

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES
Open Session
Wednesday, May 6, 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.

Open Session Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM

In Attendance:

Board of Selectmen (BOS): Christine M. Joy (CJ), Mark E. Russo (MR), John A. Traynor, Jr. (JT), Town Administrator: Elizabeth Dennehy (TA) and Selectmen's Assistant: Briggette Martins

Participants added to the call: Jon Wilhelmsen of the Plympton School Committee, Nate Sides and Marilyn Browne of the Plympton Finance Committee.

Town Administrator updates: TA gave an update on status of the COVID-19 stay at home advisory until May 18th given by Governor Baker. Town House employees are continuing working from remotely from home with some departments working on scheduled days approved by the Town Administrator. TA is continuing to have weekly teleconferences with Town House staff. The next call is scheduled for May 7th. Town House offices will be having structural changes made to secure the safety of the employees for when they return. TA and JT met with Deb Batson to discuss the process and requirements needed for the reopening of the Library. The Highway Department has resumed back to regular hours and mowing has started at the cemetery, Town Green, Town House and other town owned properties. TA is working on the reimbursement process for the COVID associated expenditures the town has incurred from the county once a plan is in place. The expenses have been coded as emergency and will submitted to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) for reimbursement.

Memorial Day: The BOS discussed the postponement of this year's Memorial Day Commemoration event with the possibility of rain dates being added. The commemoration will be held a tentatively on Veterans Day, November 11th with

rain dates added. Vote: CJ made motion to approve the tentative date of November 11th for the Memorial Day Commemoration with rain dates added. Seconded JT. 3/0.

Hazardous Tree: The BOS has determined the tree on the Town Green should be removed and the stump to be grinded. The Plympton Tree Warden Bill Hayes will be notified. Vote: MR made motion to approve the removal of the hazardous tree located on the Town Green with the condition that the stump is to be grinded. Seconded, CJ. 3/0.

Ring Road: The request from Next Sun Energy to perform an underground electrical crossing on Ring Road has been placed on hold for a future date due to meeting related to COVID and will be discussed. This will be added to the May 6th agenda for further discussion

Minutes will be held for the 5/13/20 agenda.

Warrant Article to Repair Roof: The roof at the Town Barn is in need of a roof repair. Quotes have been received ranging from \$50K not including insulation to \$100K including insulation and removal of excess debris. This will require to open the ATM to submit an emergency vote to submit the article. Vote: CJ made motion to open the ATM Warrant and submit the warrant article to repair the roof at the Town Barn. Seconded JT. 3/0. Vote: CJ made motion to close the ATM Warrant. Seconded JT. 3/0.

Lunch Program: Jon Wilhelmsen informed the BOS that the reduced lunch program for students has been expanded. Lunch will now be offered to students and families that are in need during these difficult times.

Budget Discussions: Jon Wilhelmsen of the Plympton School Committee, Nate Sides and Marilyn Browne of the Finance Committee, TA, and BOS discussed the options and recommendations for the upcoming Town Meeting and FY21 budget. Discussions of the 1.6 Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) set by the Federal Government and voted for approval by Wage & Personnel, will be discussed at the next Finance Committee meeting on May 13th. The COLA will be applied across the board to employees effective July 1, 2020 with no merit increases at this time. Health insurance will have a 2% increase effective July 1st. The FY20 budget lines and the actual expenditures for the year to date will be reviewed to see if FY21 can be reduced to help with the budget challenges the town is facing. BOS will vote

the submitted recommendations at a future joint meeting with the Finance Committee.

The BOS would like the Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting Warrants completed and available by June 1st for the public to review.

Open Session Minutes will be held for the 5/13/20 agenda.

6:55 p.m. Motion to adjourn BOS meeting by CJ. Seconded JT. Vote: 3/0

Respectfully Submitted,
Brigette Martins