**Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833**

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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES**

**Memorial Town Hall**

**10/05/2020**

**7:00PM-Regular Session**

**7:00PM-General Meeting ~ Broadcast on Georgetown Cable TV via BlueJeans**

**Verizon channel 42/Comcast channel 9**

**Selectmen Present:** David J. Twiss, Chairman; Douglas W. Dawes, Clerk; Charles Durney; Gary C. Fowler, and Peter J. Kershaw

**Others Present:** Michael Farrell, Town Administrator; Maureen Shultz, Administrative Assistant; Town Council Tom McEnaney, Police Chief Donald Cudmore, Deb Rogers, Health Agent; Con Com Chair Carl Shreder, Conservation Agent, Steven Przyjemski, Con Com Members Rachael Bancroft, Tom Howland, Laura Repplier and Rebecca Chane.

**Absent:**

**7:00PM Call to order**

Invocation-Douglas W. Dawes

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Twiss read the statement listed here:

*Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the*

*Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the*

*Town of Georgetown Board of Selectmen will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the Georgetown website, at www.georgetownma.gov. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to watch the meeting may do so in the following manner: Channel 42 Verizon or Channel 9 Comcast, or on the town website at http://gctv.georgetownma.gov/. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that meeting the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the Georgetown website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the.*

**OLD BUSINESS:**

*COVID-19 update-Police Chief Cudmore & Deb Rogers BoH Agent-D. Rogers spoke on six new positive cases of Covid here in the Town -three nurses have been hired to assist with contact tracing, school nurses were thanked for all they are doing during this pandemic, D. Rogers suggested that everyone should get the flu vaccine. Chief Cudmore presented a flier that his Department was going to use for information on Halloween which will take place on Saturday, October 31st from 5-7PM -It has been stated or suggested if you do not want to participate in passing out treats please shut your lights off at your home, this flier will be on the Town’s social media websites. P. Kershaw asked how the Town can prevent Town hopping in regards to other communities coming here for the event -Chief Cudmore explained there is nothing that be done to control other trick or treaters from not coming to the Town, D. Twiss thanked the Chief for his part of deciding about Halloween this year and last year hard decision to make.*

*C. Durney moved to approve the hours and rules for trick or treating as presented by Chief Cudmore, seconded by D. Dawes. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.*

*Chief Cudmore spoke on the Radio Flyer Project / Community Compact IT Grant and the phase approach, applying for a $200k grant -Boxford can use also, phase approach is being used to get other Town Buildings on it, $39K a year for copper connection, $6-7K a year savings switching over.*

***OLD BUSINESS:***

*Members of the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectman discuss Article 2 of the Special Town Meeting Warrant -Wetlands by Law. Mr. Shredder opened the Conservation Commission meeting.*

*The following items were discussed: Article 2 Wetlands. Chapter 161 Wetlands / Town General by Law.*

* *C. Shreder explained the Wetlands by Law and a dialogue that took place on changing and or adding a footnote to the current Wetlands by Law. C. Shredder stated that the last time the rules and regulations were changed was in 2008.*
* *D. Twiss read aloud the Wetland by Law and questioned permission or a notice to enter a property, stated there is no defined wordage, and believes it is far to broad. Stated that Town uniforms / clothing will help when going on properties. D. Twiss asked Town Council about 4th amendments right.*
* *Town Council, Tom McEnaney suggested there are two ways to amend a Town By law and or amend the regulations, stated their needs to be permission on entering a property unless there is an emergency, informed the Board that the Town by law is prepared by a State model-MACC.*
* *P. Kershaw spoke on strained communications and relationships and thinks having better understanding between everyone and thanked everyone for having this meeting together as a team.*
* *P/Kershaw asked to remove Article 2 from the Town Warrant / good faith, C. Durney stated it would be over kill to put Article 2 on the Warrant.*
* *D. Twiss asked Conservation Committee to help understand the Wetlands by Law.*
* *D. Twiss spoke of the 21 days of receipt for a hearing, questioned who decides on whether an application is complete, asked if the applicant gets handed documentation on the process.*
* *C. Shreder stated the timelines on applications are built in by the State.*
* *C. Shreder stated that 98.98% of the cases before the Conservation Commission have been approved.*
* *D. Twiss commented he is trying to understand the process not questioning the approvals. D. Twiss thanked the Conservation Committee for the education and for the learning of something new.*
* *Conservation Agent, S. Przyjemski spoke on the process being explained over the phone to the applicant, explained the Building Department involvement, checklist is available on the Town’s website.*
* *Conservation Agent, S. Przyjemski spoke on the process and how homeowners do not have to work alone, he is always working with them.*
* *Conservation Agent, S. Przyjemski does not really work too much with flood plans -most questions and enforcement go through the Building Department.*
* *Question was asked about how many feet are the wetlands-Pembrooke -200 feet answered by Conservation Agent S. Przyjemski*
* *D. Twiss was appreciative of the effort from the Board to allow Conservation Agent, S. Przyjemski to approve small projects.*
* *D. Dawes stated the information on the Town website needs to be clearer on the Conservation Commission page.*
* *G. Fowler asked to clarify the rules and regulations with more details.*
* *Regulations are 34 pages long.*
* *D. Twiss stated that the residents need to feel warm and fuzzy about the current process.*
* *D. Twiss asked about the Wetlands, Flooding Zones and the contour of land, appeal process, lengthy process-Conservation Agent, S. Przyjemski explained the appeal process.*
* *D. Twiss asked Conservation Agent, S. Przyjemski if amending the rules & regulations could be changed-S. Przyjemski replied yes.*

*D. Twiss asked about “Good Cause” Conservation Agent, S. Przyjemski stated they never use that card.*

* *The Conservation Commission will meet and discuss the options and suggestions to amend their regulations and will communicate with the Selectman on their progress.*
* *P. Kershaw feels more educated after this meeting and asked if he is needed to please reach out to him and try to connect -thanked and recognized everyone for this dialogue.*
* *C. Durney suggested better communication, people don’t understand all the information/rules/ room for improvement/ clarify language, the intent was never to repeal the Town by Law’s but maybe to make the laws tighter/clearer.*
* *D. Dawes hopes after the discussion on the Town by Law that residents can understand it.*
* *D. Twiss mentioned he hoped it will not be the last meeting with the Conservation Commission.*
* *Change warrant article 2-Attorney Tom McEnaney suggested a new motion / way to amend a motion would be in the scope of the article/ Town Moderator has the final say.*
* *C. Durney stated Article 2 has been covered three ways -becoming over kill.*
* *D. Twiss can we draft new language -after going to the Town by Law -the applicants do not realize there is a rules & regulations.*
* *G. Fowler has good points everyone / state left out information.*
* *Model by Law that were pre-paired with some footnotes in the Model by Law / entry to private properties, G. Fowler if anything speaking for future conservations not for the public future conservation commissioner, we don’t want people to get aggressive, doesn’t mean to hurt anyone feelings but believes the clarification on entering properties is good for future appointees and this same issue has been in front of the Board twice before.*
* *D. Dawes so that everyone know communication with the property owner-communication from the public-rules & regulations-sees nothing wrong with having a footnote.*
* *Attorney Tom McEnaney suggested not to be too strict in changing the rules & regulations.*
* *Attorney Tom McEnaney gave the following options*

*1.) Do nothing-2.) Amend the Town’s by Laws, to amend with additional clarifications -right of entry, 3.) Leave the Town by Law as is.*

* *P. Kershaw we got this, changing the rules & regulations are good, we have a lot of feedback so let’s move beyond with no changes to the Town by Law.*
* *C. Shredder agreed that the Conservation Commission would agree to go over the Rules & Regulations and make some clarification*

***Special Town Warrant Article 2***

***P. Kershaw moved to remove Article 2 from the Special Town Meeting Warrant, seconded by C. Durney. Roll call vote was taken.***

***OLD BUSINESS:***

*Special Town Meeting Warrant/ Articles Discussion: Mr. Farrell spoke on the following:*

*Article 1 -Work in progress for now-will advise. / W/A- G. Fowler would like to have Article 1 as a place holder-looking to see what the Finance Committee thinks*

*Article 2-See Above discussion /voted to be removed from the warrant see above.*

*Article 3- Free Cash $16K, Storm Water Program-CIP Plan for five years.*

*Article 4 – Town to transfer $9,200.00 to fund the repair of the police/ fire garage.*

*Article 5:* *Portables radios including chargers for the Fire Department - Free Cash CIP-$40K-applying for regional grant. Chief Mitchell spoke on trying for a regional grant, borrow from other communities -every firefighter should have a portable radio -portables are out dated-will revisit with Finance*

*Article 6-Feasability Study- Public Safety Buildings-study started -some funding available-some bond company will offer their bond premium -have to spend it on any capital projects has to be 20-30year project/ project has to be spending within 5 years.*

*Article 7 – Place holder / straighter driveway / planning process with CVS -Easement for new driveway/ Fire Department.*

*M. Farrell and G. Fowler mentioned the Town has a million dollars in free cash and suggested thinking about putting some of that money in reserve accounts, D. Twiss thinks it a great idea and suggested that the Finance Committee comes to the Selectman meeting on October 19, 2020.*

**ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE**

**OF THE MEETING**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

*New owner of the Pratt Hobby Shop, 20 E. Main Street, Georgetown, Mass is requesting a name change on their current second-hand license.*

**C. Durney moved to approve the new owner of Pratt Hobby Shop, 20E Main Street as Rossana Paganelli for a second-hand shop license to expire on 12/31/2020 at which time this license will be up for renewal, P. Kershaw seconded the motion, a roll call vote was taken all in favor.**

**APPOINTMENTS and APPROVALS**

***Mr. Dawes moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented from August 31, 2020, P. Kershaw seconded the motion. Roll call was taken -Mr. Durney abstained from the motion/vote.***

***G. Fowler moved to approve the meeting minutes from September 14, 2020 as presented D. Dawes seconded the motion. Roll call was taken all in favor.***

***G. Fowler motion to release draft executive session meeting minutes from July 18,2016, February 27, 2017 and January 7, 2019, seconded by Kershaw. Roll call was taken all in favor.***

***C. Durney motion to Appoint of Michael Gentile to the Parks and Recreation Commission with the recommendation of the Parks and recreation Committee, seconded by P. Kershaw-appointment expires 12/31/2020, Roll call was taken all in favor.***

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Kershaw moved to adjourn. Mr. Durney seconded the motion , roll call vote was taken all in favor.**

*Meeting adjourned at 9:15PM.*

*Minutes transcribed by M. Shultz*

*Draft Meeting Minutes will be approved on 11/9/2020*

*Documents used in the meeting:*

* + *New application -name change for second hand shop license-Pratt Hoppy Shop*
  + *New Flier for Halloween Information*
  + *Meeting minutes from 8/31/2020 & 9/14/2020.*
  + *Executive draft meeting minutes from July18,2016, February 27, 2017, and*