

KENSINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
95 Amesbury Road  
MONDAY August 16, 2021 – 6:30pm  
Minutes -APPROVED

In attendance: B. Solomon Solomon, J. Pace Pace, B. Solomon, B. Gustafson

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

**Public Comments:** Alan DeFreitas was present with his wife Francis. Mr. Defreitas described traffic conditions on Brewer Road and stated he felt many vehicles were travelling too fast. He also noted that it seemed that Shaw's Hill, Hobbs Road and Brewer Road were being used as a cut-through between Route 108 and Route 150. He requested a solution to slow traffic down.

Police Chief Scott Cain stated that there were over 800 tickets last year and that he could work on putting an officer on Brewer Road as well as a speed trailer.

**Board of Health:**

The Board convened as Board of Health at 6:40pm to hear waiver requests from Jason Polart and Christopher Albert on behalf of Linda Zammer of 3 Hobbs Road for a new septic system as listed below:

**Septic Waiver Request- 3 Hobbs Road Map 13 Lot 20**

**Article VII 7.1D3avi- 4 feet to seasonal high-water table.**

**Article VII 7.1D3aii- requirement of 18 inches of soil to seasonal high-water table.**

The new septic system is an Enviro-system. Test pits for a new septic system did not meet the Town water table requirements of 18". The proposed design would be against a hill in the back of the property with a 6:1 slope which would allow more sand for drainage. The applicant noted that other towns require 2 feet to seasonal high-water table, however Kensington requires 4 feet. B. Solomon asked if raising the septic 2 more feet would not help the function of the septic. The bed bottom will be replaced with sand for a total of 48". There are 8-12 inches of natural soil with 24 inches of new soil with the Enviro-system.

J. Pace noted that there were 3 criteria necessary for the Board to grant approval of the waiver as follows:

1. Such waivers will not jeopardize public health.
2. Such waiver will comply substantially with the provisions contained herein.
3. Such waiver is the choice of last resort of an applicant.

It was also noted that the Board of Health does not set precedent with its approval or disapproval of any waiver.

***At 7:11pm B. Gustafson made a motion to approve the following waivers based on the evaluation of ordinance criteria.***

**Article VII 7.1D3avi- 4 feet to seasonal high-water table.**

**Article VII 7.1D3aii- requirement of 18 inches of soil to seasonal high-water table.**

***B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.***

The Board closed as the Board of Health and reconvened as Board of Selectmen at 7:12pm.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

- Police Department –Chief Scott Cain reported as follows:
  - Police Department was accepted into the SERT team.
  - Justin Meidico graduated from the Academy on Friday giving more officers on road. This allows for overlap shifts at night.
  - The Chief cancelled his trip to ICAP.
  - Police will step up patrol on Brewer Road.
  - LEAC states that part time police officers that are part time certified must work with a full-time police officer. Part time officers have 200 hours of training, while full time officers have 600 hours of training. Part time retired officers have full time certification.
  - Budget talks will take place in the next 4-6 weeks.
- Fire Department – Chief Jon True reported as follows:
  - Fireworks for Old Home Day went well with 60-80 people attending.
  - Planning a CPR (F-A optional) class for Town Hall, Library, PD, (BI and RA) in the fall.
  - The fire department did not receive the radio grant. It will apply for a regional grant with East Kingston, South Hampton and Newton for the same equipment.
  - The fire department gives its condolences to retired Fire Chief Bill Ingalls of Newton who passed away recently.
  - The Board was in favor of a 9/11 service starting at 9:58am on 9/11/2021.
    - Anyone who would like to speak, please let the Fire Chief know before Sept 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - As of October 24<sup>th</sup> people dialing out on both cell phones and land lines will have to dial 603 in addition to the local number to complete a call.
  - Updated Pease agreement which describes responsibility of equipment and mutual aid.

***At 7:21pm B. Solomon made a motion for J. Pace to sign the Pease Agreement on behalf of the Board. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.***

- Emergency Management – Chief Jon True reported as follows:
  - B. Gustafson and Chief True have reviewed the final draft of the LEOP. B. Solomon asked if anything had changed in the plan. Chief True explained that the formatting had changed. B. Gustafson noted there is a level of drilling and compliance that needs to take place. J. Pace asked about frequency of drilling. B. Gustafson described that town processes have to be tested in case of a catastrophic situation for a continuance of operation.

***At 7:27pm B. Solomon made a motion to authorize the Chair to sign the LEOP. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.***

- **REP-** Fire Chief has not heard back from the State yet and is waiting for the final draft.
- **HEAT-** The library was the cooling center for the Town during the heat wave. There were no heat related injuries or illness reported to EMS throughout the event.

- **PPE-** The state has offered some additional PPE on a one-time basis. Fire chief will get necessary equipment to Town organizations based on request.
- J. Pace asked whether there were protocols in place around whether the police and fire were masked with the public. Scott Cain stated the protocols were still in place. There was discussion about current Covid levels. The fire department requires a mask and will go back to N95.
- **GOFFER-** This is the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund grant. Chief True has spoken with HSEM, our reps and other officials, and stated it would benefit the Town to apply for these funds- this is a multiyear program, and is still being “built”, as changes have occurred since the first release. Grant offerings from GOFFER include any projects for the Town that are related to Covid.

***At 7:44pm B. Gustafson made a motion to authorize the Fire Chief to be the authorized signatory on grant applications under ARPA with Kathleen as a second. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.***

- Town Employees can now be rapid tested for Covid by the Fire Department as needed.
- A Vaccine Van would come and run by DHHS for a dual shot. Anyone could get a vaccination, even if not a town resident.
- Road Manager – Matthew Armstrong-
  - Roadside mowing has been completed.
  - Repaired potholes on Cottage, Muddy Pond, Trimble Trail, and Kimball Roads.
  - Casella will use the Salt Shed as a home base for new cart distribution. Should take three or four days to complete delivery.
- 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. A resident had requested a refund for their registration. The state had approved it for \$81.
- Recreation Committee- Elaine Bodwell was not present.
- Conservation Commission – Sydnee Goddard was not present.
- Sawyer Kensington Trust- No trustee present.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Start of new cart distribution today. Only approved second dwellings will receive carts.

The Board discussed the Open-Air Assembly Ordinance and its ability to regulate assembly. Per RSA 286:2 the Board does have the authority to regulate Open Air Assembly. A special event application was discussed by the Board. It was noted the Town Park has a separate application form. Police Chief Cain stated that he and Kathleen had discussed ordinances needing updates.

A question was raised whether the park owners had permitting authority. There was discussion about the involvement of the Board at the park and what its authority is. A possible meeting with the Sawyer Park Trustees was raised for early September.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Open Air Assembly- Kehm-Wedding October 2021-waiting on information. – J. Pace noted that the noise ordinance would still be in effect.

***At 8:23pm B. Gustafson made a motion to accept the permit for Open Air Assembly for the wedding of Stephanie Kehm of 22 Lamprey Road. B. Solomon seconded. All in favor.***

- Trustee to be appointed by the board for Sawyer Kensington Trust – The Board is still looking for a trustee.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

- Assessing Office – Kathleen Felch-
  - Posting for lawn maintenance for 2022 – A new contract will be reviewed following cleanup.
  - Avitar Kiosk allowing mailing addresses to public. Currently Avitar online through the Assessor page on the Town website only shows parcel address and not mailing address. This would allow both mailing address and parcel address. There was question about the security of displaying the mailing address of residents on the online Avitar kiosk.

***At 8:49pm B. Solomon made a motion to take option 2 of the Avitar contract to have Avitar remove and suppress the mailing address information to make no change to the current setup. B. Gustafson seconded. J. Pace votes no. The motion will carry.***

- Deferred compensation for a supplemental retirement plan. There is no match by the town and no vesting with no liability to the Town. This is a 457(b)-retirement plan through the State of New Hampshire. Full time employees of the Town would be eligible.

***At 8:59pm B. Solomon made a motion to adopt the NH Deferred Compensation Plan for full time employees with reporting on a monthly basis. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.***

The Board signed off on bills and payroll.

***At 9:03pm B. Gustafson made a motion to approve the minutes of the 26<sup>th</sup> of July. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.***

***At 9:05pm B. Gustafson made a motion to adjourn. B. Solomon seconded. All in favor.***

- Next Meeting Date –Monday August 30th