

**TOWN OF KENSINGTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Kensington Town Hall
95 Amesbury Road
Kensington, NH 03833
MONDAY
October 16, 2023
MINUTES – APPROVED 11-06-23
6:30PM**

The Chairperson 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 Kathleen Felch (Town Administrator)

Public Comment: None

AGENDA:

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- Fire Department – Chief Jon True –
 - The ambulance is going to have a power board stretcher installed. It will be back in service on the 26th or 27th.
- Emergency Management - Chief Jon True –
 - The Seabrook Station drill is Wednesday, October 18th.
- Road Manager – Matthew Armstrong-
 - Matrix Excavation successfully installed a culvert on Osgood Rd.
 - Bell and Flynn will tentatively be finished with paving and the road shoulders at the end of the week. M. Armstrong acknowledged the difficulty residents with gravel driveways and the excessive lift of pavement, but that it would be fixed with the completion of the shoulders.
 - Bids for winter salt:
 - Morton Salt: \$69 per pound
 - Eastern Minerals: \$71 per pound
 - M. Armstrong recommended that the board approve the Morton Salt bid.

MOTION: B. Gustafson motioned to approve the bid from Morton Salt for \$69 per pound. B. Solomon seconded. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

- Creation of the Kensington Community Power Committee
 - Zeke Schmois of the Energy Committee presented their plan to form a Community Power Committee. Z. Schmois stated that the Energy Committee is using Exeter's Community Power Committee plan and structure as a template (Addendum 1).
 - Z. Schmois explained that once the committee is approved, the Energy Committee will meet to decide which company the Community Power Committee will work with, work out legal aspects, and prepare for the results of the 2024 town meeting.
 - J. Pace discussed the potential warrant article and made suggestions about the warrant article language.
 - The board discussed the process for establishment and implementation of the Community Power Committee. J. Pace stated that his understanding of the process is that the plan and structure of the Community Power Committee can be formulated, and if voters approve the establishment of the Community Power Committee, the structure will be in place already.
 - J. Pace asked about potential financial cost before the 2024 town meeting. Z. Schmois explained that there would be no financial commitments before the 2024 town meeting, and that the company they are working with understands that work might be completed in setting up the new committee, and there is a chance that voters do not approve the establishment of the Community Power Committee.
 - Z. Schmois stated that in the meantime, the Energy Committee will be doing community outreach to educate voters on the intent of the Community Power Committee.
 - J. Pace stated that he feels the charge for the Community Power Committee should be as specific as possible, as the committee will be ad hoc. The board further discussed the warrant article language, as well as adopting Exeter's language in the charge to their Community Power Committee.
 - Z. Schmois stated that there will initially be 2 members of the Kensington Community Power Committee.

MOTION: B. Gustafson motioned to create the Kensington Community Power Committee, with language to be finalized that is materially compliant with the charge to the committee from Exeter. B. Solomon seconded. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

MOTION: B. Gustafson motioned to appoint Marianne "Charlie" Horn and Ziek Shmois as the initial members of the Community Power Committee. B. Solomon seconded. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

MOTION: B. Gustafson motioned to appoint Bartlett Wu and Steve Snyderman as members of the Energy Committee. B. Solomon seconded. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

- J. Pace reminded the members of the Community Power Committee of New Hampshire's open meetings and right to know laws governing quorums of a public body.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Town Administrator:

Kathleen Felch-

- Rental of the Town Hall
 - K. Felch received a request for a small gathering for a funeral that the deceased had requested be held at the town hall on November 25, 2023.

MOTION: B. Gustafson motioned to approve the request to rent the town hall on November 25, 2023.

- K. Felch presented the new contract for Avitar Associates.

MOTION: B. Gustafson motioned to accept the Avitar contract for the next 5 years for \$130,648 for the 5-year term. B. Solomon seconded. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

- Approval of Board Minutes - October 02, 2023

MOTION: B. Gustafson motioned to approve the minutes of October 2, 2023. B. Solomon seconded. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

- **Next Meeting Date – OCTOBER 30, 2023**
November 13 and November 27
December 11 and December 18- Public hearing for encumbered funds

- Adjournment

MOTION: B. Gustafson motioned to adjourn. B. Solomon seconded. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions. Meeting adjourned at 7:26pm.

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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.