

Town of Chesterfield
Board of Selectmen
MINUTES
APRIL 1, 2020

Jeanny Aldrich called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM. The meeting is being held electronically pursuant to Governor Sununu's emergency order #12: Temporary modification of public access to meetings under RSA 91-A. Also, in attendance were Norm VanCor, Jon McKeon, Alissa Thompson and Dara Carleton.

Old Business:

Progress on erosion issue on town-owned beaches

VanCor stated that there is no new information at this time, and he will reach out to Rawson this week.

Covid-19

Building Permit Process

Aldrich stated that she has emailed a procedure that she thinks should be put in place for building permits while the Code Enforcement office is closed to the public. Aldrich wants to encourage electronic communication and payments rather than mail coming in due to staff safety reasons. McKeon pointed out that some homeowners may have difficulties with the process. Aldrich stated that she will add a line to the procedures stating that people should contact Code Enforcement if they are having issues with this process. VanCor stated that it is an improvement and something we can move forward with. Aldrich stated this will have to be looked at again now that Governor Sununu announced emergency order 23. McKeon stated he needs more time to go through the language of emergency order 23 but does not see anything of immediate concern in regards to the proposed procedure for the Building Department..

Emergency orders that have been issued since Sunday

McKeon noted that he is attending a conference call meeting at noon tomorrow that will cover emergency order 23 in detail. He anticipates there will be a lot of questions. Within this order there is also relief from some requirements for meetings. McKeon stated that the Town can spend money on most items within the proposed budget except for those that are different than last year. We can send tax bills out because the next tax bill has already been established from last years' budget. Thompson stated that was also her understanding.

VanCor questioned if Warrant Articles for the new budget were in jeopardy. McKeon stated that some of those things are impacted and will need to be discussed. Chris Lord, Director of Public Works, asked VanCor about the Highway truck scheduled to be purchased. McKeon believes they will be addressed at the emergency order 23 electronic meeting tomorrow.

McKeon noted that both the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the Planning Board chairs were invited to attend the Board of Selectmen virtual meeting last Sunday to try it out. McKeon noted that Aldrich will provide a step by step process on how to run a virtual meeting through Zoom. Aldrich stated the process that we currently have is the same for virtual meetings. The secretary for each Board will notice the abutters and the meeting. Aldrich noted that she is making the chairmen secondary hosts on Zoom. McKeon stated the SOP should have the Chair opening with Governor Sununu's orders.

Essential vs. non-essential businesses

McKeon stated that he reached out to Camp Spofford informing them of the Governor's directive on camps. Camp Spofford director, Dan Syvertsen stated that they were aware of and abiding by the order VanCor noted that Kevin Rose at J & J Discount Store is going above and beyond what is required for safety. They are offering curbside service.

New Business:

Town Meeting

McKeon, not sure of who the State recognizes as the current moderator, reached out to all three possible moderators for Town Meeting: Brad Roscoe, Rebecca Todd and Susan Newcomer. McKeon noted that all three said yes to moving Town Meeting to May 9 and noted that the last part of emergency order 23 deals with officials being sworn in via electronic method or telephone. McKeon assumed Roscoe will be in touch with the Town Clerk and noted that as soon as Roscoe is sworn in, he is the moderator.

Public Comment:

Jeff Scott noted that he has the Town Meeting banner. McKeon stated that Scott should hold onto it for now.

Bob Maibusch stated that he was curious, if because the Town Meeting date was changed, do the Warrant articles stay the same? McKeon stated that whatever is published is the Town Warrant.

James Corliss stated that he received some information from Town counsel. Indicating at next the public meeting he could continue the Spofford golf course hearing to April 20, which would serve as notice. This would relieve the need to re-notice abutters.

Other Business:

Aldrich requested that Tricia Lachenal have a Town cell phone. McKeon and VanCor agreed.

Aldrich moved that the Town of Chesterfield add onto their phone service a phone for Tricia Lachenal as of today. VanCor seconded and it passed by unanimous roll call vote.

There was a brief discussion about the Town Clerk and waiving certain convenience fees for credit/debit cards payments.

VanCor questioned where the Board was with forwarding the Town Administrator's calls to her home. It was noted that this subject was discussed last week. McKeon stated that having Thompson's line answered at her house is much different than answering the phone in an office environment. VanCor stated that this would be a backup plan and would be productive.

McKeon moved to enter into non-public session under RSA 9-A:3 (a) the dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee.

After technical difficulties the non-public session was postponed until the meeting on Sunday at 9:00 AM.

McKeon stated that Bill Penny from Truck Camper Warehouse may be scheduled on the agenda for the next meeting on Wednesday.

Acceptance of Minutes:

VanCor moved to approve the March 25 minutes as amended. Aldrich seconded and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VanCor moved to approve the March 29 minutes as amended. Aldrich seconded and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

McKeon moved to adjourn at 7:20 PM. Aldrich seconded, and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Dara Carleton
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen

Approved by:


Jon McKeon, Chairman Frances J. Shippee 4.23.2020
Date


Norman W. VanCor Jeanny Aldrich 4/23/2020
Date