

KENSINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Virtual Meeting due to COVID-19

MONDAY August 10, 2020 – 6:30pm

Minutes - APPROVED AUGUST 24, 2020

In attendance: Joe Pace, Vanessa Rozier, Bob Solomon

At 5:32pm, Joe opened the meeting.

At 5:33pm, Vanessa made a motion to enter into non-public session under RSA91A:3, II (a). Bob seconded. A roll call vote was taken by Joe. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes; the motion passes. The Board entered into non-public session at 5:33pm.

At 6:23pm, Bob made a motion to exit non-public session. Vanessa seconded. A roll call vote was taken by Joe. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes; the motion passes.

There was a brief recess until 6:32pm, when the public meeting was resumed. At the start of the public meeting, there were 13 participants on the Zoom call.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- Police Department –Chief Scott Cain reported as follows:
 - Chief Cain received an estimate for the front door and new key fob system in the amount of \$1,337.56 from Granite State Security and Surveillance, LLC. This was a budgeted expense. **At 6:34pm, Vanessa made a motion to approve the expenditure for the new door and key fob system in amount of \$1,337.56. Bob seconded. A roll call vote was taken by Joe. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes; the motion passes.**
 - At the end of the month, the PD will be back to full staff.
- Fire Department – Chief Jon True reported as follows:
 - The storm last week brought down considerable branches and some power lines. There were reported wind gusts upward of 90 mph for a short period of time, but there were no injuries and only a few “wires down” calls.
 - There will be a large training tomorrow night at Kensington Fire with other departments.
 - The community is reminded that there is currently a drought and heat wave. Be careful with outside fires as embers can travel in a gust of wind and start a woods fire, and they can also burn deep into the ground. Due to less water for all firefighting, the department has made plans in anticipation of reduced firefighting supplies. The department has suspended washing apparatus and watering until the drought is reduced.
 - Chief True is requesting to purchase a used 2014 Ford Explorer with 44,539 miles for \$15,784.00 for use as a Chief’s vehicle. It would still need to be outfitted at a cost of approximately \$2,500.00. Chief True explained where the funds would come from. **At 6:41pm, Vanessa made a motion to approve up to \$18,250.00 for the purchase and outfitting of a 2014 Ford Explorer. Bob seconded. A roll call vote was taken by Joe. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes; the motion passes.**
 - The Board reviewed a permit fee proposal for all Fire Department Fees. Chief True explained that this was created based on research of other towns and evaluation of the work involved in each permit. There will be a public hearing on the permit fee schedule in September.
- Emergency Management - Chief Jon True reported as follows:
 - FEMA grant 1 has been submitted
 - GOFERR grant 1 has been submitted
 - Pre-purchased some PPE for school, and additional resources for other departments in Town.
 - Opened Town Offices last Monday and there are adequate supplies on hand. So far it seems to have gone okay. The plan for the Selectman’s Meeting Room has not been completed yet. Chief True would like input from additional Boards. Chief True continues to reach out to all branches of Town to make sure plans are in place, being followed and future planning is continuing.
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- Chief True is still waiting to hear back on some internet and hardware questions from Comcast for two separate lines. Consolidated Communications is also being considered as an option.
- The three sprayers for decontamination use have arrived and the borrowed SAU #16 equipment has been returned.
- The electronic sign has been ordered at a cost of \$16,900. The expected delivery is approximately 10-14 days. Dave was willing to contribute funds toward the sign from his sign budget, however Chief True explained that there is a grant that he anticipates using and Dave's offer is appreciated but not necessary.
- There have been initial planning meetings with surrounding towns for place of distribution for vaccine for the public. Bob will become involved as the Health Officer when the time comes.
- There have been team meetings with the Election Committee to plan for the upcoming elections. Most equipment needed has already been secured.
- A reminder to the public to keep an eye on neighbors and family due to the heat forecasted.
- Road Manager – David Buxton reported as follows:
 - Road reconstruction is going very smoothly and provided a status update to the Board.
 - The culvert on Wild Pasture will be addressed tomorrow.
 - There are many more dead trees along the roads in town than expected. David will get quotes to have them addressed.
- Tax Collector- Carlene Wiggin had nothing to report.
- Building Inspector- Norman Giroux had nothing to report.
- Treasurer- Sara Belisle was not present.
- Town Clerk – Carol Beers Witherell reported as follows:
 - There are new hours this week for the Town Clerk's office that are posted on the Town website. Appointments can be made for other days if necessary.
 - A reminder to residents that you must carefully follow absentee ballot instructions when returning absentee ballots. Name and address should be written out on the outside envelope. Address labels are not acceptable as an alternative.
- Recreation Committee was not present.
- Conservation Commission was not present.
- Sawyer Kensington Trust- Hez Mercadante had nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budgeting and Staffing of Town Hall

- No discussion.

Dog Violations discussion

- The Board discussed general requests for leniency for fines due to nonpayment and nonregistration of dogs. After some investigation, the Board has determined that there is no authority for the Board to make any changes due to state statute.

Election staffing and information

- No additional discussion.

Seabrook Intent to Excavate

- Vanessa has been in contact with the DES Groundwater and Hazardous Waste Departments. There was no apparent jurisdiction to deny the permit due to groundwater concerns, but it was suggested that the Hazardous Waste Department also be contacted. The Hazardous Waste Department advised that the area where lead was shot into should not be excavated and used in other areas because it needs to be mitigated or tracked. Based on that information, Vanessa recommends denying the permit. Bob and Joe agreed. **At 7:09pm, Vanessa made a motion to deny the Intent to Excavate for the Town of Seabrook, Map 3 Lot 14. Bob seconded. A roll call vote was taken by Joe. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes; the motion passes.**

OTHER BUSINESS:

- PSNH Abatement

- The Board briefly discussed the abatement request, which Avitar recommended by denied. **At 7:13pm, Vanessa made a motion to deny the abatement for Map 19 Lot 2. Bob seconded. A roll call vote was taken by Joe. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes; the motion passes.**
- Intent to Cut for Town Property- Hodges
 - The Board reviewed the Intent to Cut request for Hodges Conservation land. This request is for the forest management plan for the conservation land. **At 7:15pm, Vanessa made a motion to approve the Intent to Cut for Hodges property off of Stumpfield Road. Bob seconded. A roll call vote was taken by Joe. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes; the motion passes.**

There was a brief discussion regarding a bench donation inquiry for Sawyer Park. Hez explained that in the past, the Trust has not wanted Sawyer Park to become a memorial park due to the land being donated. The request would need to go to the Trust for review and decision.

The Planning Board had requested to send an application to legal for further review. The Board has no objection to the Planning Board availing themselves to town counsel.

At 7:22pm, Bob made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 27, 2020 public meeting. Vanessa seconded. A roll call vote was taken by Joe. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes; the motion passes.

At 7:23pm, Vanessa made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 27, 2020 non-public meeting. Bob seconded. A roll call vote was taken by Joe. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes; the motion passes.

The public is reminded that signage on private property is private property and its removal, unless by the owner, is theft. The Board is aware of signs being taken from private property and signs being placed in public property and the public is encouraged to act maturely.

The next meeting will be on August 24, 2020.

At 7:25pm, Vanessa made a motion to adjourn. Bob seconded. A roll call vote was taken by Joe. Vanessa voted yes, Bob voted yes, Joe voted yes; the motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Chelsea Lalime