

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

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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES**

**11/9/2020**

**6:00PM-General Meeting**

**Broadcast on Georgetown Cable TV via BlueJeans**

**Verizon channel 42/Comcast channel 9**

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**Selectmen Present:** Acting Chair Douglas W. Dawes, Clerk; Peter J. Kershaw, Gary Fowler.

**Others Present:** Michael Farrell, Town Administrator, Maureen Shultz, Administrative Assistant, Police Chief Donald Cudmore, Board of Health Agent, Deb Rogers, Attorney Jill Mann from Mann & Mann, P.C. Jose Juan Grateraux and Miranda Sweet, David Surface.

**Absent:** D. Twiss and C. Durney

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**6:00PM Call to order**

*Invocation-Douglas W. Dawes*

*Pledge of Allegiance*

*Acting Chair D. Dawes 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](http://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 that.*

**OLD BUSINESS: COVID-19 update-Police Chief Cudmore & Deb Rogers BOH Agent:**

*D. Rogers, Board of health Agent, stated there are ten new cases in Town in the past ten days, encouraged all to wear masks and stay at home if possible, keep social distancing. Chief Cudmore spoke on the recent changes and guidelines just announced from Governor Charlie Bakers office and on his stay-at-home advisory.*

*G. Fowler asked about the Governors mandatory face coverings -D. Rogers explained.*

### **TOWN MEETING UPDATE:**

*Chief Cudmore spoke on the upcoming Town Meeting and some of the expenses that will occur such as heat since Town Meeting will be held outside in a tent, lighting, and public safety. Chief Cudmore is hopeful that most expenses will be covered with Cares Act, the tent will be safety erected on the ball field, there is another meeting set for the Thursdays prior to the town meeting to go over some items, hope for good weather, attendance may be extensive due to a warrant article. Chief Cudmore stated there is no building in Town to accommodate the number of attendees that are expected. Hoping to get the support from the Board so we can move forward to get the Town's business done.*

*G. Fowler questioned how we got to a tent, commented that the Board took no action on this at their emergency meeting held last week, spoke on the cost and what that might be and where is the funding coming from, questioned what the cost is going to be, believes there is just as much danger being in a tent, as being inside, suggested the event be cancelled. G. Fowler stated that times are difficult and thanked everyone for putting this all together but cannot please everyone and thinks everyone is doing the best they can. P. Kershaw thanked everyone for putting this all together and everyone's efforts do not go unnoticed.*

*D. Dawes as a point of order welcomed Town Moderator, Dave Surface to the meeting. Mr. Surface spoke on the pre meeting this afternoon and that the tent has been installed. Restrooms are open at the Perley School- Chief Cudmore spoke on the restroom facility at the school and believes there is no decision made at this point regarding the bathroom facilities and a decision will be made if porta potties will be used. Town Moderator, Dave Surface stated once the Town Warrant is posted it becomes the Moderators meeting and no longer a Selectman's Meeting which gives him the authority to move things around if need be.*

*M. Farrell going to apply for additional funding from the Cares Act, official deadline was October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the Town has spent \$750,930.00 so far and there is still funding allocated to the Town, however the Town did not put in for it by the deadline. M. Farrell feels that the Town will be fully reimbursed / less than \$15K.*

*D Dawes asked if there is an appeal period-Mr. Farrell responded no but there is a reconciliation period, in which will be explored for expenses that accrued after the deadline had passed. D. Dawes asked if there is point of contact, M. Farrell stated it is automated system and there is no one we can pick-up the phone and call it is a timing issue and we missed the deadline.*

*M. Farrell spoke to the Board on the possibility of reducing the quorum to twenty-five. M. Farrell did put a notice up at the Town Hall and on the Town's website on the subject. Discussion took place on when to post and have a meeting on the quorum- single meeting item not for a permanent change to the quorum only for this Town Meeting, meeting notice needs to be posted. M. Farrell will speak with the Chair on this. D. Shrader, Town Moderator thinks it might be a smart move to lower the quorum.*

*Chief Cudmore asked about the quorum -speaking on his staff -concerned with procedure and public safety and a timeline.*

*The Board is in agreement to have a meeting on Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 6PM for this topic only.*

*D. Dawes asked about any security for the tent on Wednesday -prior to the start of Town Meeting, Chief Cudmore and his staff will be there patrolling the property, confident with the lighting in the area of the tent, P. Kershaw asked about the six feet apart distancing and seating, Chief Cudmore spoke on the renting of seats that will be six feet apart and there will be accommodations for handicapped accessibility*

#### **APPOINTMENT & APPROVALS.**

*P. Kershaw moved to approve amended meeting minutes from October 5, 2020, seconded by G. Fowler. Roll call vote was unanimous and all in favor.*

*P. Kershaw moved to approve amended meeting minutes from October 26, 2020, seconded by G. Fowler. Roll call was unanimous and all-in favor.*

*G. Fowler moved to approve the appointment of Marie Collins to the Council on Aging as a one-year alternate member with a term to expire on June 30, 2021, seconded by P. Kershaw. Roll call was unanimous and all-in favor.*

#### **NEW BUSINESS/ CHANGE OF MANAGER:**

*Attorney Jill Mann from the law firm of Mann & Mann, recommended Mr. Jose Juan Grateraux to the appointment as a new manager of Rybo's Bistro II Inc, 258 Andover Street, Georgetown, Mass as it pertains to their liquor license. D. Dawes asked Mr. Grateraux to tell the Board about himself. Any questions from the Board -None -Kershaw wished him well. P. Kershaw moved to approve Mr. Grateraux as the new manger of Rybo's Bistro as it relates to their liquor license, seconded by D. Dawes. Roll call was take 2-1in favor of the motion. G. Fowler voted nay to the motion. Mr. Fowler addressed Mr. Grateraux and said he has had concerns with the process not to him personally and wished him well.*

*Attorney Jill Mann from the Law firm of Mann & Mann, recommended Ms. Miranda Sweet to the appointment as a new manager of Another Spot, Inc, 19W. Main Street, Georgetown, Mass as it pertains to their liquor license. G. Fowler moved to approve Ms. Miranda Sweet as the new manager of Another Spot, as it relates to their liquor license seconded by P. Kershaw.*

#### **Town Administrator's Report:**

*Mr. Farrell spoke on the upcoming holiday schedule with regards to the staff being able to receive a floating holiday for being open the day before the Thanksgiving, Christmas Day and New Year Eve, but with this year the Town Hall will still being closed to the public. Mr. Farrell suggest not giving a floating holiday but instead give the day off before the Holidays mentioned. G. Fowler moved to approve this change to giving the town hall employees the day off before the scheduled Holiday in place of a floating holiday, seconded by P. Kershaw. Roll call was unanimous and all-in favor. Mr. Dawes stated he was not happy with staff having five days off during the week of Thanksgiving but agreed with the Board to approve.*

*M. Farrell gave the Board a heads up on an upcoming retirement from Les Godin, Building Inspector possibly in January 1, 2021.*

## **SELECTMEN'S REPORT:**

*D. Dawes recognized Kerri McManus, Town Clerk and her staff for all their hard work and hours they have had put in for the State Election. D. Dawes thanked the whole team.*

*G. Fowler spoke of having a meeting prior to the Special Town Meeting by the Board as they have done in prior years. P. Kershaw and G. Fowler agreed to meet prior to Town Meeting.*

*P. Kershaw will be holding a task force meeting to discuss the National Avenue potential land uses with M. Farrell, Town Administrator, Steve Przyjemski, Conservation Agent, John Cashell, Town Planner and Richard Cohn and will update the Board.*

*G. Fowler spoke on the recent Community Preservation Committee's meeting that was recently cancelled. G. Fowler will be resigning from the Park and Recreation Committee and will submit a letter to that affect and thanked the members for the time he was on the Board and spoke on the Towns great volunteers.*

*D. Dawes met with the Georgetown CARES Coalition Committee recently.*

*G. Fowler requested that a letter received from the Law offices of McCann and McCann be added to the next scheduled meeting of the Selectman after the Special Town Meeting for a discussion item.*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**P. Kershaw to adjourn, G. Fowler seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken all voted unanimously in favor to adjourn.**

*Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM. Minutes transcribed by Maureen Shultz*

*Documents used in the meeting:*

*Meeting minutes 10/5/2020 & 10/26/2020*

*Change of Manager application -Rybo's Bistro & The Spot.*

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