

Meeting of the Board of Selectmen
June 25, 2020
Minutes

(Meeting held by video conference via Zoom)

Attending: Gary Haley, Jim Newman, Jay Smalley, Randhi Belain, Paul Manning. Jeffrey Madison (Town Administrator) Absent: Julianne Vanderhoop,

Minutes were deferred until a future meeting

Change in Officers
(Board elects Jim Newman as Chairman, Gary Haley Vice Chair)

The Board briefly discussed election of new officers for their Board. Following the discussion Gary nominated Jim Newman as Chairman, Jim in turn nominated Gary as Vice-Chairman. The vote to approve nominations was unanimous.

Forgiveness of Rent
(Rent at Cliffs and Menemsha were forgiven for 2020 season)

Board discussed the issue of rents for the 2020 season at the Cliffs and Menemsha. Town Administrator brought up that he had heard from Berta Welch that perhaps the Town should consider collection of some reduced payment rather than total forgiveness. Jim Newman said that he supported total forgiveness with the proviso that the Tribe pass along forgiveness to its tenants. A motion was presented that "All rents at the Cliff Lots and Menemsha Channel be forgiven for the 2020 season for all tenants. Should the Tribe not agree to forgo rents to its tenants at the Cliffs then all rent would from the Tribe would become due and payable. Further all tenants are to provide proof of insurance as required by their leases." The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Report of Rest Rooms
(Board voted to hire cleaning firm)

Jay reported that he had found a company willing to provide cleaning services at the restrooms. They will provide an attendant at the restrooms from 9am – 5pm each day. Town Administrator informed Board that porta-potties were placed at the rest rooms where they will remain until remainder of repairs are conducted.

Hiring Freeze
(Board institutes a Hiring Freeze until further notice)

The Board discussed budgetary constraints on the FY 21 resulting from Corona virus. Gary made a motion that the Board adopt a hiring freeze on all town departments commencing immediately until further notice. Jim seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Chief of Police Concerns

(Vote to place no parking signs on W. Basin Road)

Chief Belain brought parking issues at W. Basin Road and Clay Pit Road before the Select Board. Following discussion the Board voted to post No Parking signs at the “bend in the road” area of W. Basin and instructed the Town Administrator to inform Clay Pit Road Assn. of proper action to prevent unauthorized parking along the sides of their access road.

The Chief also raised the issue of Town Employees getting step increases when the police were not. He indicated that the issue would likely be raised by his officers. He felt that it was “poor policy” on the part of the Town and expressed the need for better communication to avoid feelings that his officers were singled out. No formal action was taken.

The Chief spoke of the July 4 parade down Old South Road that this year will consist of residents riding in their vehicles to maintain social distancing.

Gary mentioned the need for signs warning of ticks at the Cliffs and beach paths.

- Meeting was adjourned -