



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 1, 2020
7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Present: Joan Gardner, Jon Benson, Dean Charter, Peter J. Berry, David Martin, Town Manager
John S. Mangiaratti

Absent: None

Ms. Gardner called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM via a virtual meeting with no Board members in physical attendance and broadcasted via Zoom.us virtual meeting platform.

I. Regular Business

1. Citizen Concerns

Terra Friedrichs, West Acton, thanked everyone who worked on her campaign. Concerned about Town Meeting and suggests an outdoor location, suggests putting budget item first and everything else after, supports the grant program

2. Chair Update/Town Manager Update

Mr. Mangiaratti acknowledged the recent death of George Floyd in Minnesota and supports the peaceful demonstrations in Acton and throughout the country. He provided the following updates:

- The Governor announced restaurants will be open for outside dining next week, camps and daycares will open in phase 2. ,
- In collaboration with Boxborough to have a mask distribution day on Saturday 9-12 at the Boxborough Regency parking lot.
- Rental assistance program opened today, and we have already received 25 inquiries. Town election and special election for state representative tomorrow,
- Polls are open from 7 AM – 8 PM at RJ Grey Junior High School for the town and special state elections

Mr. Benson suggests continuing to meet weekly through Town Meeting.

II. New/Special Business

3. 7:10 PM SPSP #10/28/19-475, 8 Post Office Square

Applicant has requested to reschedule to July 20, 2020 at 7:10 PM

Louise Gerhardt, abutter, commented that the proposal violates a deed restriction.

Applicant has requested several continuances over 7 months. **Mr. Benson moves to continue to July 20, 2020 with no further continuances allowed, Mr. Martin seconds.**

Mr. Charter called roll:

Mr. Berry – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

MS. Garder – aye



Mr. Charter – aye
The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.

4. Update and Discussion Regarding COVID-19 Pandemic

Mr. Mangiaratti updated the Board regarding the CARES Act funding application by this Friday and a motion of the Board for the Chair to sign. **Mr. Benson moves to authorize the Chair to sign the application for the CARES Act funding towards the rental assistant program, the small business program, and other COVID-19 related expenses, Mr. Martin seconds. Mr. Charter called roll:**

Mr. Berry – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

Mr. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.

5. Regional Housing Services Office Intermunicipal Agreement Extension Request

RHSO requested a 3 month extension. **Mr. Benson moves to extend the Regional Housing Services contract for additional 3 months, Mr. Martin seconds. Mr. Charter called roll:**

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Berry - aye

Mr. Martin – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.

6. Small Business Grant Program

Applications for the COVID-19 Small Business Grant Program are now available. The Selectmen allocated \$100K from federal CARES moneys made available to Acton by the Commonwealth to fund the program. Grants will be up to a maximum of \$4,000 for qualifying Acton businesses and may be used for employee payroll costs and rent as well as other fixed costs of doing business. The Town has been reaching out to Acton businesses to inform them of the grant opportunity. Applications are due on June 15.

7. Discuss a Regional Microenterprise CDBG-CV Grant Program

A potential grant opportunity was discussed for businesses with under 5 employees. As part of the process to apply for the grant funding the town must hold a public hearing to allow for public comment. Will consider non-profit businesses as well as commercial. We would apply as lead community along with Boxborough, Littleton, Maynard, and Westford and funding would be through DHCD if approved.

8. Discuss Intermunicipal Agreement for Cross Town Connect



Mr. Mangiaratti updated the Board of the future of Cross Town Connect and any changes that may be occurring in the future. Ms. Gardner offered to be the Selectmen representative to work with Mr. Mangiaratti on the CTC future.

9. Board to Approve the Reserved Commuter Parking Rate Modification

After suspending commuter payments for the reserved space parking at the 1 Maple St, 19-21 Maple Street and Jones Field lots during the Commonwealth's Stay at Home Advisory that ended on May 18, the Selectmen voted to resume monthly payments at a 50% rate (\$87.50 for the Maple Street lots and \$50 for Jones Field) commencing June 1. Starting in the first month after Phase 3 of the re-opening begins (which includes the commuter rail operating a modified full schedule) full monthly reserved space parking rates will resume. **Mr. Martin moves charge 50% of normal reserve parking space price in the commuter parking lots starting June 1 through beginning month of the Governor's phase 3 re-opening step, Mr. Charter seconds. Mr. Charter called roll: Mr. Berry – aye
Mr. Benson – are
Mr. Martin – aye
Ms. Gardner – aye
Mr. Charter – aye
The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries**

10. Review June 29, 2020 Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Citizen petitioner John Durkin spoke to the Board regarding his article for a zoning change for 32 Wetherbee Street, currently zoned residential. Board agrees to continue to bring the citizen petition article to Town Meeting. Mr. Mangiaratti suggested the Board take position on the article.
Terra Friedrichs, West Acton, requested to know if the petitioner intends to allow housing, or what the intent is if there will be building on the property, how many housing units would be allowed.

III. **Consent Items**

**Mr. Berry moves to approve consent items 11-14, Mr. Benson seconds. Mr. Charter called roll:
Mr. Berry – aye
Mr. Benson – aye
Mr. Martin – aye
Ms. Gardner – aye
Mr. Charter – aye
The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.**

**Mr. Benson motions to adjourn, Mr. Charter seconds. Mr. Charter called roll:
Mr. Berry - aye
Mr. Benson - aye
Mr. Martin – aye**



Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries, meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

- Agenda, June 1, 2020
- Request for Extension Agreement
- Regional Housing Service Office Intermunicipal Agreement Extension Request
- Reserved Parking Rate Modification Draft Memo
- Draft Town Meeting Warrant, June 29, 2020
- Meeting Minutes, May 4, 2020
- Accept Gift, Council on Aging Memo from Almeida and Carlson Insurance, May 27, 2020
- Accept Gift, Council on Aging from Paula and John Morabito, May 27, 2020
- Accept Gift, Council on Aging from Dorothy Holtzman, Fr. Anthony Carbone, Tim Carbone and Pete Carbone, May 27, 2020