detail for the event.
- Response to Warrant Articles and next steps-
  - With the failing of the Warrant article that requested funds for an environmental review and possible town acquisition J. Pace wanted to know what the board want to do going forward. This does not change the challenges that the town is facing with space

constraints. The board would like to take a step back and review what is needed by each department. Fire Chief True has supplied the board with a letter consisting of what is needed for his department, and they will look through the issues to see what the solutions could be to that department's issues. They would like to also have some of the department members involved and develop some other options for the issues that the departments are facing. We first need to identify the issues.

- There are real issues that can't be resolved in the current situations.
- The board is looking to get the issues out there to the public.
- It was noted that the voters were concerned with why the board needed the \$75k to look into what is needed for the police and fire departments.
- J. Pace would like to see the problems identified and then have a group explore what the options would be.
- The board wants to be open to the suggestions of the public and how they feel these issues can be resolved.
- Chief True stated that he was involved in two other buildings and it is just an ad hoc committee where they are not making all the decisions but looking into the issues and identifying them. He wants to be prepared for what is needed now and what will be needed in the future.
- J. Pace suggested that a video be made up to put out there to the public to explain why the complex is being looked into.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Perambulations – Spring of 2023 – K Felch will reach out to the border towns and extend an invitation to do the perambulations soon.

#### **Town Administrator:**

Kathleen Felch- appointments that need to be completed.

- B. Solomon made a motion to appoint Matt Armstrong as Road Manager with expiration of 4/2024, seconded by B. Gustafson, all in favor.
- B. Gustafson made a motion to appoint Jessica Minghella to the Kensington Recreation and Social Committee with expiration of 4/2026, seconded by B. Solomon, all in favor.
- B. Solomon motion to appoint Angelo Rignoli as the Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer with term to expire 4/2024, B. Gustafson seconded all in favor.
- B. Gustafson made a motion to appoint Pam Holland to the Conservation Commission with a term to expire on 4/2026, B. Solomon seconded all in favor.
- B. Solomon motion to appoint Christopher Mertinooke as a Trustee of the Trust Funds with a term to expire on 3/2024, B. Gustafson seconded all in favor.
- B. Gustafson motion to appoint Courtney Preneta to the Conservation Commission with a term to expire on 4/2026, B. Solomon seconded all in favor.
- B. Gustafson motion to appoint Andrew Roberts to the Conservation Commission with a term to expire 4/2026, B. Solomon seconded, all in favor.
- MS 232 was reviewed and signed by the board.
- K. Felch explained that the Town Clerk had a question as to the pay for the Moderator for each election.

**B. Solomon made a motion to adjust the Moderators pay to \$150 per election, seconded by B. Gustafson, all in favor.**

- B. Solomon asked about the Ombudsman filing and K. Felch stated that it is with the town attorney that has been helping with the right to know requests.

- Approval of Board Minutes March 20, 2023

**B. Gustafson made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from March 20, 2023, seconded by B. Solomon, all in favor.**

- Bills and Payroll were signed.

- **Next Meeting Date – April 17, 2023, which will be a public hearing on the ordinance changes.**

B. Gustafson made a motion to adjourn at 8:02pm seconded by B. Solomon, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen T Felch