Selectmen Minutes

Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, April 28, 2020 @ 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting – 143TV and Zoom

Selectmen Participating: Kevin McCarthy, Chairman
Paul Schubert
Diane Kennedy
Keri Thompson
Jack Creighton

Others Participating: Christopher Senior, Town Manager
William Quigley, Police Chief
Robert Silvia, Fire Chief
Glenn Pratt, Director of Emergency Mgmt.
Pam Fahey, Health Agent

Chairman McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He stated the meeting is being held remotely under the Town’s Declaration of Emergency. All votes will be taken by roll call vote. This meeting is being live streamed on Facebook and on Cohasset 143TV. Roll Call Vote: Diane Kennedy-Present, Paul Schubert-Present, Kevin McCarthy-Present, Keri Thompson-Present, Jack Creighton-Present.

Pledge—Recited.

Board/Committee-Interview/Appointment-Affordable Housing Trust—Applicant Edwin Carr gave an overview of his experience and stated why he is interested in being appointed. The members of the Board of Selectmen had the opportunity to ask questions. Motion by Selectman Thompson to appoint Edwin Carr to the Affordable Housing Trust for a one-year term, seconded by Selectman Kennedy. Roll Call Vote: Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Kevin McCarthy-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye, Jack Creighton-Aye.

Vote to allow any member of the Board of Selectmen or the Town Manager to sign Liquor Licenses during the Public Emergency—Mr. Senior explained since the Board is meeting virtually it would be appropriate. He has discussed with counsel. Motion by Chairman McCarthy to authorize any member of the Board of Selectmen or the Town Manager to sign on behalf of the Town any documents relative to filings with the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission or related matters during the current Public Emergency, seconded by Keri Thompson, Roll Call Vote: Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Kevin McCarthy-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye, Jack Creighton-Aye.

Update on the Public Emergency—Chief Silvia gave an update on the public emergency. He discussed masks and social distancing and the importance of it. Chief Quigley stated the Police continue to monitor groups of kids. Pam Fahey stated she is continuing to monitor businesses. The grocery stores are doing great and following all the rules. Glenn Pratt stated they are sanitizing DPW and public safety vehicles on a regular basis.

Licenses/Permits—New All Alcohol Liquor License and Common Victualler’s License—Fire and Stone Trattoria, LLC—Applicant Kaitlyn Jeoffcote gave an overview of her experience and her plan for the new restaurant. The Cohasset Police Department conducted a full background check and uncovered no derogatory information. The Board had a brief discussion. Motion by Selectman Kennedy to approve an all alcohol on premises liquor license to Fire and Stone Trattoria, LLC d/b/a Fire and Stone Trattoria located at 1 Pleasant Street, seconded by Selectman Keri Thompson. Roll Call Vote: Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Kevin McCarthy-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye, Jack Creighton-Aye. Motion by Selectman Schubert to approve a Common Victuallers license for Fire

Change of Manager-Cohasset Harbor Group, LLC d/b/a Cohasset Harbor Inn-Applicant George Andrew Post gave an overview of his experience in the industry. The Cohasset Police Department conducted a full background check and uncovered no derogatory information. The Board had a brief discussion. Motion by Selectman Paul Schubert to approve the change of manager at the Cohasset Harbor Inn to Christopher George Andrew Post, seconded by Selectman Thompson. Roll Call Vote: Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Kevin McCarthy-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye, Jack Creighton-Aye.

Memorial Day Update-Veteran Services Agent Phil Mahoney-Mr. Mahoney gave an update of the plans for this year’s event. They are planning to have the Field of Flags and are trying to plan a virtual celebration as well. Chairman McCarthy asked that Mr. Mahoney get Health Agent Pam Fahey involved in the setting up of the field to keep people social distanced during set up and the Board of Health approve the plan. He also suggested the Cohasset Police be involved if the field draws a crowd.

FY20 3rd Quarter Budget Update-Finance Director Don Piatt-Mr. Piatt advised the Board at this point the FY20 looks good. Revenues and Expenditures look as they did at this point last year. Water and Sewer budgets look on target. All local receipts look good.

FY21 Budget Modifications-Mr. Piatt advised the Board as of right now it is hard to predict what modifications will have to be made. They will continue to review the budget and see what can done to save and they have asked the Schools to do the same. They will update again next week. At this point, they do not know what to expect from the State. They should have a better idea after the next six months.

Board & Committee Roll-out Update-Mr. Senior advised the Board that boards/committees will be able to host regular meetings via the Zoom platform. There will be training available for members if needed.

Annual Town Meeting-Set New Date-Week of June 15-Mr. Senior advised the Board they need to move the date of Annual Town Meeting due to the deadline of approving the FEMA maps. He has spoken with the Town Moderator and he is available on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday the week of June 15th. He has a conflict on Monday, June 15th. The Board had a brief discussion. Motion by Selectman Kennedy to set the date of Annual Town Meeting for Tuesday, June 16, 2020 at 7 p.m., seconded by Selectman Schubert. Roll Call Vote: Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Kevin McCarthy-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye, Jack Creighton-Aye.

Review Current Warrant/Possible Article postponements until Fall-Mr. Senior proposed removing six of the Planning/Zoning articles and take them up at the Special Town Meeting in the fall. The Planning Board has no issue with it being delayed. There is one article on Zoning Bylaw Amendment article for the Flood plain and Watershed protection district that will remain on the warrant. He also stated the Planning Board would like to add an article for easements at 124 Elm Street to the warrant. The Planning Board will review the article and bring back to the Board for recommendation. The Board had a brief discussion.

Town Manager Update-Mr. Senior stated he spoke to Scituate’s Town Manager yesterday and right now they are not meeting or approving any applications regarding commercial aquaculture. It is essentially on hold due to the Covid-19 emergency. Consultant Leslie Ann McGee is working on a memo and once he receives it, he will set up a time with her and Town Counsel DeRensis. Things are on hold with the Harbor Plan right now. He spoke with the Tim Davis and Lauren Lind today. They will be presenting the
plan to the Planning Board in June, then to the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Creighton stated he has been involved with the Harbor aquaculture and the property owners in the area own some of the harbor. They are against the proposed aquaculture. The Town should have counsel involved to help with the parking restrictions that will be necessary. The owners have formed Friends of Bassing Beach, Inc. (FOBB) which are opposed Aquaculture in the harbor. Chairman McCarthy stated once Mr. Senior receives and reviews the memo from the consultant, the Board will discuss. He recommended that the discussion be put on the agenda in June after the Board is finished with the warrant for ATM. Mr. Senior reminded residents to continue to use the blue bags at the Recycling facility. The bags pay for the recycling.

Selectmen Update - Selectman Kennedy stated some cities/towns are allowing some forms of recreation such as tennis. She asked if the Cohasset considered this type of recreation where there are not a lot of people involved and they are distanced. She stated she is concerned about the Harbor area when the weather gets warmer and thinks there needs to be some discussion of how it will be handled. Selectman Kennedy offered her congratulations to Officer Rudy Helbock of Cohasset Police that had a socially distanced wedding this past weekend at St. Anthony’s. Selectman Schubert thanked all residents that are wearing their masks and thanks to everyone that has made masks, donated food and left chalk messages at South Shore Hospital. It has been great. Selectman Thompson stated she hopes everyone continues to stay healthy and support local businesses and restaurants. Selectman Creighton stated he is proud of the way in which the Town of Cohasset, from Police, Fire, DPW and everyone has dealt with everything going on.


The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin McCarthy, Chairman

Documents
E. Carr Application
Vote to sign Liquor License
Liquor License Applications
FY20 Budget Info
Draft Warrant
Minutes 4/14/2020