

Plympton Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 16, 2020

Zoom Video Teleconferencing

The meeting was called to order by Christine Joy at 5:30PM. In attendance: Christine Joy, Mark Russo, John Traynor, Elizabeth Dennehy.

Voted: to go into Executive Session for the following purpose:
M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a) Purpose 2: To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel regarding Interim Police Chief and regarding proposal for carry over of time due to COVID-19 for Town Admin, Treasurer/Collector and Fire Chief.

Motion Christine Joy second John Traynor.

Roll call vote: Mr. Traynor yes; Mr. Russo yes; Mrs. Joy yes.

The open meeting session opened at 5:50.

In attendance:

Board of Selectmen (BOS): Christine M. Joy (CJ), Mark E. Russo (MR), John A. Traynor Jr. (JT), Plympton School Committee Chairman Jon Wilhelmsen (JW), Board of Health Chairman Art Morin (AM), and Town Administrator: Elizabeth Dennehy (TA).

A participant added to the call was a representative of the Plympton-Halifax Express.

The Town Administrator indicated the first item of business would be a request by the Treasurer / Tax Collector to waive interest on overdue tax payments received after May 1st. through June 30th. Given the emergency regulations requesting residents to stay home it was felt that this was a reasonable request.

Motion was made by CJ, and seconded by JT, to waive interest on overdue tax payments received after May 1st. through June 29, 2020.

Vote 3-0

TA indicated that the Plympton Fire and Police participated in a drive by parade at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital to show support for all the BID health providers and staff.

TA discussed the fogging that is being done at the Police Station, Townhouse and Fire Station to eliminate any potential COVID-19 virus. The library will be done at a future time prior to opening.

TA outlined the work Council on Aging Director Joy Marble has been doing, in conjunction with the Fire Department and Woodlands Staff, to ensure meals are provided to the Woodland residents in a safe and secure environment. TA expressed a strong approval of the effort Joy has been displaying in her role through this emergency.

TA and AM discussed the new protocol for ensuring the Transfer Station is operated in a safe and secure manner for residents. It was indicated that the Town of Hanson has loaned Plympton an electronic message board that will be used at the transfer station to display hours of operation.

AM indicated that the Board of Health was the recipient of a \$4,000 grant given by the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards (MAHB) and that an additional MAHB grant will be forthcoming.

A discussion of construction permitting was initiated with MR requesting the Board of Health try to be as flexible as possible to alleviate long lead times in inspections. AM outlined the constraints placed on the Board by the Coronavirus emergency. During the discussion AM indicated that the Board has a new Health Agent, Kevin Forgue, who is also the Health Agent in Carver.

Plympton School Committee Chairman Jon Wilhelmsen gave an update on the issues associated with online learning due to the Covid-19 restrictions. The School Committee is doing a district wide survey of all parents and educators to try to better understand what works and doesn't work, as online learning may be the norm for some time into the future. He also discussed the many social issues with ensuring that all students get an equal education experience.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted
John Traynor, Clerk

