

KENSINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

95 Amesbury Road

MONDAY April 18, 2022 – 6:40pm

Minutes – Approved 5/2/2022

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

At 6:33pm J. Pace called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order.

Public Comment-

Pat Bonnevie of French's Lane approached the Board with questions about trash collection. She suggested that residents could place their carts on the side of the road the mailbox is on to make it easier for Casella to pick up the trash. J. Pace stated they would pass the information along to Casella. Ms. Bonnevie also asked whether the Town had any plans to add any additional cell towers. Fire Chief Jon True stated that he is looking into locations.

Skip Heal of Osgood Road approached the Board and stated felt that it would be better to place the barrels on either the odd or even side of the road. He stated he would like to let the Road Manager know about a situation with beavers clogging a culvert on Osgood Road. Mr. Heal has unplugged the culvert and has been doing it every day for over a week. He felt a that a trapper should be hired to take care of the beaver situation. Mr. Heal also noted that just beyond his house towards Hampton Falls, Osgood Road is becoming unstable as he stated the top coat was never placed on that part of the road. B. Gustafson stated he would talk to the Road Manager. Trail systems were discussed as also being affected by beaver activity.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

• Police Department –Chief Scott Cain –

- Chief Cain stated that a traffic counter had been ordered and will assign officers to it to survey roads. He noted that traffic studies would take place one week at a time. He stated that the counter was purchased through encumbrment of funds.

• Fire Department – Chief Jon True –

- Engine 3 committee is meeting tomorrow evening to hopefully finish the review of the RFP and get final agreements drafted.
- Chief True is working with a few EMTs and firefighters to draft an RFP for the ambulance.
- Chief True stated that the department's three EMT students are doing well.
- The department will begin working on the hydrant cleanup, fixing, fencing, testing, and repairs throughout the spring and summer.
- The Chief noted a question about Memorial Day and will work with the Legion Post and school. J. Pace will reach out to the commander.

• Emergency Management - Chief Jon True –

- The Chief stated that the Seabrook Drill went well. He is awaiting a regional meeting to discuss any findings, but all reports were positive.
- He stated they need to plan an annual Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting and would like to do it in conjunction with our Kensington Safety Committee. They are looking to May to host this event.
- The Chief will be seeking bids to review the Continuation of Operations Plan upon completing a draft. There are three companies that can assist with this, and he hopes to have pricing in the next month or so. AS EMD the

Chief will be meeting with all agencies in advance and will provide needed documentation requests to input into the plan.

J. Pace noted that the Board had asked the Chief to prepare a document for Covid response and thresholds. Chief True presented the policy document, noting that home testing may have skewed reporting numbers. He stated CDC and DHHS gave some offerings but he noted that something had to be devised at the local level. He described the document as outlining guidelines for the use of protective measures depending on certain situations and certain thresholds. J. Pace noted that the triggers aren't hard triggers that don't automatically implement a change, but directs the Board to help weigh factors as guidance. Chief True stated that he would offer other Town agencies supplies and help each agency to have an understanding of procedure.

At 7:00pm B. Solomon made a motion to adopt this as a selectmen's policy as written. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

- Town Clerk – Sarah Wiggin noted that just over half of dog registrations have come in and she is getting about 20 a day.

Dana DeLotto noted the Library is having an event on May 14th which will be a tomato plant sale on the lawn. She stated that the Library has submitted a permit for the Grange in case of bad weather and discussed parking options and approvals.

At 7:04pm B. Gustafson made a motion to approve the permit for use of the Grange for the tomato sale. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.

J. Pace noted the previous conversations about renovations for the library building and an amended lease. He stated he had conversations with bond attorney and the Town's attorney who is writing a draft lease and is talking to the bond attorney. Once the Board gets the copy of the draft they will review it and talk to the trustees. There was discussion about the lease and the Boards ability to negotiate it.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board discussed an election debrief and review of procedures with the election team consisting of Sarah Wiggin, Benjamin Cole, and Harold Bragg. J. Pace asked the team whether it would be useful to look at unique situations that may need to be codified as Town procedure. Sarah described forms the team used currently. Mr. Cole noted that the State procedures covered most items. Mr. Cole and Mr. Bragg explained that the election team debriefed after each election to review any actions taken and discuss necessary steps moving forward. J. Pace noted that this meeting was not reactionary and this was not to scrutinize any action the election team has taken, but rather to capture institutional wisdom. Mr. Cole felt that that good judgement and leadership would help solve problems to very specific problems. Mr. Bragg described how the moderator, assistant moderator, Town clerk and volunteers worked as a team. J. Pace stated that the Board was offering any assistance that the team may need. Mr. Cole felt that the number of volunteers had been declining and that it would be helpful to try and recruit more for the future. B. Solomon and B. Gustafson discussed with the election team the debriefing process after elections.

J. Pace noted that there is currently one New Hampshire Retirement System reporter, and the Town Hall is looking to have an additional reporter.

At 7:37pm B. Gustafson made a motion to authorize the Chair on behalf of the Board for the Town Clerk to access the retirement system as required. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.

J. Pace read a proclamation thanking the Town Clerk Sarah J. Wiggin for her service for Municipal Clerks week and to recognize the office of professional municipal clerk.

At 7:39pm B. Solomon made a motion to authorize the Chair to sign the proclamation that May 1st to May 7th be Municipal Clerks week. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

J. Pace described a policy written to give Kathy latitude for writing checks to register documents at the Registry of Deeds, and for State background checks.

At 7:41pm B. Solomon made a motion to approve the check writing policy relative to State criminal background checks. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

At 7:42pm B. Solomon made a motion to approve the check writing policy relative to Rockingham Registry of Deeds checks. B. Gustafson seconded.

At 7:43pm B. Gustafson made a motion to accept the intent to cut for Map 9 Lot 13-2. B. Solomon seconded. All voted in favor.

J. Pace noted there were checks that have been refunded for summer camp and asked how the Board wanted to handle refunds. He felt that he was ok processing refunds in the manner they were currently being handled. The Board agreed.

At 7:47pm B. Solomon made a motion to approve the solar exemption for Map 15 Lot 15. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

At 7:48pm B. Solomon made a motion to approve the solar exemption for Map 3 Lot 57. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

At 7:50pm B. Solomon made a motion to approve the solar exemption for Map 13 Lot 11. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

At 7:51pm B. Solomon made a motion to approve the solar exemption for Map 14 Lot 9. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

At 7:52pm B. Solomon made a motion to approve the solar exemption for Map 6 Lot 39-4. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

At 7:53pm B. Solomon made a motion to approve the elderly exemption for Map 15 Lot 9. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

At 7:54pm B. Solomon made a motion to approve the veteran's credit for Map 4 Lot 23. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

J. Pace described the application for a special permit for the state to spray for invasive species at the Town shed. B. Solomon noted that there was concern about where the boundaries were to spray. The Board will review and address at future meetings.

The Board signed for ACH payments for retirement payments.

The Board signed off on bills and payroll.

Skip Heal discussed his interest in the trail committee with the Board. He and B. Gustafson discussed the Conservation Committee and its role in trails.

The Board discussed a form created for use for requests for an additional trash cart.

At 8:05pm B. Solomon made a motion to approve the minutes of April 4th. B. Gustafson seconded. All voted in favor.

At 8:08 B. Gustafson made a motion to adjourn. All voted in favor.

• Next Meeting Dates –May 2, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Clarke