

Approved 04/16/2020

I. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm in the basement meeting room at the Fremont Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Gene Cordes, Neal Janvrin, Roger Barham, Town Administrator Heidi Carlson. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance. Tonight's meeting is a live broadcast by Bill Millios from FCTV.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. All Town services have transitioned to a virtual setup while Town buildings are closed to the public. Please review the most up to date information on the home page of the Town website. Please be patient as we all work through this current health crisis and do everything, we can stop the spread of the virus. Please remember social distancing and to stay at home whenever possible. Our distancing is working to help slow the spread.
2. Waste Management has issued new guidance that all trash must be bagged and tied before going in your toter. Also, a reminder that latex gloves go in the TRASH not recycling.
3. In accordance with RSA: 198:20-b, The Fremont School Board will hold a Public Hearing on April 21, 2020 beginning at 5:45 PM. The hearing will be held remotely due to the COVID-19 emergency order issued by Governor Sununu. The meeting will also be broadcast live on the Fremont Community Television channel (FCTV). Public questions and comments can be emailed in advance to Superintendent Allyn Hutton at ahutton@sau83.org. In addition, to comply with Emergency Order #12, during the hearing the public can email questions or comments to gfraize8701@gmail.com or they can call 603-988-4877. The Public can also attend the meeting via zoom, instructions can be found on the front page of our website, www.sau83.org. The purpose of the meeting is to accept and expend \$99,548.14 (plus accrued interest) of impact fees from the town. The funds will be spent on the roofing projects at Ellis School this spring.

III. LIAISON REPORTS

The Conservation Commission meeting scheduled for April 6, 2020 was cancelled.

Leanne Miner and two members of the Planning Board did a test call last night to test out the Teams meeting setup. She is using the Microsoft platform and she will do another test meeting on Monday. The Planning Board will meet on Wednesday for their regular monthly meeting, virtually. The directions are all on the website for public participation, along with the agenda and call/log in information.

The Emergency Management Director has continued to participate in frequent calls with EOC for updates. He also met with Fire and Police this week to discuss the grant information. He also sent in some email updates to include:

PPE situation for Fremont - we are currently in good shape with enough supplies for all first responders. All First responders Fire/EMS/Law Enforcement have been provided with specific training related to the virus and how to minimize. Dispatch protocols are in effect that will provide notification to first responders if patients have tested positive for COVID 19.

The Town is starting the FEMA process for accessing reimbursement. This will be a long process.

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Barham stated that quick wide-spread testing is necessary to get ahead of Covid-19; but we are not going to get them and to prepare for the long haul. Dr. Chan, New Hampshire's State Epidemiologist, gave a presentation on the curve with all the statistics. He also showed different scenarios of these statistics if social distancing stops too early. He emphasized the need to stay at home until and to be diligent with their social distancing. Carlson placed today's presentation up on the Town's website as it contains some good information.

The Highway Department has been patching in various places and doing winter cleanup. Paving of Chester Road is scheduled for the week of May 20. There has been some discussion about cash flow and how the Town's work/projects proceed this year to be mindful of all our needs and potential cash flow.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the Board's meeting of April 2, 2020 was made by Janvrin and seconded by Barham. The vote was unanimous 3-0.

V. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS – times subject to change depending on flow of the meeting

None

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. There are no updates from NH Bridge Aid regarding scope of work for the Martin Road Bridge Engineering.

2. Sandown Road Bridge Overflow guardrail repair – no contact yet with the guardrail company.

3. Planned Events

Rabies Clinic (April 11) has been cancelled. As of this meeting there has not been any rescheduled date released.

Bulky Day (April 25) has been cancelled. Still pending being rescheduled and will likely wait until the Fall event.

Litter Free Fremont (May 9) – Dropoff has been cancelled, but blue bags are available at the Library and Town Hall if people want to collect roadside trash and put the blue bags in their toter for weekly curbside pickup.

Memorial Day (May 24) has been cancelled. The Selectmen's Office has contacted the Band regarding the contract which they will redate for the 2021 event.

There is no date available on the Fremont Garden Club spring plant sale. The Board urges this to also be put on hold.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Selectmen reviewed the folder of incoming correspondence. This included several Executive Orders issued this week; the Waste Management monthly complaint report; Building Inspector's March report; correspondence with Highland Dunlap Band for Memorial Day parade extended to the 2021 event; information regarding tax deeding of properties from this point forward; emails from a resident on Galloway Trucking and Shirkin Road issues; Public Notice from the School Board with a notice of their Public Hearing; NH DES culvert permit for maintenance on Chester Road; copy of engineering on

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Chester Road with authorization to proceed; Employment Security notice on unemployment benefits for employees.

A motion was made by Barham and seconded by Janvrin to sign the outgoing letter to Arthur Eaton regarding the trapping in the Town Forest. The vote was unanimous 3-0.

Janvrin made a motion to temporarily go to biweekly processing of accounts payable due to the Covid-19 pandemic, to be reviewed as of the first meeting in September or prior if needed which was seconded Barham. The vote was unanimous 3-0.

2. A motion to approve the Accounts Payable manifest of \$ 28,667.95 for the current week dated April 10, 2020 was made by Barham. This was seconded by Janvrin. The vote was unanimous 3-0.

3. The 2020-2024 Utility Valuation Contract with George Sansoucy was sent out last Friday for review by the Board. After further review and discussion, there were questions regarding the length of the contract and payment cycle. Carlson indicated that she had spoken with Scott Marsh of MRI who agreed that we should continue this contract but in five years the formula will be easier, given the updated legislation, and it may not be necessary at some point. Janvrin moved to table any decision tonight until the questions are clarified. This was seconded by Barham. The vote was unanimous 3-0.

4. Carlson mentioned the Governor's Emergency Order regarding interest on taxes and some resident questions about waiving interest on property taxes. The Board reviewed a letter from an attorney which had been circulated by the NH Tax Collector's Association. Carlson suggested that there are still too many questions about the Governor's Order and what that means to municipalities, and suggested waiting until more information is available.

5. A motion to approve and sign the Regular Veteran Credit \$750 for Thomas Landry at 921 Main Street, Parcel 02-100 was made by Janvrin and seconded by Barham. The vote was unanimous 3-0.

6. Carlson advised the Board that she is processing the wage letters for Town employees with 2% budget increase voted at Town Meeting. The new rates are in effect for hours worked after March 29, 2020. A motion was made by Barham to sign Carlson's letter regarding the pay increase and seconded by Janvrin with unanimous approval 3-0.

7. Carlson discussed spring plans with the Board and how certain processes will get underway. Cordes stated we can't get behind as catch up will be difficult. Specifically, the ballfields are closed but they still need to be maintained, and the same is true of cemeteries. The FAA gave Carlson a wish list for what they want to have done regarding fertilizing and they are willing to do some work. Fields will not be opened until school is restarted, at the earliest. There is some weekly decon of playground equipment, but users should be aware that only a few people can be in the area at a time. The use of ballfields-they are not open for team use or group use, only individuals for walking.

With regard to Cemetery work, the one upcoming burial has been postponed at this time. This is another area that we can't get behind on the upkeep. The Trustees haven't been able to meet but the Town's cemetery worker has contacted Carlson on what plans are at this time.

Carlson then mentioned a candidate coming forward for the Deputy Health Officer position now that April Phelps has been appointed Health Officer (formerly the Deputy). The Town has received a resume from another resident having similar background to our Health Officer, with military and public health

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training. Carlson would like to try to get a deputy in place and the Board agreed this is an asset to get a person with the skill sets for this position. Carlson will send the candidate resume to the Board again for further review. Given the current situation, the Board was comfortable with Carlson conducting an interview and background checks, and making a recommendation to them for appointment.

VIII. WORKS IN PROGRESS

At 7:15 pm Janvrin moved to enter into non-public session pursuant to NH RSA 91:3 II (c) & (e) to discuss a personnel and a legal matter. Cordes seconded. The roll call vote was unanimously approved 3-0; Cordes-yes; Janvrin-yes; Barham-yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Nygren
Selectmen's Administrative Assistant

Carlson stepped out of the room to return a call to Deputy Chief Nichols which had come in during the meeting, to be sure it wasn't something the Board needed to be aware of.

The non-public session began at approximately 7:25 pm after Bill Millios left the building.

IX. NON-PUBLIC SESSION

There was discussion about the rigorous schedule being undertaken to clean the Town's buildings, and it was suggested that a checklist be put together and marked every time it is done. Mike Malloy will be engaged to assist with this, and information sent out to all employees.

Carlson then reviewed with the Board an interview she had this week with a candidate for the vacant PT position of Parks & Recreation Maintenance. To be proactive, background checks forms were completed with the candidate Tuesday and the Board asked that those checks and personal references be continued, with Carlson to come back with the final determination. A motion was made by Janvrin to authorize Carlson to hire the candidate if the checks are all satisfactory. The current rate of pay was discussed as approximately \$15 per hour. Barham seconded and the vote was approved 3-0.

There was discussion about the outstanding status of Patterson's and illegal activity on Shirkin Road. Additional follow-up is still to come.

The next regular Board meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Thursday, April 16, 2020 at the Fremont Town Hall in the basement meeting room.

With no further business which may legally come before the Board, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Carlson, Town Administrator