



## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Meeting Minutes  
Friday, April 2, 2020  
9:00 AM  
Virtual Meeting

**Present:** Joan Gardner, Jon Benson, Dean Charter, Peter J. Berry, David Martin, Town Manager  
John S. Mangiaratti, Town Counsel Nina Pickering-Cook

**Absent:** None

Mr. Benson called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM via a virtual meeting with no Board members in physical attendance and broadcasted via Zoom.us virtual meeting platform. All votes made by the Board were completed by utilizing this platform, including teleconferencing comments from attending citizens of Acton and elsewhere regarding content that may be considered by the Board for official votes in the subject matter.

### I. New/Special Business

#### 1. Continue Discussion on COVID-19 and Updates

Mr. Benson commented that the BOH will take up an item again on Monday to close the trails on conservations land based on non-compliance with social distancing guidelines.

Ms. Gardner commented the Board agreed at the last meeting the rail trail to remain open. Mr. Martin commented that only one member of the Board of Health wanted to close all trails at the last meeting and that he did not see any violations in social distancing while on trails recently. Mr. Benson suggested that the Board comment regarding closing the conservation land trails. Other members of the Board agreed to not close the conservation trails. Mr. Mangiaratti reported to the Board that he has not received any concerns from the regarding social distancing violations at Conservatoin areas and that Recreation has taken measures to reduce future violations at NARA by removing picnic tables and closing off some of the parking lots. **Mr. Berry moves to notify the Board of Health that the Board of Selectmen is opposed to closing the bike trails and conservation trails, Ms. Gardner seconds. Mr. Charter called roll:**

**Mr. Benson – aye**

**Mr. Martin – aye**

**Mr. Berry – aye**

**Ms. Gardner – aye**

**Mr. Charter – aye**

**The motion carries.**

AML Trustees requested to hold a meeting. **Ms. Gardner moves to approve the AML Trustees to meet, Mr. Charter seconds. Mr. Charter wishes to amend the motion to include the ABCC. Mr. Charter called roll:**



**Mr. Martin – aye**  
**Ms. Gardner – aye**  
**Mr. Berry – aye**  
**Mr. Benson – aye**  
**Mr. Charter – aye**  
**The motion carries**

Mr. Martin suggested that all meetings be conducted through the town zoom account to make sure residents can connect to the meetings in consistent fashion as free Zoom accounts don't allow full access and limit number of participants. **Mr Martin moves to require that all boards and committees meeting virtually using the town zoom account, Ms. Gardner seconds. Mr. Charter called roll:**

**Mr. Martin – aye**  
**Ms. Gardner – aye**  
**Mr. Berry – aye**  
**Mr. Benson – aye**  
**Mr. charter – aye**  
**The motion carries.**

Mr. Mangiaratti requests that in order to assist the IT Department, it would be helpful to not have multiple meetings occurring at the same time, on the same night.

Mr. Mangiaratti notified the Board that the reserved commuter parking lots have been empty due to people working at home. Staff is recommending that the Board consider providing relief to individuals paying for reserved commuter parking spots during the weeks business closures have been in effect since March 24<sup>th</sup> to May 4<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Gardner suggests that should temporarily suspend the charging of reserved parking fees.. Mr. Martin suggested suspending the reserved space parking fees during the period of the Governor's order for closure of non-essential businesses to be until May 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Mr. Berry moves to suspend parking fees during the period of the Governor's order, Ms. Gardner seconds. Mr. Charter called roll:**

**Mr. Martin – aye**  
**Ms. Gardner – aye**  
**Mr. Bery – aye**  
**Mr. Benson – aye**  
**Mr. Charter- aye**  
**The motion carries.**

Mr. Berry commented that there are currently pending bills being considered by the Governor's regarding delaying real estate tax due dates, bringing back retirees such as Dept. Chief Vanderhoof, and allowing take out beer and wine with restaurants.

Mr. Berry was concerned if there has been a shortfall in payments coming in to pay the bills through June 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Mangiaratti has not seen any shortfall currently. Ms. Pickering-Cook commented that her team is waiting on the Governor's signature on the bills and will update the Board in a memo when signed.



**At 9:43 AM, Mr. Benson made a motion to enter into executive session to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property located at 90 School Street, 4 piper Lane, 4 piper Lane Rear, and 6 Piper Lane, Acton MA (Map H3-A parcels 3, 3-1, 3-2, and 17) under purpose 6, as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiation position of the Board of Selectmen. The Board will reconvene in open session only to adjourn. Ms. Gardner moved and Mr. Martin seconded. Mr.**

**Charter called roll:**

**Ms. Gardner – aye**

**Mr. Martin – aye**

**Mr. Berry – aye**

**Mr. Benson – aye**

**Mr. Charter - aye**

#### **Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting**

- Agenda, April 2, 2020