

KENSINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Virtual Meeting due to COVID-19

MONDAY April 19, 2021 – 6:30pm

Minutes - DRAFT

In attendance: Bob Solomon, Joe Pace, Bob Gustafson

J. Pace called the meeting to order at 6:31pm. There were 14 participants on the meeting at the start of the call.

Casella Discussion

- Brian Groshon from Casella addressed the Board regarding trash cart sizes. Typically, a town will choose a standard size cart, however due to the population and the size of Kensington, Casella is willing to allow some customization based on unique circumstances. Brian and Kathy had been working on identifying criteria that would allow for a modification from the standard cart size, including: age 65+ or qualified disability that may prohibit their ability to move a cart, a driveway that is greater than 200ft, and if there are 5 or more in the household. The logistics of pickup, storage, and replacement/repair with varying cart sizes was discussed. Previously a 65 gallon trash cart and 95 gallon recycling cart were suggested as standard sizes. The information on the change to automated pickup and the option to request alternative sizes will be in the Community Newsletter, and Casella is putting a website together. The Board discussed feedback regarding the suggested sizes. It was noted that the Town would not receive a grant if the 35 gallon was selected for recycling. Glenn Greenwood asked about the current usage. Exact figures were unknown but there is a recycling participation rate of about 25-30% total volume disposed. The Board reviewed what would happen if a cart is damaged or destroyed. **At 7:08pm, B. Solomon made a motion to set the default sizes for both trash and recycling to 65 gallon carts. B. Gustafson seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, and J. Pace voted yes. The motion passes.**

Dan Sweet of 7 French's Lane addressed the Board as KYAA President to make the Board aware of concerns with Town Park scheduling. Hez Mercadante, Trustee, explained that there have been outside programs requesting time as well and the Trust is trying to accommodate everyone while being fiscally responsible. As a result, there have been conflicts with times requested. Hez summarized the groups that have requested time. The Board acknowledges that there is heartburn over how resources are being allocated, and knows that there are popular times that were allocated to outside programs. KYAA requested 586 hours, 543 were approved, and an additional 42 hours were provided for Field C and there was 1 hour that was requested that was not accommodated. The Trust has negotiated with other teams for time for KYAA.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- Police Department –Chief Scott Cain reported as follows:
 - Currently they are conducting interviews for a FT position – there has been a good amount of interest thus far.
 - **At 7:31pm, B. Solomon made a motion to approve Justin Meidico as a FT officer with a 1 year probationary period. B. Gustafson seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, and J. Pace voted yes. The motion passes.**
 - **At 7:32pm, B. Solomon made a motion to reappoint Jerrald Haywood as a lieutenant. B. Gustafson seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, and J. Pace voted yes. The motion passes.**
 - **At 7:33pm, B. Solomon made a motion to reappoint William Paskowski as a detective. B. Gustafson seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, and J. Pace voted yes. The motion passes.**
 - The Board reviewed a quote from Granite State Security for additional cameras and storage. **At 7:36pm, B. Solomon made a motion to approve the two quotes from Granite State Security for cameras, software, and storage in the total amount of \$5598.00. B. Gustafson seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, and J. Pace voted yes. The motion passes.**
 - KPD responded to a fatal accident in East Kingston. If there are questions, please reach out to Chief Cain.

- There was a brief discussion on additional possibilities for increased parking at the Town Park. This will be an ongoing conversation.
- Fire Department – Chief Jon True reported as follows:
 - The Fire Station roof has been completed.
 - Brush fire severity is lower as things are starting to get green.
 - There was a kick off meeting with B. Gustafson, Chief Cain and Chief True regarding a safety complex. Nothing to report, still in very early phases.
- Emergency Management - Chief Jon True
 - There is still an ongoing beaver issue in town. Chief True will be going to clean out the pond on Drinkwater with the firetruck. There is a cost estimate for a company to go out and provide an estimate on a solution. The estimate for the company to evaluate and give an estimate is about \$200-300 to evaluate at least 3 sites in town.
- Road Manager – David Buxton reported as follows:
 - The Town has received a proposal for road reconstruction. Dave asked the Board to table this until he can review it before the next meeting.
 - The Board reviewed the Road Manager job description. Dave will work with Kathy to make several few edits before it's posted.
- Tax Collector- Carlene Wiggin was not present.
- Building Inspector- Norman Giroux reported as follows:
 - Angelo Rignoli has submitted all documents required for the position. All that remains is for him to be sworn in as Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer.
- Treasurer- Sara Belisle was not present.
- Town Clerk – Sarah Wiggin was not present.
- Recreation Committee- Donna Carter reported as follows:
 - The committee has been working on Summer Camp and will said working on summer camp and will be meeting with the Trust Wednesday night.
- Sawyer Kensington Trust- Hez Mercadante reported as follows:
 - The defibrillator in bunker seems to be dead and needs a new battery. Chief True to assist with this.
 - There have been some challenges with grilling permits. The process was discussed.
 - Hand dryers have been installed so there is less waste and more COVID friendly.
 - The Trust is happy to work with Chief Cain on the parking situation. This is ongoing.
 - There was discussion on Kensington Connects regarding a party at the Town Park. This group had not reserved the park through the Trust. Anyone with concerns about groups at the Town Park should contact KPD. Chief Cain requested information from the Trust as to what is defined as a party.

Board of Health Meeting: At 8:16pm, the Board of Selectman convened as the Board of Health.

- New Safer guidelines and vaccine access for the public were discussed. The Governor has allowed the mask mandate to expire and on May 7 all business Safer at Home guidelines will expire. Chief True presented a document to the Board that accounted for all areas of Town Business for Town Hall/PD reopening. As of this meeting, it seems that the order relative to Zoom/Virtual meetings will stay in effect. The Board will discuss future meetings at the next BOS meeting.
 - Susie Gilbert, Library Director said that she has some concerns as the Library has determined there should be a maximum of 8 patrons. She would defer to Chief True for further guidance. It was also noted that hybrid events have been better attended and the Library is looking at technology to continue to expand the offerings in the future. 8:33 bg stepped away
 - The Board briefly discussed the hybrid meetings and need of technology (laptops, tablets, etc.) for the Board.
 - The Board decided to adopt Chief True's document as protocols for Town Buildings effective May 1, 2021.
- The Board of Health meeting was closed at 8:42pm.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Tick Spraying – Kathy received an email from Becky Ruel at KES regarding tick spraying at the Town Park. This would be up to the Trust to make a decision on this. They will discuss at the meeting Wednesday.
- Email storage options discussion – tabled until the next meeting.
- ACH request from HealthTrust – The Board the ACH request from HealthTrust which would allow to disburse funds electronically instead of cutting checks. ***At 8:47pm, B. Solomon made a motion to authorize J. Pace to sign the ACH request/authorization from HealthTrust on behalf of the Board. B. Gustafson seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, and J. Pace voted yes. The motion passes.***
- ***At 8:49pm, B. Gustafson made a motion that the Board proclaim the week of May 2nd- May 8th Municipal Clerk Week. B. Solomon seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, and J. Pace voted yes. The motion passes.***

At 8:50pm, B. Solomon made a motion to approve the minutes from April 5, 2021. B. Gustafson seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, and J. Pace voted yes. The motion passes.

Next Meeting Date –Monday May 3, 2021

At 8:51pm, B. Gustafson made a motion to adjourn. B. Solomon seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, and J. Pace voted yes. The motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Chelsea Lalime