

KENSINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Virtual Meeting due to COVID-19

MONDAY April 20, 2020 – 6:30pm

Minutes – APPROVED MAY 4, 2020

In attendance: Joe Pace, Vanessa Rozier, Bob Solomon

Joe called the meeting order at 6:30pm.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- Police Department – Chief Scott Cain reported as follows:
 - There are currently 2 officers scheduled for each shift. There has been a significant increase in mental health calls in the past week or so. Payroll remains the same, hours have just been adjusted to better serve the community.
 - Chief True has helped the Police Department secure safety equipment and so far, everyone is healthy and well.
- Fire Department – Chief Jon True reported as follows:
 - Calls are down about 18% from last year.
 - EMS Protocols are changing but the department has been staying on top of changes with virtual training and online continuing education classes for fire and EMS.
 - The department has been able to respond to all medicals calls without mutual aid assistance during the pandemic, ensuring the responses are done safely and with proper PPE. This is a great attest to the members of KFR; Chief True is very proud of the team continuing to respond during these challenging times.
 - KFR participated in a recent parade for the area hospital staff showing support of the first responders and receivers. Many have been sewing and donating masks and other PPE, which Chief True has been working to distribute as needed.
 - There have been problems with residents burning brush piles and campfires without permits, despite the online burn permit system. Chief True is working on a PSA for the website and Kensington Connects site relative to this.
- Emergency Management - Chief Jon True reported as follows:
 - Joe as Chairman of the Board, put out an excellent commentary recently. Kensington still stands as one of the few Rockingham County towns that has not had 1 confirmed case from DHS. Keep up the great work!
 - The EOC is in a partially open/enhanced monitoring level. They are maintaining plans, documenting as much as possible, and gathering and disseminating intelligence as needed. They are continuing to get PPE for PD, FD, and Town Hall through various resources.
 - The UV sanitizer was delayed, but has been shipped and is expected by the end of the week.
 - Chief True continues to gather bills related to COVID-19 and is filing them for possible FEMA reimbursement.
 - There have been questions regarding the opening of campgrounds. The current understanding is that if there is a structure on the campsite year-round, access will be permitted.
- Road Manager – David Buxton reported as follows:
 - 3 Contractors for Road Reconstruction have been solicited, and another that was suggested today will be sent a package.
 - Dave is working on addressing storm damage and debris from storms along the roadside. He is planning to get at least 3 bids for this work.
 - There is a beaver issue at the fire pond near Unitil on Drinkwater Rd. The culvert will be cleaned Tuesday morning. Culverts for Wild Pasture Rd, Drinkwater Rd, and Osgood Rd have been marked.
 - There was a brief discussion regarding the fence repair at the Town Park due to the oil truck damage. Dave has spoken with the oil company but hasn't had a call back yet from the fence company. Dave will get in touch with Bruce Cilley to address this.
- Tax Collector- Carlene Wiggin was not present.
- Building Inspector- Norman Giroux was not present.
- Treasurer- Sara Belisle was not present.

- Town Clerk – Carol Beers Witherell reported as follows:
 - The Town Clerks office is addressing most requests by phone or email and is making appointments as needed.
 - Residents are reminded that dog licenses are due by the end of the month and can be done online.
- Recreation Committee- Elaine Bodwell was not present.
- Conservation Commission – Sydnee Goddard was not present.
- Sawyer Kensington Trust- Hez Mercadante reported as follows:
 - The bathrooms will remain closed until the Trust meets on May 6th unless other guidance is issued by the Governor.
 - The Trust approved the additional week for Kensington Summer Camp, meaning the camp could start the week of June 15th. The details are still being worked out and all plan are tentative.
 - There are still extension cords in the park from the Holiday Stroll. Chief True said they could be dropped off at the fire station.

NEW BUSINESS:

School teachers use of the park

- This was request was temporarily withdrawn, no need for discussion.

Tomato Sale for Library

- Susan Gilbert, Library Director said that many people have emailed asking about the heirloom tomato sale. The tomatoes are ready, and the original date planned was May 16th. She asked the Board and Chief True for suggestions on ways to have the sale, suggesting an honor system and signs requesting social distancing. Chief True suggested using the KES back parking lot for added space.

Memorial Day Parade

- The Board and Chief True discussed possible ways to celebrate Memorial Day without a parade. Ideas included a service at the cemetery or town park that was recorded and put online. This will be discussed further at future meetings.

Appointment -William Paskowski –

- Chief Cain would like to do a ceremony for William Paskowski once things are back to normal, but he needs to be appointed as a FT officer. He has been a PT officer for 4 years. **At 7:04pm, Bob made a motion to appoint William Paskowski as a Full-Time police officer retroactive to April 13th. Vanessa seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes. All voted in favor, the motion passes.**

Health Officer Appointment – Bob Solomon

- **At 7:06pm, Vanessa made a motion to appoint Bob Solomon as Health Officer for the Town of Kensington. Joe seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Vanessa voted yes, Bob abstained, Joe voted yes. The motion passes.**

Municipal Pest Services

- Information was provided to the Board by Municipal Pest Services and Justin Adams a representative from the company was at the meeting. Justin summarized the process and explained that the information provided to the Board is a work in progress document. That was if there is spraying or samples collected on property, they know who is collecting. The goal of the program which has been going on in Kensington since 2007, is disease mitigation, particularly EEE and West Nile Virus. as best as possible. There was an ad in local newspapers letting residents know of treatment. Residents also have the ability to have Municipal Pest Services check their properties or opt out. Bob and Kathy will work with Justin to have the document made available to the public on the website.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Assessing Office – Kathleen Felch said there was nothing required from the Board by the Assessing Office.

There was a brief discussion on ants at the Town Hall. Until someone can come into the Town Hall to address the issue, they will use ant cups.

Bills were distributed to the Board ahead of time for review. At 7:19pm, Vanessa made a motion to approve the bills dated April 20, 2020. Bob seconded. **A roll call vote was taken. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes. All voted in favor, the motion passes.**

At 7:20pm, Vanessa made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 6, 2020 meeting. Bob seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes. All voted in favor, the motion passes.

The next meeting will be on May 4, 2020.

At 7:22pm, Vanessa made a motion to enter into Non-Public Session under RSA91A:3, II (I). Bob seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes. All voted in favor, the motion passes.

At 7:52pm, Vanessa made a motion to exit non-public session. Bob seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes. All voted in favor, the motion passes.

At 7:56pm, Vanessa made a motion to adjourn. Bob seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes. All voted in favor, the motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Chelsea Lalime