

**TOWN OF KENSINGTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Kensington Town Hall
95 Amesbury Road
Kensington, NH 03833
MONDAY
October 2, 2023
MINUTES-APPROVED 10-16-23
6:30PM**

The chair opened the meeting at 6:30pm and led all in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

In attendance: Joe Pace (chairperson), Bob Gustafson, Bob Solomon, and Kathy Felch (Town Administrator)

Public Hearing to accept donations for Grange Hall in the amount of \$5900.

- J. Pace opened the public hearing to accept the donations for the Grange Hall. He stated that they come from multiple sources that will go toward insulation and other things for the Grange.

MOTION: B. Gustafson made a motion to accept donations in the amount of \$4900 and \$1000, for a total of \$5900. B. Solomon seconded. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

- J. Pace closed the public hearing at 6:33pm

AGENDA:

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- Police Department –Chief Scott Cain –
 - Chief Cain asked the board to hire a part time detective (Addendum 1). He stated that the part time detective would assist with details and part time shifts.
 - J. Pace stated that almost \$6000 remains unexpended for the rest of the year.

MOTION: B. Gustafson made a motion to allow the police department to hire Michael Munch as a part-time detective in the town of Kensington. B. Solomon seconded. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

- K. Felch asked if the board would entertain an appointment to the Conservation Commission.

MOTION: B. Gustafson made a motion to appoint Sam Douglas to the Conservation Commission for a term to expire in April 2026. B. Solomon seconded. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

- Fire Department – Chief Jon True -
- Emergency Management - Chief Jon True –
- Road Manager – Matthew Armstrong-
 - M. Armstrong discussed the contract for Bell and Flynn LLC for paving services for \$245, 825

Addendum 2.

MOTION: B. Gustafson motioned for the board to allow the chair to sign. B. Solomon seconded. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

- M. Armstong discussed the New Hampshire Public Works mutual Aid Agreement (Addendum 3).
- J. pace opined that it's wise to pursue this program, as the program clarifies reimbursement expenses in the event the town calls upon neighboring communities for assistance.

MOTION: B. Gustafson made a motion to allow the road manager and fire chief to work together to apply to the Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement program. B. Solomon seconded. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

- Building Inspector- Gino Rignoli-
 - G. Rignoli discussed the ongoing issues with the unapproved ADU at 21 Amesbury Rd. He stated he's been getting emails complaining about the issue. He stated that he's talked to the planning board, but that eventually the issue might come to the Select Board.
 - B. Solomon stated that the issue has already been before the Select Board.
 - J. Pace stated that the building inspector is the code enforcement officer, and that either through action or inaction, the resident has the right to appeal to the selectboard.
 - G. Rignoli stated that he was there just to keep the board up to date on the situation.
 - G. Rignoli made comments on the contradictory language in the town Zoning Ordinance as it pertains to the building permit process. He will discuss the issue with the Planning Board at their next meeting.
- Other Department Heads-
 - Energy Committee – Zeke Schmois
 - Z. Schmois discussed the community power initiative (Addendum 4). He presented the town of Exeter's community power brochure available to the public (Addendums 5).
 - The board discussed the program. J. Pace commented on the neighboring towns that have adopted the program and gave positive feedback.
 - J. Pace discussed options for language on a potential warrant article for the 2024 town meeting.
 - J. Pace stated that the Energy Committee should move forward with creating a Kensington Power Committee with the Energy Committee to serve as that committee.
 - No motions or decisions were made on this agenda item during the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- SOLAR EXEMPTION FOR MAP 9 LOT 2-1
 - K. Felch stated that the solar is not on the tax card yet.
- SIGN MS-1-VALUATIONS
 - The board discussed the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration's Summary Inventory of Valuation (Addendum 6).
 - J. Pace noted a 67% increase in valuations.
 - J. Pace and K. Felch discussed the report, and J. Pace speculated that the new tax rate would be between \$12-\$13 per \$1000.
 - The board signed the MS-1.

- APPOINTMENT FOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION – SAM DOUGLASS EXP. 4/2026
 - See motion in “Department Heads” section of the agenda.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Bills, Payroll and Mail
 - K. Felch presented bills and payroll for the chair to sign.
- **Next Meeting Date:** The board discussed the meeting schedule though the remainder of the year - October 16, October 30, November 13, November 27, December 11, and December 18.
- The board discussed department budget meetings and agreed to set October 23, 24, and 25 (if needed), 2023 to meet with department heads.
- Adjournment

MOTION: B. Gustafson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. B. Solomon seconded. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Owen M. Corcoran
Land Use Administrative Assistant

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APPOINTMENTS: If you do have something that you would like to discuss with the Board, it is best to request being on the agenda of a meeting and provide details of the subject, so the Board can prepare in advance.