

Town of Nahant

Joint Meeting

Board of Selectmen & Board of Health via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Thursday August 20, 2020

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)

Mark Cullinan made a motion to open the Joint Meeting with the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Health on August 20, 2020 via zoom at 6:10pm

1. Meeting Opening

a. Coronavirus and West Nile update

Deb Murphy -Gave an update on coronavirus. No new cases since July 27, 2020. Flu clinics in town this year will be an outside drive through.

John Coulon – No new changes regarding the West Nile virus. There is heightened awareness of triple E with three human cases in the state. The Northeast Mass Mosquito control has been to town and surveyed. Any new information obtained from them and DPH will be forward to the TA , DPW and any other staff or groups working outside.

TA- Asked that the town clerk and the school superintendent speak about how coronavirus is affecting the election and the school.

Diane Dunfee- Every person in the state should have received an absentee ballot. If you did not receive one it was because you already filed for an absentee ballot in a previous election. Most have been returned. Last day to request an absentee ballot is August 26, 2020. You can find the form by going to the Secretary of State website or the Town of Nahant website and go to voting information. You can mail ballot, put in drop box at Town Hall or bring into Town Hall. Last day for voter registration is August 22, 2020. The Clerk's office will be open this weekend and next week to except early voting and voter registration. You can track your ballot to see if it was received by going to trackmyballot.com.

Tony Pierantozzi- The Commissioner negotiated with the three largest unions in the state. Typical school year has a mandatory 180 days for students. It was dropped to 170 days with 10 days of training for staff to deal with new protocols and remote learning processes. The feasibility study showed that the school

is able to have staff and students maintain a physical distance of 6ft or more inside classrooms while still allowing 100 percent of students back in school. All guidelines are met with the department of elementary and secondary education. A planning board was formed to come up with a re-opening plan. A preliminary plan was developed, that plan was turned over to the School Committee and they came up with a final plan and voted on it. From August 31-September 15 the staff will be trained. On September 16-18th the students will have three days of remote learning. On September 21 students will begin in person learning and remote learning for the students who are doing remote. Three surveys were done with parents. Eighty percent chose in person learning and twenty percent chose remote learning. Preschool will begin September 21st. No sooner than October 5th the after and before school supervision programs will begin. Swampscott grades 7-12th will be remote until October 23rd. English Language learning, special education and high need students will be offered in person learning on September 16th. October 26th will begin hybrid model by splitting the students into two groups. Entering, leaving, traveling, and eating will be different in order to ensure social distancing. Bus companies NRT and Healey have protocols in place for safety. There will a bus for each group going to Swampscott.

2. Opening Comments:

MC- Nahant Fire Department seeking applicants for the Nahant Fire Department

JA- Is not moving out of town. Boat raft ups are not allowed in town at the wharf

GC- Thanked the school for all their work with the re-opening plan

3. New Business

- a. Approve the BOS meeting minutes from March 5, 2020, April 1, 2020, May 7, 2020, June 10, 2020, June 17, 2020, June 23, 2020, and Executive Session meeting minutes from January 23, 2020 and March 12, 2020.

JA- I move that the BOS vote to approve the March 5, 2020 meeting minutes

MC- seconded

Roll call vote:

JA- yes

MC- yes

GC- abstained

JA- I move that the BOS vote to approve the April 1, 2020 meeting minutes

MC- seconded

Roll call vote:

JA- yes

MC- yes

GC- abstained

JA- I move that the BOS vote to approve the May 7, 2020 meeting minutes

MC- seconded

Roll call vote:

JA-yes

MC-yes

GC- abstained

JA- I move that the BOS vote to approve the June 10, 2020 meeting minutes

MC- seconded

Roll call vote:

JA-yes

MC-yes

GC- abstained

JA- I move that the BOS vote to approve the June 17, 2020 meeting minutes

MC- seconded

Roll call vote:

JA-yes

MC-yes

GC- abstained

JA- I move that the BOS vote to approve the June 23, 2020 meeting minutes

GC- seconded

Roll call vote:

JA-yes

GC-yes

MC- yes

JA- I move that the BOS vote to approve the Executive Session January 23, 2020 meeting minutes

MC- seconded

Roll call vote:

JA-yes

MC-yes

GC- abstained

JA- I move that the BOS vote to approve the Executive Session March 12, 2020 meeting minutes

MC- seconded

Roll call vote:

JA-yes

MC-yes

GC- abstained

b. Vote to approve the 2020 State Primary Election warrant.

GC- I move that the BOS vote to approve and sign the State Primary Election warrant.

JA- seconded

Roll call vote:

JA-yes

GC-yes

MC-yes

c. Vote to approve deficit spending budget for the month of September FY21

JA- I move that the BOS vote to approve the deficit spending budget for the month of September FY21

GC- seconded

Roll call vote:

JA-yes

MC-yes

GC-yes

d. Annual Town Meeting Warrant- Open/Close and send to the Advisory and Finance Committee.

GC- I move that the BOS vote to open the September 26, 2020 annual town meeting law for submission of articles.

JA- seconded

Roll call vote:

JA-yes

GC-yes

MC- yes

JA- I move that the BOS vote to accept and close the September 26, 2020 Annual Town Meeting Warrant as presented and with discussions and to send it the Advisory and Finance Committee.

GC-seconded

Roll call vote:

JA- yes

GC- yes

MC- yes

Discussion:

TA- Unable to hold an Annual Town Meeting virtually. The plan is to have a full warrant at the annual meeting. Reached out to other towns that have had an open annual town meeting during coronavirus. Plans are being made for chairs, tents, voting clickers, check in. Communication will be made to public on what to expect. Discussed and explained articles that will be on the warrant.

- e. Vote to approve the budget and send it to the Advisory and Finance Committee

GC- I move that the BOS vote to approve the BOS budget for FY21 and to send it to the Advisory and Finance Committee for their ongoing review FY21 budget

JA-seconded

Roll call vote:

JA- yes

GC- yes

MC- yes

Discussion:

TA- Changes were made recently and some of them are to account for lack of information about local receipts and state revenue or state aid. In March a budget was presented that didn't use all of the revenue we were anticipating. Other changes are the increase in items related to additional town meeting. Annual town meeting normally in May and that would have been under the last budget, now we are having the annual town meeting in September and another in May which falls under the same Fiscal year. The budgets for town clerk and finance committee both increased due to the additional meetings and legal expenses. The elections budget also increased due to the additional elections/presidential election. There is a reduction in salary items.

- f. Approve the event request for the Florence Johnson Herbarium taping at Town Hall August 21, 2020 at 6:30pm

JA- I move that the BOS vote to approve the event request for the Florence Johnson Herbarium taping at the Town Hall on August 21, 2020 at 6:30pm

GC- seconded

Roll call vote:

JA- yes

GC- yes

MC- yes

Discussion-

Sharon Hawkes- it is not a public event just a taping. The garden club asked that the library do a presentation on the Florence Johnson Herbarium. It is a unique presentation of pressed plants. They are all digitized. The tape will play on local cable and on the library's you tube channel and Facebook.

- g.** Approve the event request for a Dance Performance at Baileys Hill on September 19, 2020 with a rain date of September 20, 2020.

GC- I move that the BOS vote to approve the event request for a Dance Performance at Baileys Hill on September 19, 2020 with a rain date of September 20, 2020 contingent with the COVID-19 guidelines.

JA- Seconded

Roll call vote:

JA-yes

GC-yes

MC-yes

4. Ongoing Business

- a.** Preserving East Point – continuing discussion

MC- A lot of work has been done with town counsel regarding eminent domain. The second appraisal should be out soon. The cost benefit analysis is moving along. The engineers survey is beginning for description of the property.

- b.** Vote to amend gift agreement between Nahant Preservation Trust and the town.

JA- I move that the BOS vote to authorize acceptance of any additional funds gifted by the Nahant Preservation Trust to replenish the gift agreement pursuant the general Law C44 Paragraph 53A as needed

GC- seconded

Roll call vote-

JA- yes

GC-yes

MC- yes

Discussion-

TA- At the last BOS meeting there was a vote to publish and mail the second statement of the BOS regarding the Northeastern eminent domain issue. It would be paid for by private donation. There is an existing gift agreement between the Preservation Trust and the town for costs associated with appraisals, legal fees, engineering work. The money needs to be replenished. Instead of having the BOS invoke every time we get a donation to accept this will generally allow the BOS to accept as the gifts come in.

5. Town Administrator Report

TA- Residents wondering about trash bills. At the next BOS meeting there will be information regarding trash rates. Trash bills will hopefully be sent out within the next month. Delay was due to contract negotiations with waste management.

MWRA long funded infrastructure repairs to start next week on Walden Rd. and Furbush Rd and will take approx. three wks. The work will then move to Little Nahant to Howe Rd. and Mills Terr. Also expected to take three wks.

TA met on site at Short Beach today with Applied Coastal regarding the towns Municipal Vulnerability and Preparedness Project. Applied Coastal was hired to design a project that would increase the resiliency of the short beach dune by filling in the access points by having compliant access over the dune as opposed to through it to prevent storm surge onto the street. A public meeting will be scheduled to get public opinion on project. MAPC just announced a no match required grant program which we will apply to for the construction for this job.

The town has awarded a contract for the Street Light process.

6. Citizens Forum

Bee Rogers- Asked where the Annual Town Meeting will be held

TA- Flash Rd park at the Babe Ruth Field behind the Fire Station. More information will be sent out as the meeting near

Ken Carangelo- Asked about the eminent domain with Northeastern and the gift agreement and Coast guard housing.

Heather Goodwin- Commented on the Coast Guard housing. Town should think of putting elderly housing on that property.

Kerry Alice Collins- Worried that elderly residents may not be able to make the annual town meeting due to the location/being outside especially with important articles on the warrant.

Jen Mccarthy- Can a person convert a car garage into an apartment?

Dan Skrip- yes it can be done but there are certain things that need to be done for it to be legal.

Michelle Capano- Boards and committees should be updating information on the town website more regularly.

7. Adjourn to Executive Session- Pursuant to G.L. c 30A, 21(a)(6) to discuss the lease and valuation of real property- Kelly Greens Golf Club, 1 Willow Rd. Nahant and will not reconvene to in Open Session

GC- I move that the BOS vote to go into Executive Session in accordance with G.L c30A subsection 21(a)(6) of real property of Kelly Greens 1 Willow Rd Nahant and we will not reconvene in Open Session.

MC- seconded

Roll call vote-

JA- yes

GC-yes

MC-yes

Meeting Adjourned 8:37pm

Meeting Minutes prepared by Kristin Taylor, Administrative Assistant on 11/20/20

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

Board of Selectmen

