

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

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

Memorial Town Hall

10/19/2020

6:00PM-General Meeting

Broadcast on Georgetown Cable TV via BlueJeans

Verizon channel 42/Comcast channel 9

Selectmen Present: Douglas W. Dawes, Clerk; Peter J. Kershaw and Charles Durney.

Others Present: Michael Farrell, Town Administrator. Administrative Assistant, Maureen Shultz, Police Chief Donald Cudmore, Board of Health Agent, Deb Rogers, Fire Chief Fred Mitchell, Finance Committee Chair, Sheila Ruth, Vice Chair Wayne Snow, Members Steven Epstein, Eric Burton, Alicia Raspa David Harris, Dave Surface.

Absent: D. Twiss, Gary Fowler

6:00PM Call to order

Invocation-Douglas W. Dawes

Pledge of Allegiance

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. 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.

Chair S. Routh of the Finance Committee called meeting to order. Sheila Ruth called her Finance Committee member to come to order.

Joint Meeting with the Finance Committee to go over the Draft Town Meeting Warrant.

Article 1-Discussed-New Growth, Finance Chair S. Ruth asked Liability-M. Farrell will advise. S. Ruth questioned collectable amounts of Levy, Meals Tax not doing good per M. Farrell.

D. Dawes inquired retirement in the Assessors Office, Person who used to do payroll o longer here -new person hires at \$1K Less, another Clerk hired in the Tax Collector's Office, Building Department at record pace with new permits, collecting in the Town is high at 89%.

Article 2-Appropriation of free cash to fund the retirement of two employees. D. Dawes inquired on this and the employees who have retired.

Article 3- Stormwater Management Program.

Article 4- To fix the garage at the Police Station including water issue. To fix the garage and the water issue easy fix.

Article 5-Fire Department Radios-

Article 6-Feasibilty Study for Public Safety Buildings. Chief Cudmore spoke on this article/ Chairman of the Finance Committee spoke on this article. Generator thirty years old-sprinkler system also aging. Finance Member Steve Epstein asked Chief Cudmore what was the vision of the Feasibility Study and Chief Cudmore replied they are only looking at that Building only. Finance Member W. Snow has some expertise on the current situation and has some advice on what to do from here.

Article 7-Tax Stabilization fund

Article 8-Transfer fund to the Capital Fund.

Article 9-OPEB Fund -Discussed -D. Dawes questioned the \$100K in OPEB. M Farrell says you can mix and match.

Article 10-CVS Easement-Language not ready as if this meeting.

Article 11 Citizens Petition -no vote needed -automatically goes on the Warrant after the Town Clerk finalizes and approves the signatures, which has been completed.

P. Kershaw moves to close the Special Town Meeting Warrant with revisions seconded by C. Durney. A roll call vote was taken all in favor.

D. Dawes spoke with Mr. Fowler about an additional retirement account that the Town adopted years ago and believes there has been no activity on this account, D. Dawes asked how much was in this account -answered zero money -account hasn't been utilized for years.

K. Kershaw requested that East Main Street project be added to a future agenda item -M. Farrell stated it has been approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

M. Farrells, Town Administrators review is past due and should be added to a future agenda item by the Board.

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

Chief Cudmore spoke on the plans and reimbursement from FEMA and MEMA no figures yet any balances submitted to CARES that will not be covered will be the Department Heads, Community Compact Grant was updated by Chief Cudmore, Phase Approach, Recognized and thanked Red Kelly. P. Kershaw thanked and asked Chief Cudmore about how long it takes to hear about these grants that have been applied for-End of fiscal 2021-but to spend will be end of 2022 per M. Farrell. State is watching the Communities for stock piling and can only have 60 days of supplies on hand, no spending after December 30, 2020, end of October M. Farrell will report the spending, State allows each community to spend no more than \$770K allowed. Expenditures' for the care act are around \$454, 932.00 currently given by M. Farrell and unemployment cost is through the roof. D. Dawes asked if the school Department's spending is the highest. Deb Rogers, Board of Health Director explained what contract tracing is, there are six new cases reported this week, three new public nurses that were hired going great. Codes will change on and will be updated if needed on Wednesday evenings at 6PM.

APPOINTMENT & APPROVALS.

D. Dawes moved to appoint Donna Fontenot to the Georgetown Housing Authority until next the next Election on April 30, 2021, seconded by P. Kershaw. Roll call vote was all in favor. Members of the Housing Authority were present -Diane Drinan & Frank Harper and new appointee Donna Fontenot.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT:

Mr. Kershaw inquired about the upcoming Halloween holiday -No plans have been set as of now, Chief Cudmore informed the Board that depending on what phase is regarding the Covid at the time of the holiday, hoping the Governor will make a decision, Chief Cudmore will update when more information is received.

NEXT MEETING

October 26, 2020

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Durney moved to adjourn; Mr. Dawes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken all in favor.

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

Documents used in the meeting:

- *COVID-19 update-Police Chief Cudmore & Deb Rogers BoH Agent*
- *Letter request from the Swampscott Housing Authority for appointment.*
- *Updated Draft Town Meeting Warrant*

