Town of Nahant, MA

Board of Selectmen

Board of Selectmen Meeting

Thursday, April 16, 2020 7:00 PM

Richard J. Lombard, Chairman
Mark P. Cullinan, Vice Chairman
Joshua A. Antrim, Recording Secretary
Antonio Barletta, Town Administrator

1. **Meeting Opening 7:00 pm**
   Opening Comments

Mr. Lombard read aloud the following comment;

a. Meeting notices are officially being posted on Nahant.org

TA explained that all Boards and Committee's meeting notices can be found in one location on the homepage of the Town website.

Mr. Antrim asked for a Coronavirus update in the beginning of the meeting.
TA- As of Today, Town has 25 positive cases. 15 of these cases are in the Jesmond Nursing Home. He explained the procedure that was put in place at the nursing home as soon as the pandemic started.
Health Nurse; Deb Murphy- gave a recap about the nursing home and testing. We had 33 negative tests with residents of the nursing home.
TA we have created a Covid-19 website and a hotline to help push new information out to residents. Parking lots and playgrounds are closed. Neighboring Towns are required to wear masks. You aren't required here in Nahant, but when you leave, you must wear a mask in order to go into any business. Beaches and parks are open for passive
Health Officer; John Coulon- commended the few business open for adhering to the current pandemic perimeters and self-policing.
Health Nurse; Deb Murphy- spoke about a two week quarantine for individuals traveling back from out of state and the guidelines. Council on Aging Director, Linda Peterson, will be sending out those guidelines via her distribution list.

2. **New Business**
   a. Approve Board of Selectmen (BoS) Meeting Minutes from February 6, 2020 & BoS Meeting Minutes from April 2, 2020

Mr. Antrim made a motion; I move that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the Meeting Minutes from February 6, 2020.
Seconded by Mr. Cullinan
Roll Call Vote
Richard Lombard- I
Mark Cullinan- I
Josh Antrim – I
Unanimous vote in favor

Mr. Cullinan made a motion; I move that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the Meeting Minutes from April 2, 2020

Seconded by Mr. Antrim
Roll call vote
Richard Lombard- I
Mark Cullinan- I
Josh Antrim – I
Unanimous vote in favor

b. Postpone Annual Town Meeting Date to Saturday, June 27, 2020

Mr. Antrim made a motion; Pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 39 section 9, I move that the Board of Selectmen vote to postpone the Annual Town Meeting from Saturday, May 16, 2020 to Saturday, June 27, 2020
Seconded by Mr. Cullinan
Roll call vote
Richard Lombard- I
Mark Cullinan- I
Josh Antrim – I
Unanimous vote in favor

TA Legislation passed that allows municipalities to postpone Annual Town Meeting. Legislation has also passed to allow Board of Selectmen to approve one month budgets should we have to go beyond July 1st, up to 3 consecutive months and then host the meeting in September.

Mr. Cullinan asked if timing for the warrant has been worked out with the FinCom with the new date?

TA I will be meeting with them next week, but yes, we are working with the FinCom. Two separate warrants. One warrant for the election will be posted by June 6th and the following week would be the posting for the warrant of the Town meeting.

TA This year we are going to need help with election workers. We will have the election upstairs in the Town Hall with one entrance point and one exit point. Reach out to Carol Nelson at cnelson@nahant.org to help with the elections.

Dan Skrip – one thing; the annual election ballot is a 7 day notice.

Mr. Antrim asked if we could talk about the Memorial Day discussion before the boat discussion since this might affect the boat discussion.

a. Memorial Day Parade Discussion

Memorial Day parade committee chair, Molly Conlin briefed the board about discussions that she and her committee have had. The fact that the parade might not go on, discussion of a motorcade has come up.

TA this is tough because it is such a popular day that brings so many people out. Flags will still be put up at the cemetery.

Molly Conlin suggested having the Auxiliary to help with flags as opposed to the students.

TA Mentioned that we should make a final decision by the first week of May. Even with a motorcade, it will still draw in a lot of people and we don't know where we will be.

TA people can email him at abarletta@nahant.org if you have any suggestions for this year's Memorial Day.

b. Boat Launch Discussion

Mr. Antrim provided some background; there are 30 or so boats at the Wharf. Agreement requires that boats be off the wharf by May 15th. Virtually all of the boats use Jocelyn Marine to launch their boats. Currently on the schedule to launch we have May 8th and May 9th. We should discuss if we can delay passed the May 15th deadline. Keeping in mind that this is not a private boat yard. It's a public parking lot. Our Harbormaster did reach out to Jocelyn Marine and right now they have dates available beyond the May 15th deadline of May 21st.

Mr. Lombard asked Mr. Antrim what his recommendation is.

Mr. Antrim I think we should pick a date and vote on it tonight. Maybe we should say May 21st and at our next meeting re-evaluate.

Town Council; Dan Skrip- The Town Administrator act instills the TA with the power to control public property and then he recommends to you and then the Board votes.

Mr. Antrim from a practical sense, what does that mean?

Dan Skrip – I would suggest giving Tony a few days to give a recommendation and then you can take it from there.

Mr. Cullinan- the decision comes from the TA. The BoS doesn't necessarily have to vote on this right.

Dan Skrip- you have to approve, so that would be a vote.

Harbormaster; Rob Tibbo- Keep in mind some people might want to launch on the 9th but other boats may be blocking them in order to do so. I like the idea of only going out a short distance postponement.

Mr. Lombard asked Rob Tibbo what is his recommendation.

Harbormaster; Rob Tibbo- I think we have a compromise and move the date out a week or two.

TA I think that we should be making a decision based on public health. There probably needs to be a bit more coordination that typical.

Harbormaster, Rob Tibbo- we could work on something like that.

Mr. Lombard asked Rob Tibbo about Lady Apple II

Harbormaster- I am afraid to touch it until we have the title

TA as soon as we get the title, we will move it.

3. Ongoing Business

Mr. Lombard read the following;

a. Charles Kelley scholarship deadline has been extended to May 15, 2020

Mr. Lombard asked for this scholarship information to be posted on Town website.

TA yes, and if you can mail or drop the scholarship off at the drop box at Town Hall. We haven't received any submissions yet. Deadline has been extended until May 15th.

b. Oceanview vote for a seasonal tent on the existing outside event space. Approval by the Board of Selectmen is required per the lease agreement.

Mr. Lombard asked for Mike Gallant to explain this installation.

Mike Gallant (owner of Oceanview) we are looking to install a seasonal tent on the terrace portion of the property. The tent would only be up in late fall to early spring. The tent would be completely removed for the summer months. This is seeking permission for those few months each year.

*A discussion between the Board, TA, Mike Gallant and Dan Skrip took place.

Town Council recommended having an end date to this amendment and specific dates for the tent to be utilized.

Mr. Cullinan I would make it subject to an annual review by the Board of Selectmen

Mr. Lombard – I agree with Mark; let's try it for a year and see what happens.

Mr. Cullinan made a motion; I move that the Board of Selectmen vote to grant Oceanview's request for a seasonal tent on the existing outside event space for the periods beginning the third week in March to the first week in May and the third week in October to the first week in January subject to annual review and approval by the Board of Selectmen.
Seconded by Mr. Antrim

Discussion
Mr. Antrim – I'm concerned with how permanent this is. In my opinion, visually intrusive. Come voting time, I would vote, No.
Roll call vote
Richard Lombard- I
Mark Cullinan- I
Josh Antrim – No
Passes 2-1

4. Town Administrator Report

TA – reviewed the following subjects and stated additional details are listed on our Town website.

a. Johnson School Free Lunch Program

Reiterated that the Johnson Elementary School free lunch is not only for elementary school kids. Its for all students in the Town of Nahant.

b. Anchor Food Pantry

Swampscott Anchor Food pantry is available to Nahant residents. Please look at our Covid-19 website for additional details.

c. Council on Aging

Council on Aging is doing a remarkable job. We are getting lunch out to senior Mon-Thursday. Its been working really well. This week we received 23 boxes from the Salvation Army of food that we were able to hand out to the seniors that also receive lunch.

d. Stimulus Package & 2020 Tax Delay

We posted an article on the Covid-19 website that details the stimulus package. Please visit the website for additional information.

TA brought up the July 4th and summer park league. Handed this topic over to Jen McCarthy.

Jen McCarthy- We usually hire 4 or 5 teenagers for the summer park league program. I don't need answers tonight, but I would like to discuss at the next meeting.
Also, the 4th of July, we need to start thinking about that. The company that we work with is willing to be flexible with the date.

TA I think we should move forward with signing the contract and then re-evaluate the date closer to June.

5. Citizen's Forum

Comment- can the Board of Selectmen provide an update on their letter that was submitted to MEPA on the request to extend the public comment period on Northeastern' s final EIR?

Mr. Antrim – We spoke with MEPA today about the request; it seems highly likely that we will be getting an extension. We are hoping to get a response from them tomorrow or Tuesday.

Mr. Cullinan- thank you for taking that call. It sounds like we will get an extension. I want to take this opportunity to ask for everyone to write and express their opinions. It's important.

*A discussion about this topic took place with TA and the Board.

Mr. Lombard made a motion; I move that the Board of Selectmen vote to go into executive session in accordance with G.L. c. 30A, sec 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to pending litigation and to not reconvene in open session.
Seconded by Mr. Cullinan
Roll call vote

Discussion: Do we have to state what that litigation is?

Mr. Lombard- Its Carmody vs. Town of Nahant with respect to litigation.

Dan Skrip- would you agree that if we had this discussion in open session then it would be a detriment to the Town's position in the act of litigation.

Mr. Lombard- absolutely
Richard Lombard- I
Mark Cullinan- I
Josh Antrim- I
Unanimous vote in favor

6. Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned 8:23 pm
Meeting Minutes prepared by Bobbie-Jo Blair, Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen on the 21ST day of May 2020.

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Board of Selectmen