

Town of Nahant

Joint Meeting: Board of Selectmen, Board of Assessors, and the Planning Board

Wednesday August 5, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Mark P. Cullinan, Chairman

Joshua A. Antrim, Vice Chairman

Eugene Canty, Recording Secretary

Antonio Barletta, Town Administrator

Attendance:

Mark P. Cullinan (MC), Joshua A. Antrim (JA), Eugene Canty (GC), Antonio Barletta (TA)

JA- motioned to open the meeting at 6:02pm

1. Meeting Opening- 6:02pm

- a.** Coronavirus update with Health Nurse Deb Murphy and Health Officer John Coulon

Deb Murphy- Nine new positive cases. One new positive case as of August 5, 2020. Last positive case was July 27, 2020. Reminded Residents to wear masks and continue to social distance. Large gatherings continue to be cancelled to deter new cases. Nahant will have a drive through flu clinic. More information to follow

TA- The upcoming School Committee along with the reopening plan committee have met and will meet again to further discuss plans on the reopening of the Johnson School.

2. Opening Comments

- a.** Nahant Fire department is seeking applicants for the position of Call Firefighter

JA- Nahant Fire seeking applicants. Two open positions

TA- Most training is held via Zoom due to the coronavirus. If interested please contact Cpt. Dean Palombo at Dpalombo@nahantfire.org or Lt. David Doyle at Ddoyle@nahantfire.org. More information is on the Nahant home page and the Nahant town hall facebook page.

- b.** Bulletin board at entrance of town

JA- The bulletin board at the entrance of the town is available for public use without any permission needed. Please do not remove any postings and respect peoples freedom of speech.

3. New Business

a. Joint vote of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Assessors for vacant Board of Assessors seat.

GC- I moved that the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Assessors nominate Katherine Marie Sherber for the open seat on the Board of Assessors

JA- seconded

Roll Call vote:

JA- yes

Perry Barrasso- yes

GC- yes

MC- yes

David Hunt- yes

JA- I move that the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Assessors nominate Michael A. Collier for the open seat on the Board of Assessors.

GC- seconded

Roll Call Vote:

JA- yes

Perry Barrasso- yes

GC- yes

MC- yes

David Hunt- yes

Vote for the open seat on the Board of Assessors:

JA- Katherine Marie Sherber

Perry Barrasso- Katherine Marie Sherber

GC- Katherine Marie Sherber

MC- Katherine Marie Sherber

David Hunt-Katherine Marie Sherber

****Ballot Attached****

b. Joint vote of the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board for vacant Planning Board seat.

GC- I move that the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board nominate Caitlyn Merrill for the open seat on the Planning Board

MC- seconded

Roll Call vote:

JA- yes

Daniel Berman- yes

Shannon Bianchi- yes

GC- yes

MC- yes

Sheila Hambleton- yes

Steve Viviano- yes

JA- - I move that the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board nominate Michael Collier for the open seat on the Planning Board

MC- seconded

Roll Call vote:

JA- yes

Daniel Berman- yes

Shannon Bianchi- yes

GC- yes

MC- yes

Sheila Hambleton- yes

Steve Viviano- yes

MC- I move that the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board nominate Patrick O'Reilly for the open seat on the Planning Board

GC- seconded

Roll Call vote:

JA- yes

Daniel Berman- yes

Shannon Bianchi- yes

GC- yes

MC- yes

Sheila Hambleton- yes

Steve Viviano- yes

Vote for the open seat on the Planning Board:

JA- Patrick O'Reilly

Daniel Berman-Patrick O'Reilly

GC- Patrick O'Reilly

MC-Patrick O'Reilly

Sheila Hambleton- Caitlyn Merrill

Calvin Hastings- Caitlyn Merrill

Steve Viviano- Caitlyn Merrill

****Ballot attached****

c. Vote to set the date, time, and location of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting

JA- I move that the Board of Selectmen vote to set the Annual Town Meeting date for Saturday September 26, 2020 at 12:30pm and to assemble at the Flash Road Park in Nahant.

GC- seconded

Roll Call vote:

JA- yes

GC- yes

MC- yes

Discussion:

TA- Legislation was passed that allows Annual Town Hall Meetings to be postponed due to coronavirus. Originally was to be held in May. Must be a registered voter to attend. There will

be a check in line, wrist bands, and hopefully electronic voting. A tent may be in place depending on the amount of people and a rain date will be announced. We will follow state guidelines and social distance.

d. Trash bills delayed due to new contract with Waste Management

TA- Bills are delayed due to new contract and increase of cost. Looking into how we can distribute costs among town and will be presenting alternatives to selectmen soon. Billing service is currently programmed by parcel Id's. Same fee is applied if it is a single person household or multiple people in household.

e. Approve appointment of Officer Matthew Morneau to rank of Sergeant

MC- I move that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the appointment of Nahant Police Office Matthew Morneau to the rank of Sergeant with the Nahant Police Department.

GC- seconded

Roll Call vote:

JA- yes

GC- yes

MC- yes

Discussion-

NPD Chief Dwyer- Officer Morneau did a great job during the assessment training. He started in 2011 with NPD as a reserve office and was appointed as patrolman with NPD in 2015. He has a BA in Criminal Justice, is a certified EMT and was a dispatcher in Peabody. He brings a lot of experience and I look for your support with this appointment.

f. Approve appointment of Reserve Officer Brian W. Nazzaro

GC- I move that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the appointment of Reserve Officer Brian W. Nazzaro.

MC- seconded

Roll Call vote:

JA- yes

GC- yes

MC- yes

Discussion:

NPD Chief Dwyer –Looking forward to Brian Nazzaro joining the department as a Reserve Officer. He is a 2019 graduate of the full time academy and was self-sponsored and assumed all costs relating to the academy. He also holds a BA in business.

g. Parking Issues

Discussion:

TA- Less people going away, heading to local beaches. More signage needed in town.

NPD Chief Dwyer- More tickets issued this year due to coronavirus and more people around due to not working, going away, or kids in camp. Looking into more parking signage. Officers working hard to combat issues.

Dan Skrip- We can go through a process to try and raise fines for parking and try to curtail parking. Legally we can't raise fine prices until we go through correct channels.

h. Boating Issues

Discussion:

JA- Read Covid 19 guidelines regarding recreational boating. Local officials, law enforcement and harbormaster are allowed to make rules regarding wharf/boating.

Rob Tibbo- Many more boats seen around the area. Not concerned about space in larger coves but more the gatherings and the risks with covid. As far as 40 steps it's a smaller cove. Concern for rocks and swimmers there. Should try to limit boat traffic and/or create a swimming area.

MC- moved to allow the wharfinger Rob Tibbo the right to make rules/changes as he sees fit

GC-seconded

Roll call vote:

JA- yes

GC-yes

MC-yes

4. Ongoing Business

a. Preserving East point (cont'd discussion)

JA- Encouraged the public to read the first and second statements by the Board of Selectmen that are posted on the Nahant.org website regarding the imminent domain process which gives a lot of information regarding the process. Any further questions should be emailed to the selectmen or asked during citizen's forum and not via Facebook.

b. Vote to open , amend and close the Annual Town Meeting Warrant

MC- I vote that the Board of Selectmen vote to open September 26, 2020 Annual Town Meeting Warrant for submittal of articles for consideration of placement on to the Town Meeting Warrant as provided by the Town Administrator.

GC- seconded

Roll Call vote:

JA- yes

GC- yes

MC- yes

Discussion:

TA- Article 28 will be presented by the Board of Assessors at the Annual Town Meeting. Articles 29, 31 and 32 will be also be presented.

GC- I move that the Board of Selectmen vote to close the September 26, 2020 Annual Town Meeting Warrant

MC- seconded

Roll Call vote:

JA- yes

GC- yes

MC- yes

5. Town Administrator Report

a. Johnson Elementary School COVID reopening update.

TA- Meeting on August 4, 2020 of the School Committee and another one on August 6, 2020 and August 11, 2020. A link to the agenda and to participate remotely can be found on Nahant.org on the community calendar. A briefing from the Board of Health and the School Committee will be given at the next Board of Selectmen meeting. The School Committee, The re-opening committee and Patty Sheehan have been a big help with the re-opening plan.

6. Citizens Forum

Cora Long- Asked if there was a discussion on raising tax fees for multi families

TA- Trash bills are late this year, have been delayed to reconstruction of contract. Negotiating during a time where trash fees/rates are increasing globally and locally due to restrictions. The town only signed a one year contract due to the uncertainty of the revenue, pollution restrictions, and coronavirus. Trying to decrease fees. The fee for a single family home and a multi-family home is the same fee right now.

GC- Asked how to charge tax if it is an Air BnB

TA- We currently do not have a tax for an Air Bnb regarding trash.

Candace Cahill- Asking why the meeting is no longer televised. Wondering why they are not televised.

TA- Unfortunately due to covid we have to host the meetings virtually. We are trying to find a way to show the meetings on zoom and tv.

Shannon Bianchi- Asked for an update on the coverts on castle road and the drainage system issue.

JA- The town, DPW, and the town engineer are working hard to come up with the best plan to resolve the issue.

Alice Cort- Asked if there is going to be a change in the distribution of the warrant.

JA- the warrant will be printed and mailed

Peggy Silva- Also asked if there is a way to have the second statement printed and mailed.

Michelle Capano- New members were recently appointed to the Advisory and Finance committee and wants to know why those positions were not made publicly available to all residents so they could apply through town moderator.

JA- That is an appointed board by the moderator. The moderator tries to keep that board somewhat separate from the Board of Selectmen.

TA- When someone resigns from that board they inform the Town Clerk and the Moderator and the Moderator takes on the process.

JA- We will need to find out a better process to improve the process.

Debbie Vanderslice- Asked if there is a better way to post the open positions online. Asked if there is a rule/law that the town or committee must post the open position for a certain period of time before being appointed.

Dan Skrip- Not aware of anything that requires the advertisement of an open position.

Cynthia – Asked about parking stickers and daily parking passes.

TA- Temporary parking/daily passes have been limited this year due to the amount of non-resident parking issues we have had. Due to coronavirus there is less parking as well.

Bonnie D'Orlando- Asked if the Board of Selectmen statement be updated with the three recent court decisions.

JA- It can be updated with another statement we can share.

7. Adjourn

GC- made motion to adjourn the meeting

JA- seconded

Roll Call vote:

JA- yes

GC- yes

MC- yes

Meeting Adjourned at 9:19pm

Meeting Minutes prepared by Kristin Taylor, Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen on the _____ day of _____ 2020

Board of Selectmen

