



**Office of Board of Selectmen
Town of Mason**

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Selectmen Meeting 4/14/2020
Approved Minutes

Present: By roll call -Selectmen Louise Lavoie, Pete McGinnity, Charles Moser, Chair; Kathy Wile AA; Brenda Wiley, bookkeeper; member of the public Barbara Devore; Town of Wilton AA Janice Pack and Wilton Recycling Center director Carol Burgess.

Called to Order: The meeting was called to order 7:31 PM by Chair Charlie Moser. He began the meeting by reading the procedures for electronically held meetings pursuant to the Governor's executive order 2020-04. That document is attached to these minutes. The meeting had been posted on the town website, and on the bulletin boards at both the Mann House and Town Hall.

Approvals:

- Noted that the accounts payable and payroll manifests had both been signed prior to the meeting by Pete and Charlie. Louise will get in to sign them in the morning.
- Minutes of March 24, 2020 were considered. Pete motioned to accept the minutes of 3/24/2020 as written. Second from Louise. Votes to approve the minutes of 3/24/2020 as written as follow: Louise aye, Pete aye, Charlie aye. Minutes accepted as written.
- Minutes of April 8, 2020 emergency meeting were also considered. Motion from Pete, second from Charlie to accept the minutes of 4/8/2020 as written. Three votes to accept the minutes of 4/8/2020 as written were as follow – Louise aye, Pete aye, Charlie aye. Minutes of 4/8/2020 accepted as written.
- Final paperwork for the TAN had been received, and prepared for signature. Charlie motioned to approve and sign all of TAN related paperwork as needed. Second from Pete. Roll call vote to approve signatures as follows – Pete aye, Charlie aye, Louise abstained as she had not yet reviewed the documents. Two votes to approve all document signatures as needed. Charlie and Pete noted they have signed the forms, Louise indicated she would do so in the morning.

New Business:

- Carol Burgess, director of the Wilton Recycling Center, and Janice Pack, Admin Asst for the Town of Wilton, were in the meeting by video connection to discuss a proposed change in hours for the recycling center. Carol explained that currently the center is closed only on Wednesdays and Fridays; although not open to the public on Monday, it is a work day for them. The proposed hours open to the public would be Tuesdays 6:30 AM -5:00 PM, Thursdays 10:30 AM -7:30 PM, Fridays 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM, and Saturdays 8:00 AM –

5:00 PM. The hours are increased during the week, including longer days, and eliminate the Sunday morning hours currently scheduled.

Janice added that the Town of Wilton has committed to providing a good work/life balance for their employees, and giving the center's employees 2 consecutive days off, including one weekend day, was part of that goal.

Concerns of selectmen included that they had gotten feedback from residents saying Su was their only time to access the center. If participation level were to go down, would the cost to Mason go down as well? Answer is no, that fee is based on population not participation, but Janice offered they could begin tracking participation by number of stickers given out. She also said it was not a decrease of hours, just a change overall.

Selectmen further supported the idea of holding a public hearing to get public input. The Wilton representatives expressed disappointment, as the other towns had signed on, and they had hoped to implement this schedule change by Mother's Day.

Charlie polled the selectmen; Pete saying he felt a hearing was necessary, Louise asking if the Thursday hours could be extended to 8:00 as many other towns offered, and Charlie proposing they have until next meeting to get feedback from townspeople on proposed changes.

Wilton agreed to extending Th hours, and the final consensus was that Mason's final decision would be made and shared with Carol and Janice at the next BOS meeting of April 28, 2020

- Next item of new business was an inquiry to BOS from the Broadband Committee to possibly schedule a special town meeting to vote on getting a bond for internet improvements. Charlie had not had a chance to speak with Atty Drescher on the matter, to decide if it was a money article or not. Though it would be paid back through user fees, the town would be a co-signer on the bond. Requirements for votes needed at each type of meeting (special vs typical town meeting) were discussed, it being more difficult to get the required number of votes at a special town meeting.

Louise offered to follow up with DRA and see what kind of article it would be in their eyes.

- Internet security training being sent to masonnh email account users was discussed. Agreement that it had not been properly introduced, and concern that it was at a very basic level. Discussion led to agreement that we should go ahead with the webmaster sending out the introductory letter to all users prior to the next training link being sent out Thursday.
- HD news that new part time employee was leaving was met with general disappointment. Pete suggested an exit interview, and offered to do that by phone. Kathy will get the employee's number for Pete.

The bent plow blade was discussed, and Kathy asked to call Primex and see about coverage.

Old Business:

Complaints regarding a Townsend Rd residence were discussed, including a concern on recovering an expense the town had need to cover. Charlie will research those procedures, as well as how to proceed once the state of emergency is lifted.

Question on if the animal in question was registered was given to Kathy to pursue.

This topic should be added to the agenda of the next meeting to continue.

Public Forum:

- Caller Barbara Devore expressed concern that the program planned in conjunction with Freedom's Way, honoring "Twig" Jones, should not go forward. Much of the planning for

the July 18, 2020 event involved the library staff, and the music and art teachers at the school. Selectmen offered support, suggesting she be in touch with the school, library staff and Freedom's Way to get a consensus about going forward.

Non-Public:

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Louise motioned to adjourn, second from Pete. Roll call vote to adjourn as follows – Pete aye, Louise aye, Charlie aye. Three votes to adjourn at 8:46 PM. The meeting was closed by Charlie online

Next regular meeting will be Tuesday April 28, 2020, electronically, at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Wile
Administrative Assistant