

Chilmark Board of Selectmen September 3, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Remote participation: Selectmen: Chairman Bill Rossi, James Malkin and Warren Doty. Others: Tim Carroll, Ann Wallace, Tri-Town Ambulance Chief Ben Retmier, Clark Goff, Fire Chief Jeremy Bradshaw, Judith Flanders, June Manning, Kathryn_, Margaret Maida, Marina Lent, Nancy Grundman, Noah Asimow, Peter Cook, Peter Neilly, Ellen Biskis, Kestutis Biskis, Police Chief Jonathan Klaren, Ben Birnbach, Rob Doyle, Rob Hannemann, Susan Mottau, Gary Mottau, Rich Saltzberg, Diana DeBlase. (28 participants some were not identified but did not speak)

At 5:00 PM Chairman Rossi called meeting to order. Chairman Rossi said we needed to reschedule of meeting from Tuesday due to poor Wi-Fi connection. Chairman Rossi said we have much better service tonight.

Minutes:

Selectmen's meeting of 3/3/2020 draft minutes were reviewed. Mr. Doty moved to approve minutes as written. Mr. Malkin seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Selectmen's meeting 7/15/2020 draft minutes were reviewed. Mr. Doty moved to approve minutes as written. Mr. Malkin seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Selectmen's meeting 8/18/2020 draft minutes were reviewed. Mr. Doty moved to approve minutes as written. Mr. Malkin seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Budget schedule FY2022:

Mr. Doty said looking at month to month now and it is hard to plan this far out but it looks ok. Mr. Doty asked if the Selectmen and Finance Committee would be getting the 2022 proposed budget books remotely. Mr. Carroll said we have scheduled a financial team meeting 9/8/2020 (Town Administrator, Treasurer, Accountant and Tax Collector to get a picture of September finances for planning.

There was some discussion about Zoom meetings and to revisit a vote for remote participation. Mr. Malkin asked if the Chairman of the FinCom had any comments about the schedule proposed by Mr. Carroll. FinCom Chairman Rob Hannemann said the proposed FY22 budget hearing calendar looked fine.

Appointment- temporary Assistant to the Town Accountant:

Mr. Carroll said our Town Accountant's son Kestutis Biskis is willing to step into the vacated position to cover till a permanent assistant can be appointed. Chairman Rossi said he was happy to have Kestutis on board. Mr. Doty asked how this will fit with his school program. Ms. Biskis (His Mother) said he will be attending school remotely till Nov 10 and then we can review the situation in the future.

Mr. Malkin moved to appoint Kestutis Biskis as the temporary Assistant to the Town Accountant. Mr. Doty seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Appointment -Deputy Warden for Chilmark polling place – Ann Wallace:

Mr. Carroll requested Selectmen appointment of Ann Wallace. Mr. Malkin moved to appoint Ann Wallace as Deputy Warden. Mr. Doty seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Ms. Wallace spoke about the September 1 State Primary and how well organized it was run by Jennifer Christy the Town Clerk and all of the Chilmark community that was involved.

COVID 19 Updates:

Health Department: Marina Lent said she and the Board of Health have been extremely involved with school preparations; and how to proceed. Ms. Lent said at this time there is still low transmission for our community.

Police Chief: Chief Klaren reported that a couple traffic officers went to college so we are down a couple of traffic officers but we will keep up our presence in Menemsha.

Mr. Doty spoke about his concerns that the Squibnocket guard leaves at 5:00 PM and that there are large groups showing up at 5:00 PM. Mr. Doty proposed discussion if the town should have monitoring / supervision after September 15, 2020.

Chief Klaren proposed that the Beach Committee might consider extending staffing for the beaches. Beach Committee member Margaret Maida said June put in her newspaper column that Squib is open to public Sept 15. There was discussion for Beach staff or Traffic officers to observe from September 8th to 15th.

Mr. Doty said we need to have Squibnocket lot orderly if lot full no more cars.

Chairman Rossi and Mr. Doty recommended that Tim Carroll work with the Beach department work on this. Ms. Maida said she will let Clarissa Allen know about tonight's discussion.

Town Advisory Council - tennis shoulder season program proposal:

Nancy Grundman, Ben & Eddy Stall discussed their plan to extend the tennis program at the Community Center. Mr. Doty said he will support continuing the program till September 15, 2020 but on Sept 17, 2020 to turn over the CCC campus to the Chilmark School. Mr. Malkin said he supported that as well. Discussion ensued. There was a proposal that as of Sept 15, 2020 the program might run from 3:00 - 6:00 PM. Chairman Rossi requested that the Tennis Program contact Principal Susan Stevens with their proposal and come back to the Selectmen at their next meeting (9/15/2020).

Mr. Doty moved to approve the extended tennis program till Sept 15, 2020 as presented. Then change Sept 15, 2020. Mr. Malkin seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 3 Ayes**

Peter Cook (Planning Board member) recommended having a site visit to see the separation of tennis program and school to help inform the decision. Chairman Rossi supported the idea. It was decided that each individual call 508 645-3016 to see plan on site with tennis organization representative.

School reopening plan:

Mr. Doty who has been involved with the School meetings spoke about the process that is still being worked through.

- UIRSD k -5 M-Thurs no school Fridays.
- 6,7,8 grades at WT 2 days a week
- Cohort C: IEP (individual Education Plan)
- Phased in program.
- COVID testing machine in each building
- Chilmark will have a nurse for this school year.
- CCC supervised young people to support activity for remote learners etc. Board of Health will work on this extensively. PTA or School committee come up with a plan to bring to Board of Health and Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Malkin and Chairman Rossi both thanked Mr. Doty for his commitment on this topic.

School nurse - funding:

Mr. Doty said we do not need to find this funding as the school committee has committed to fund this.

Healthy Aging MV:

Mr. Carroll said because we needed to change the date of tonight's meeting this agenda item needed to be postponed till Sept 15, 2020 Selectmen meeting

Climate Change working group- report:

Mr. Malkin presented a report to be Chilmark specific and Island wide for the next 30 years.

Discussed the background Charter, Process with key findings.

Recommendations were made. Peter Neilly said the M. V. Commission is working on this now too. Chairman Rossi thanked the group for this work and report and said now we need to start planning action.

HVAC Chilmark School:

Tim Carroll and Rob Hannemann both discussed this project.

Mr. Hannemann said the complete job (heating and ventilation) needs to be completed by end of summer 2021. Mr. Carroll said he published the RFP in the central register and the proposals are due 25 of Sept. 2020.

Public Safety Building Committee - Update:

Chairman Rossi gave the design and progress update. Chairman Rossi said the Committee is in a good place now. We have been working the past 8 months and worked out the department needs. Then we worked on the design phase with the architects. We have seen lots of proposals and we were not in consensus till the last few meetings.

Public Safety Building Committee – Update Continued...

Chairman Rossi said we are moving forward with:

- Adding 700 sf to existing Crossroad Fire Station and on 399 Middle Road property have a mixed uses building; but primarily for Tri-Town Ambulance.
- New England/ Chilmark architecture brought into the buildings. Fire station and ambulance building for the community for the next 50 years.
- We will bring the plans to the Board of Selectmen prior to socializing the plans.
- Working out a campus effect between the buildings.
- Preparing to publicize the plan and put to residents for review prior to Town Meeting

Chief Bradshaw said we have a plan that seems to be approved by Committee members and departments. We are in a good place with plans.

Mr. Carroll said there is a proposed Amendment to architect contract. Chairman Rossi said that the OPM reviewed and supported the additional \$30,000.00 because of the extensive work. Mr. Carroll explained the shifting of funds to this faze, and that no additional money is being raised. This proposal amends contract funds from phase 2 to phase 1.

Mr. Malkin moved to approve of this proposal. Mr. Doty seconded the motion.

SO VOTED: 3 Ayes

The agenda item to discuss warrant article for additional funding for architect during construction was postponed. This item will be brought to Selectmen meeting at the end of September or the beginning of October.

Mayhew Youth Lot refinance mortgage agreement:

Mr. Dot moved to approve and sign this document. Mr. Malkin seconded the motion.

SO VOTED: 3 Ayes

Chilmark Fire Chief:

Chief Bradshaw presented the Alarm fire calls report that evaluated the cost to have Chilmark Fire Department roll to false alarms. Selectmen recommended it be reviewed with the FinCom. Chief Bradshaw said the annual fee would cover the CAD program and duty shifts. Increase amount of pay to firefighters and some additional materials. Command vehicle in the future could be funded through the annual fee. Chief Bradshaw said there are 538 alarm systems in town and discussed the possible plan to charge a fee like we do for mooring permits. Discussed up to \$300.00 annually. Chairman Rossi said he is impressed with this analysis; how to implement is a future discussion. Mr. Malkin said he is a believer in user pays, as to what the funds get used for should come to FinCom and Board of Selectmen. Mr. Malkin encouraged Chief Bradshaw and Mr. Carroll to see what other communities in MA. are doing and return to Board of Selectmen as to how to proceed.

Chilmark Fire Chief Continued...

Chief Bradshaw said we responded already to 130 false alarm calls this year. Mr. Doty said he supports \$250.00 charge annually to homes with alarms.

Fire Chief Report:

- Letters to Spring Point and Quansoo about buried water tanks
- Pond access at 7 gates and Turtle pond in discussions
- 6 new FF1 signups for training.
- 399 and other property for a couple winter drills
- Drone MCV drone pilot to work with CFD
- School smoke inspections

Chief Bradshaw ended his report with a warning that the beach shoreline has numerous Portuguese man o' war and to be careful.

Chairman Rossi said your 1 year evaluation will be completed but we are very pleased with your first year.

Mr. Carroll spoke about the VFA grant continued due to COVID. Mr. Carroll will sign contract to purchase Fire Department equipment up to \$4,000 and to get \$2,000 back.

American Tower- Contract:

Mr. Carroll said it costs \$250 monthly for service in Menemsha.

Chairman Rossi said we (Selectmen) already voted to support continuation of this service and Tim Carroll has his permission to sign the contract with ATC.

4 North Ridge Road – offer for sale:

Chairman Rossi supported to sell property in this market. \$695,000 min bid.

Mr. Doty said he endorses the plan

Re-Opening town hall:

Mr. Doty said the school plans for reopening are moving forward we need to discuss Town Hall opening plan. No proposal but a plan for the next few months. Edgartown opening first floor by appointment only. Mr. Carroll reported that State wide many town halls are still closed. Mr. Carroll supported to wait and see what is happening with change of population after school opens. We have been providing service all along just not access to inside the building. Chairman Rossi said he supports access by appointment only. Mr. Carroll shared his worry about degradation of internet. Comcast network is a weak link. We will be experience overload internet access.

Mr. Malkin supported to wait a bit prior to opening access to inside the town hall. Paramount is safety and would like to keep closed to public. Selectmen agreed to discuss this more at September 15, 2020 meeting.

There was discussion about procedure for posting remote participation meetings on the Zoom platform. Mr. Malkin said we support Tim Carroll and Jennifer Christy on the zoom postings procedure.

Blue green algae:

Health Agent Marina Lent gave a report. A private citizen reported a person who went crabbing in pond who became sick with neurotoxin similar to what would happen with blue green algae being present. M. V. Commission held zoom meetings with pond associations. Immediate priority inform public. Danger of ingestion, skin contact danger as well. Chronic issue working hard on assessing more closely. Mr. Carroll said a dog died last year by this algae. A person has been effected this year. Squibnocket town landing possible algae bloom spotted by a surfer. Dogs and children at greatest risk. Ms. Lent said it is time dependent for intact skin if washed immediately. Ingestion worst case.

Chairman Rossi asked if there was any new business or old business to discuss. With no further items at 6:40 PM the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diana DeBlase. **APPROVED 09/15/2020**

Document list:

- Draft minutes from Selectmen meetings held on 3/3/2020, 7/15/2020 and 8/18/2020
- Tennis program proposal for shoulder season at CCC
- Climate Working Group report
- Fire Chief Alarm report
- ATC contract
- VFA grant documents
- Mayhew Youth-lot refinance document