

KENSINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
95 Amesbury Rd
MONDAY October 11, 2021 – 6:30pm
Minutes – Approved 10/25/2021
Meeting 6:30pm

At 6:30pm J. Pace called the meeting to order.

Public Comment - Mary and Shawn Smith inquired about the possibility of reducing the speed limit on Muddy Pond Road which is currently 30mph. Mrs. Smith stated the road can be used as a cut through from Rte. 107 to Rte. 150 and noted that the cul-de-sacs leading off Muddy Pond Road are both 25 mph. Of concern is traffic coming from Rte. 107 where Muddy Pond Road has multiple curves after entry and the speeds which drivers are travelling. Mrs. Smith stated that when she's walking, she has to alternate sides of the road to maintain a sight line for cars. B. Gustafson agreed with her analysis. Mr. Smith stated that traffic through the area seemed higher than the posted limit, and felt that it is a dangerous road.

Police Chief Scott Cain explained that the Town could adopt a new speed limit for the road with 2 public meetings. He stated that Stumpfield Road was already 25mph in East Kingston and it would make sense to extend the 25mph zone to Muddy Pond. He also suggested placing reflective arrow signs at curves on Muddy Pond Road.

J. Pace asked if there are any town roads where it would not make sense to change the limit to 25mph. Chief Cain explained that Drinkwater Road in Exeter is also 25mph. J. Pace discussed the possibility of having hearings to change the speed limit for town roads. Scott Cain felt it was a good idea. Road Manager Matthew Armstrong will look into the cost of replacing the signs. Current ordinances regarding town speed limits will be researched as well as weight limits on Town roads. B. Solomon stated that he would like to see the speed limits for each Town road.

This will be discussed at further meetings.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- Police Department – Chief Scott Cain discussed the need to order new cars for the police department. Lease payments were also discussed.
 - Chief Cain explained that the State Police will not provide accident reconstruction unless someone is to be charged. He is working with the Police Association to create a team to perform accident reconstruction.
 - The Chief made note that there is a bear in town.
 - Chief Cain noted that the track meet went well.
 - Signs for the King Bicycle Road Race have been hung up. The route will go through North Road to Moulton Ridge, Hilliard and over to Kimball Road. Electronic signs will be placed advising of bike traffic.
- Fire Department – Chief Jon True
 - Chief True recommended Tim Estey, a resident of Kensington, who has shown interest in joining the Fire Rescue as a firefighter.

At 6:52pm B. Gustafson made a motion to appoint Tim Estey as a firefighter for the Kensington Fire Rescue. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.

- All trucks have been inspected and maintained and no major issues were found at this time. Chief True stated the department is looking into refurbishing Engine 3, which is a 2003 pumper. If it is refurbished the department can get another 10 years out of the truck. He stated there is a committee working on an RFP that will be submitted to the Board for review.
- Chief True is working on a grant to assist in purchasing a new ambulance. The Town has an ambulance fund but the Chief will attempt to get some extra funding from the state.
- SCBA equipment will be getting an annual test this Friday, the 15th of October. Chief True stated that these units are 9 years old, and the department will be looking to upgrade them next year (2022/2023) per NFPA standards.
- The department thanks the Noon family who have donated a flag pole to the fire station.

• Emergency Management -

- Chief True noted there will be a WEBEOC class October 18th at the Town Hall. East Kingston and Hampton Falls have been invited; however, the class has been limited to 18 people.
- On November 3rd the Emergency Management Team will be performing a light drill which will be a review of the positions and how they interact in the REP. Chief True stated that an email has been sent out to all staff involved. He asked if anyone does not want to be part of the EOC team or cannot make the training, to please let him know soon.

The Vax Van will be available from 3:30pm to 6:45pm on October 20th at the Town Hall which will offer the choice of all three vaccines: Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson. Anyone that would like to be vaccinated can go to the Town Hall to get their choice of vaccine. Booster shots will be available to those who are eligible and have had their first 2 doses of Pfizer.

There was discussion about inducements for Town employees and residents that have been vaccinated. Chief True stated he has looked at the grant proposal and will be communicating with the NH DRA to discuss using the grant for inducements and will also send the proposal to Homeland Security. There was discussion about whether payments would be made going forward or retroactively and how records would be kept of those who had received payment. Using the voter registration list as a template was discussed, as was what constituted a Town employee or someone working for the Town. This will be further discussed at the next meeting. J. Pace asked Chief True if he could have a proposal for the Board at the October 25th meeting in regard to inducements for Town employees. Chief True stated he would have something for the Board as soon as he heard back from GOFERR. Chief Cain asked how many shots would make someone eligible for the payment. Chief True explained that it would be someone who has been fully vaccinated.

Chief True stated he would place dots on the floor in the Town Hall to keep people socially distant and noted that masks were still recommended. He stated he will put mask stations and hand sanitizer in the doorways of the Town Hall. He explained that HEPA filters in the Town Hall or anything that is Covid related can be bought using the recently received grant money from GOFERR.

Grant money was discussed in regard to funding the cyber-security and technology needs of the Town. Chief True explained that there may be matching grant money. J. Pace asked the Chief if he could find out what the match amount was so that the Board can make a decision about what costs could be paid for by grant and what would be needed from the Town.

• Road Manager – Matthew Armstrong-

- Matthew stated he had received winter salt and sand quotes from different vendors and is waiting on Morton Salt. Prices of salt and sand were discussed, and the Road Manager will submit quotes once they are all in.
- J. Pace asked about Wild Pasture Road as it heads into Hampton Falls and potholes in the road. Chief Cain noted that the corner of Osgood is broken up due to construction. The Road Manager stated that he will look into any damage, as well as the rest of the roadway to see if there are more issues.

- 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- Elaine Bodwell was not present.
- Conservation Commission – Sydnee Goddard was not present.
- Sawyer Kensington Trust – No trustees were present.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Assessing Office – Kathleen Felch-
 - There was discussion of the beaver dam on Palmer Drive. Chief True is trying to determine what a washout would affect. He stated there is an access road where the Fire Department could reduce the water level. Cages will be placed in front of the Moulton Ridge dam. Chief True noted that dam maintenance was an ongoing issue. A wildlife fund could cover the costs of maintaining the wildlife as discussed in prior meetings.
 - A quote was received for #10 envelopes with a town return address. B. Solomon asked about whether they were security envelopes. Kathleen will inquire about that option.
 - Avitar rate changes for utilities assessments were discussed.

At 8:05pm B. Gustafson made a motion to authorize Chairman J. Pace to sign for the Board for the acceptance of rates for the Health Trust. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.

The Board signed off on bills and payroll.

Budget meetings will take place on the 2nd and 4th of November. Police and Fire budgets will be discussed on the 2nd and Road and Town budgets will take place 4th of November, respectively.

At 8:21pm B. Solomon made a motion to accept the minutes of September 27th as written. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

At 8:23pm B. Gustafson made a motion to adjourn. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.

Next Meeting Date –Monday October 25, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Clarke