

KENSINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Virtual Meeting due to COVID-19
MONDAY May 3, 2021 – 6:30pm
Minutes - DRAFT

In attendance: Bob Solomon, Joe Pace, Bob Gustafson

J. Pace called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- Fire Department – Chief Jon True reported as follows:
 - Burning was shut down for a few days due to the dry conditions and high winds, but with the recent rain and “greening up”, people can burn- with caution.
 - Training is going well. The FD will be testing hydrants and cisterns over the next two months. They recycle the water so very little is actually lost.
 - Working on specs for new ambulance- will be paid out of revolving EMS account, but will require Town meeting vote.
 - Mike Lawson Sr. and Lt. John Lebel are doing well in their advanced EMT classes. They are a few weeks from completion,
 - ***At 6:35pm, B. Solomon made a motion to appoint Ben Cole and Jim Farley for Deputy Fire Wardens. B. Gustafson seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, J. Pace voted yes.***
 - ***At 6:37pm, B. Gustafson made a motion to appoint Hannah Houston as a Firefighter/EMT. B. Solomon seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, J. Pace voted yes.***
 - There are two places that require a signed agreement for mutual aid: 157 Airwing which is Pease and the Navy Yard. The Board will review and sign next week.
 - Waiting to see if we receive a radio grant (\$98,000) to replace all mobile, portable and base radios in Dept. (95/5% match) expect answers in late May/June. Letters of support from State Senators have been received.
- Emergency Management - Chief Jon True reported as follows:
 - Recent grant “update” from original FEMA COVID grant: it was a 75/25% split, but President Biden has asked FEMA to reimburse at 100%, so we received a check for \$918.87. Chief True requests that this check be put into grant line for EM to offset similar costs for this year.
 - By purchasing a variable message sign (VMS) we were able to charge for its use when COVID related. We have received a reimbursement grant of \$17,074.64 which paid for the cost of the unit.
 - Upcoming grants- \$15,000 grant to help pay for the second VMS, is being submitted this week (already approved, just need to close out). As is \$7500.00 reimbursement for completing the HAZ MIT plan.
 - The Board has been provided information on water conservation to review and comment before next meeting.
 - B. Gustafson and Chief True are working on getting quotes regarding the beavers. Chief True has been cleaning out the culvert on occasion and have installed a piece of fencing so the animal cannot build anything inside the culvert.
 - Chief True hasn’t received any information for people who are looking for shots recently. If anyone is having a problem, has questions, needs info, or just wants to chat about it...please reach out to Chief True.
 - Sydnee Goddard said the Conservation Commission has also been trying to work to address beavers, specifically on Moulton Ridge. Sydnee asked if there’s a plan by the Town to address all areas. Chief True explained he can only address areas that are fire water supplies or flooding roads. Cottage Road, Moulton Ridge Road, and Drinkwater are all being affected. There’s also been a problem on Hemlock, Osgood, and North roads that Dave Buxton has been working on. Sydnee said they had looked into trapping and the population is a concern. Dave has concerns for his budget to continue with the current expenses. The Board would like to come up with a plan to address this with a long-term solution.
- Road Manager – David Buxton reported as follows:

- Proposals for the loading dock and re-roofing the sign shed have been requested. Dave would like to review these proposals together because they are coming from the same line item. Matrix has provided a quote but need a second.
- There is a request for extension of contract from Bell & Flynn who did the work last year. The Board reviewed the proposed extension from Bell & Flynn to extend through calendar year 2021. The Scope of Work is the same, there will not be any grinding this year. It is for the wear-course of asphalt.
- Dave will be done on May 14th and will be leaving on May 22nd, and will be available to help remotely between those days. The Board appreciates the offer.
- Tax Collector- Carlene Wiggin was not present.
- Building Inspector- Norman Giroux reported as follows:
 - Progress has been made on a plumbing permit. Most other towns have a plumbing permit in place. Norman presented the draft to the Board for review.
 - **At 7:16pm, B. Gustafson made a motion to adopt the plumbing permit as part of permitting process. B. Solomon seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, J. Pace voted yes.**
 - It was explained that there are some concerns with the permitting process. Norman provided a solution that would allow for all other permits to be required to be in place prior to a Building Permit to be issued.
 - There was discussion on a mechanical and electrical permit and some changes to the process. The Board determined that further decision on this is warranted and the Board will revisit this topic at a future meeting.
 - Norman recommended that the Board request a new proposal for the Building Inspector Software to revisit in the future.
 - Norman said it has been great working with everyone in town, commended the “team spirit” throughout the Town. The Board appreciates all of the work that Norman has done and wishes the best for the future.
- Police Department –Chief Scott Cain reported as follows:
 - Officer Vlasich has left the department. Another officer started at the police academy today. There is another FT officer going through the interview/background process from Kingston.
 - Chief Cain has been working with Kathy on the Town Ordinance for parking, trying to update the ordinance from 1993.
 - In the future, Chief Cain will bring a proposal to the Board regarding increasing the admin fees on the police cruisers due to the fuel prices.
- Treasurer- Sara Belisle was not present.
- Town Clerk – Sarah Wiggin had nothing to report.
- Recreation Committee- Elaine Bodwell was not present.
- Conservation Commission – Sydnee Goddard reported as follows:
 - There is concern that a piece of property owned by SAU16 that is currently for sale does not have a variance that was put on the property in 2007 accurately reflected. There is discrepancy between the ZBA meeting minutes and the Notice of Decision that was issued. According to the minutes a condition of approval was that there be 10 acres on the parcel that were conserved, but that is not reflected in the Notice. The Board felt that there should be a legal review of the matter.
 - There was a brief discussion on a Diversity/Inclusion Commission in Town.
 - There was brief discussion on the recently conserved parcel on Route 108 and whether or not hunting would be allowed. It was suggested by the Board to hold a meeting this Fall for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Safer guidelines -Opening Town Hall and Police Department

- Chief True provided the Board the new universal best practices issued by the Governor for COVID-19. The Board discussed the reopening plan and in person/hybrid meetings. Chief True had put together a reopening plan that aligns well with the new best practices. He will be working with the summer camp program to create a plan with them.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Email storage options
 - Kathy needs to get more information from Lars. There are several emails that will need to be combined and saved. The Board requested a proposal to review.
- Lawn Maintenance bids
 - No bids have been received. Kathy has reached out to area landscapers and sent them the bids, but there has been nothing received thus far.
- Road Manager Position
 - There are currently 2 applicants – a 3rd has already accepted another position. The applicants will be interviewed on Wednesday.
- Grange Proposal
 - The Grange Trustees provided a proposal for ductwork as part of their warrant article that was approved. At The grange has sent the proposal part of their warrant article. ***At 8:14pm, B. Solomon made a motion to approve the \$3800.00 expenditure from Coastal Mechanical for new ductwork at the Grange. B. Gustafson seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, J. Pace voted yes.***
- Planning Board Appointment
 - ***At 8:15pm, B. Gustafson made a motion to appoint Janan Archibald to the Planning Board as an Alternate Member with a term expiring in 2022. B. Solomon seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, J. Pace voted yes.***

At 8:19pm, B. Solomon made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 19, 2021 meeting. B. Gustafson seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, J. Pace voted yes.

At 8:25pm, B. Solomon made a motion to enter into non-public session under RSA 91A:3, II (b). B. Gustafson seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, J. Pace voted yes.

At 8:35pm, B. Gustafson made a motion to exit non-public session. B. Solomon seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, J. Pace voted yes.

At 8:37pm, B. Solomon made a motion to adjourn. B. Gustafson seconded. J. Pace took a roll call vote. B. Gustafson voted yes, B. Solomon voted yes, J. Pace voted yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Chelsea Lalime