

KENSINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

95 Amesbury Rd

MONDAY July 12, 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:

• Police Department –Chief Scott Cain reported as follows:

- Chief Cain spoke with Fish and Game regarding the beaver issue in town. Several options were presented. There is a licensed individual in Hampton that charges \$50 per beaver. By law, a town can deal with a beaver if it is a nuisance in the right-of-way of the town. If the issue is on private land, it would be up to the landowners to relocate the beaver. A Town can legally remove a beaver dam without a permit as long as it is done slowly to prevent flooding. It was suggested that an ordinance be created to address beavers. Another option would be to have someone in town trained for trapping. The class would be \$35.00 and traps varying from \$450.00-\$500.00 would need to be purchased. Beavers are not a protected species and a pelt license is not needed as a Town. Chief Cain will work with B. Gustafson to determine a solution. The Conservation Commission would likely be involved as well.
- SERT does not currently have an officer from Kensington on it. Chief Cain explained that there is a cost to training, but also a cost to the Town if an officer is not part of the team. SERT may be willing to waive the fee for not having an officer on the team for this year- they will vote on this next week. Chief Cain feels that this is a good resource to have in Town. The Board agreed. The Board will wait to see how the SERT team votes.
- The officer attending the academy has been doing well and will graduate on August 27th.
- NH Police Standards and Training schedule was announced. There will be reports Chief Cain is required to submit coming in the future.
- Crow's Feat Farm emailed the Town indicating that they no longer want to have police details at their events. Per the agreement with the Town last year, they are required to have details, thus an amendment to the permit would be required. The Board felt that if participation is less than 50, it would be ok to not have a detail however more information is needed. There was also brief discussion about the signage at the farm. The Board determined if the applicant is interested to change the requirements of the permit, she needs to provide more information she needs to provide more information and attend the next meeting.

• Fire Department – Chief Jon True reported as follows:

- As of today, KFD has responded to 112 calls for service.
- The radio grant (AFG) had a technical issue and the awards have been stopped until sometime in September.
- There is a bill going through Congress to allow up to \$7.5 M each- (\$1 B total- FY 2022) to build Fire/EMS stations throughout the country. If this follows the one from 2009- the project will need to be "shovel ready". Chief True is following this closely and will keep the Board informed. He is also pursuing another federal grant to help with planning a station, that should be awarded soon.
- Hose and ladder testing will be scheduled soon for the next two months, along with annual vehicle inspections and PM for the fire trucks.
- Chief True thanked Matt Armstrong as he has been very responsive and helpful over the past few weeks with trees down, road closures and the beaver issues.

• Emergency Management - Chief Jon True reported as follows:

- A final draft of the K LEOP has been completed, the Board will be getting electronic copies for review in the next couple of days.
- The Kensington radiological emergency response plan draft has been sent to the State for review. If accepted, it will be provided to the Board for their review. All these plans will be available for review by the public online after final approvals.

- Chief True is still working on getting the radios installed for the EOC in the Town Hall and hopes to have the project completed by September (most everything is on back order). They are awaiting the FCC license for a new EM radio repeater system that can be used by all town agencies. (Costs were included in the FD radio grant).
- Looking to have a representative of the Board to work with Chief True and Chief Cain on a crisis management /disaster/Continuation of Operations Plan for the Town Hall. B. Gustafson will work with both Chiefs on this.
- At least one well has failed in the past two months (three unconfirmed). Chief True is working with the owner(s) and DES to see what help is available to them. Although we have had significant rain recently- it will be a year or two of positive rain amounts to return to pre-drought levels, so we need to continue to encourage conservation of water. There was a brief discussion regarding water use ordinances, there has not been one adopted in Town but it was suggested that that be looked at for the future. There was brief discussion on the aquifer affected by the Town of Seabrook. This would be a DES ordinance that would be even/odd lawn watering, based on DES levels. Unless the ordinance is adopted nothing can be done by the Town to enforce. This topic will be discussed again at another meeting.
- Road Manager – Matthew Armstrong reported as follows:
 - Beavers continue to be an issue; culverts are being cleaned out every other day to prevent problems.
 - The stop sign at Wild Pasture and Route 150 has been replaced.
 - There have been some significant washouts due to rainfall.
 - Roadside mowing has started and is going well so far.
 - Bell and Flynn has been contacted to discuss the scope of work and scheduling for paving.
- Tax Collector- Carlene Wiggin was not present.
- Building Inspector- Gino Rignoli was not present.
- Treasurer- Sara Belisle was not present.
- Town Clerk – Sarah Wiggin was not present.
- Recreation Committee- Jen Macek reported as follows:
 - The first day of summer camp was crazy because of rain, but the kids are happy to be together again and things are going well separating them in their cohorts. All paperwork and money was in by Day 1 of camp. Jen is working with Chief True to further develop emergency protocols. Jen asked if a park manager had been hired; there has been no park manager hired.
- Conservation Commission was not present.
- Sawyer Kensington Trust- Hez Mercadante was not present.

NEW BUSINESS:

Grange Permit for Library

- Dana Donovan presented the plans for the Book Sale at the Grange Hall to the Board. There will still be COVID protocols in place. Chief True feels comfortable with the plan and there were no questions from the Board. **At 7:18pm, B. Gustafson made a motion to approve the permit for KPL to use the Grange for the Book Sale. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.**

Appointment for Josh Preneta to full member PB

- **At 7:19pm, B. Solomon made a motion to appoint Josh Preneta as a full member of the Planning Board with a term to expire in April of 2022. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.**

Sawyer Kensington Trustee

- The Board briefly discussed the upcoming expected resignation. The Board clarified that the Trustee must be a resident from Town. The Trust can make a recommendation, but the Board ultimately decides.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Open Air Assembly- Kehm-Wedding October 2021
 - Still waiting on information from the applicant.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Review legal advice on N Haverhill Road property
 - This was not discussed.

- Abatement for Mullen/Clark
 - The Board reviewed the requested abatement due to a reduced assessment for Map 14 Lot 8. Avitar recommended the abatement be granted. ***At 7:34pm, B. Solomon made a motion to grant the abatement of \$93,300 resulting in a rebate of \$1,982.56 for Map 14 Lot 8. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.***
- Review announcements for recycling
 - The Board reviewed recycling announcements that are scheduled to go out end of this week/beginning of next. Bins are scheduled to be distributed in August.
- Landscaping bid -reworked
 - The Board reviewed and reworked the landscaping bid language after many posts have gone unanswered.
- Commercial Zone
 - ***At 7:36pm, B. Solomon made a motion for the Board to sign 11 exemptions for residences in a commercial zone. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.***

The Board reviewed and discussed the Wex Bank automatic payment. At 7:51pm B. Solomon made a motion to authorize J. Pace to sign on behalf of the Board authorization for Wex Bank Direct Debit Authorization Agreement. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

At 7:54pm, B. Solomon made a motion to approve the minutes from June 21, 2021. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

The Board briefly discussed the hiring of a park manager for Sawyer Park. It was determined that B. Solomon will convey to the Trust that the Board would like to meet at some point to review and discuss the current agreement.

The next BOS meeting will be July 26, 2021.

At 8:11pm, B. Gustafson made a motion to adjourn. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Chelsea Lalime