

Board of Selectmen Meeting
Memorial Town Hall Conference room & Teams

Nov. 4, 2020, 5:30pm
Diana Szynal, Chair
Approved: Nov. 17, 2020

Present: Selectmen Brian Moriarty, Edmund Jaworski, Diana Szynal, Marlene Michonski, Town Administrator, Kerry Flaherty, Sharon Strzegowski, Treasurer/Collector, Lydia Szych, Town Clerk

Selectman Szynal called the meeting to order @5:35pm.

Announcements-

Selectman Jaworski noted a Veterans Day ceremony in front of town hall Nov. 11 at 11. Selectman Szynal thanked Kathy Olsen and Hatfield postmaster for work to create a special Hatfield 350th commemorative postmark that will be used December 17, 18 and 19th. Information will be available soon on the Luminarium fireworks. Selectman Szynal thanked Lydia Szych and the election workers for a job well done. She also thanked the municipal vulnerability preparedness meetings participants. Selectman Jaworski was impressed with the younger participants. It was a worthwhile exercise. Selectman Moriarty reminded that tax bills and water bills are due, and the Collector's office is open Thurs, Nov. 5th from 1-5pm.

Selectman Szynal read the public participation policy. She then called for anyone who wished to address the Board at public forum. Resident Lary Grossman commented that the Special Town Meeting quorum should not be reduced so low as to allow the people at the front table to make up the quorum. Selectman Szynal said this would be taken into consideration

Selectman Moriarty moved to accept minutes of October 7, 2020. Selectman Jaworski seconded. The motion was approved.

Appointment - Police Department new hire.

Selectman Moriarty moved to appointment Paul Picard as Hatfield Police Department officer. Selectman Jaworski seconded. All being in favor the motion was approved. Officer Kennedy was thanked for coming in to introduce Officer Picard.

COVID Update-

Ms. Flaherty reported Hatfield has no new cases. Governor's new guidelines go into effect Friday. Those interested can visit MA.gov for updates and to see Governor Baker's press conference. She went over guidelines reiterating masks must be worn by everyone at all times on days that town hall is open to the public. A letter from a doctor is necessary for those who have medical reason to not wear a mask. Certain areas such as the Highway garage, and police station are not considered a public place. Indoor functions have been lowered to 10 at a residence, and 25 for event places as the Legion. Outside events can have up to 100 as Hatfield is considered low risk. People outside walking on the street are supposed to have masks.

The Police Chief said everybody must have headlights on at Luminarium. Fireworks will be visible from everywhere in town. There will be no singing, or hot cocoa. Ms. Flaherty noted that there were 1629 new cases yesterday in MA. Selectman Moriarty reminded that people who live/work in Hatfield have been doing a great job but asked that we don't be complacent. Ms. Flaherty can issue \$300 fines for those not in compliance.

Businesses must close by 9:30 and people need to be home from 10pm to 5am. She will send out

information to employees in writing and asked for the Board's support when she must enforce the rules. Information could be posted to Facebook and in the next COA newsletter.

Both schools were commended for working very hard. If you or household family member have any symptoms don't come to work. Ms. Flaherty will talk with employees if they have symptoms.

Sewer Abatement

Selectman Moriarty moved to approve abatement for 7 Nolan Circle for a portion of a sewer bill.

Selectman Jaworski seconded. He asked that applicants list gallons in future. All voting in favor.

The motion was approved.

Financial Update-

Ms. Michonski said Tony Roselli has completed the FY20 audit but the report will be delayed. The accountant is tying up year-end reports.

Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant-

Ms. Michonski submitted an application in December because we wish to update our plan. FEMA awarded \$15,750 of the project cost of \$21,000.00. Ms. Michonski and Mr. Genovese were thanked for doing a good job pursuing grants.

Selectman Moriarty moved to approve a contract for hazard mitigation with the state. Selectman Jaworski seconded. The motion was approved.

Town Hall Conference and Meeting Space-

Ms. Michonski reported the Council on Aging Director asked if the upstairs space would be adequate to accommodate exercise classes. Selectman Szynal said it seems a safe space for people to try to get back to normal. Also, Ms. Michonski is leasing storage space at Bensons to the end of the year.

Special Town Meeting Warrant-

As discussed at previous meetings there are 2 articles: 1. To acquire easements for the route 5 & 10 sewer project, and 2. Approve a 5-year lease for vehicles for which money has already been budgeted.

Selectman Jaworski moved to accept the warrant as presented. Selectman Moriarty seconded. All voting in favor, the motion was approved. Special Town Meeting will be Saturday, Nov. 21st at 11am at the Pavilion.

Selectman Szynal explained that for another town meeting happening during COVID, it is right to reduce the quorum as allowed by the Governor. Selectman Moriarty said reducing the quorum is not to restrict people but to make sure there is a quorum.

Selectman Moriarty moved, with the approval of the moderator, to 10 people pursuant to Hatfield bylaw with a regular quorum of 75. Selectman Jaworski seconded. The motion was approved.

HR Telework Policy

The Department head meeting was not well attended. Selectman Szynal doesn't want to move forward without better input from department heads. Ms. Strzegowski explained that an employee cannot work and be on leave. After brief conversation regarding this topic it was decided that this requires more discussion.

Selectman Jaworski moved to adjourn. Selectman Szynal seconded. The motion was approved and the meeting ended at 6:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ki J. Eno, Executive Assistant