

Approved 05/07/2020

I. CALL TO ORDER 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 live broadcast by Bill Millios of FCTV.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. All Town services has transitioned to a virtual setup. 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! Please call or email us to get the services you need.

2. Reminder that Waste Management has issued new guidance that all trash must be bagged and tied before going in your toter and latex gloves go in the TRASH, not recycling.

III. LIAISON REPORTS

1. Cemetery Trustees met on Wednesday to begin discussions of what projects they plan to complete this year. They are looking at the \$3,000 encumbered for work at Leavitt and exactly what to do; as well as if/how to proceed with another potential cemetery project on South Road. They are also looking at getting operations up and running for the spring.

2. In recent weeks, there have been increased reports from area ED's of patients delaying seeking care, sometimes with tragic consequences. Seacoast residents are continuing to experience heart attacks, strokes, ruptured appendices and other emergencies, but they are not calling 911 or going to the emergency department. In many cases this is due to fear of catching COVID-19. For other patients, they are concerned that EMS and the ED are overwhelmed by COVID and don't want to be a burden on the system. We want to be sure that people call 911 to report any emergency for which they need care. Emergency services are working as always and want you to get the care you need.

3. Emergency Management update Statewide situation in New Hampshire:

- 2,054 persons with COVID-19; 980 persons recovered; 66 deaths attributed to COVID-19.
- Masks are being delivered to nursing homes throughout New Hampshire. These are being provided by the State.
- FEMA Public Assistance briefing completed last week. Fremont EMD attended the webinar.
- 5 additional testing locations have been established throughout the State to allow for increased testing in New Hampshire. These sites will operate 7 days per week and appointments for citizens would be scheduled through personal physician/primary care provider.
- Media focus over the past week is on the reopening task force (for businesses) as well as testimonies to the Governor's Office for Economic Recovery and Relief.
- Cybercrime, phishing attacks are continuing to grow throughout the State and the Nation - targeting individuals, businesses (all industries and sectors are potential risks). It is important for everyone to use caution when operating online.

Local Situation in Fremont:

- No significant change from last week. Our local situation remains manageable.
- Fremont EMD followed up with Colonial Poplin owner to inform them that the State will be providing masks to the facility. During this conversation, the administrator informed me that Colonial Poplin currently remains free of COVID-19.

- NH Bureau of Trails Chief provided additional signage at the rail trail. Crowds were manageable and compliant with parking during the past weekend.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Janvrin to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2020 meeting as amended which was seconded by Barham. The vote was unanimous 3-0.

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

Chief Twiss arrived at the meeting at 7:00 pm and waited for the Board to complete their other agenda items prior to his appointment.

At 7:18 pm Police Chief Jon Twiss met with the Board to discuss his purchase order for the Axon body camera system. The purchase was proposed last budget season in August 2019 by Twiss, and was recommended by Selectmen and the Budget Committee. After the budget was approved by voters in March, he went out to refresh the quote and do a PO only to find a significant price increase from the vendor. They are a sole source vendor (and he left a copy of that letter). With the cost a large factor, he began to review renting verses owning this equipment and is now presenting a PO to purchase them.

Last year his proposed lease-purchase plan was budgeted for \$9,153.00 first year, and \$4,667 for the next 4 years. The Chief gave an in-depth description of all plans available with all their advantages verses pricing. He is considering 10 units so each officer will have one in their care. He described the docking station which uploads to cloud storage as well as charges the units. The Department has already drafted a policy for use of the equipment.

The new price purchase order \$9,500.00 first year to Axon, then yearly price after \$3,545.00 a year. They will own for five years and replacement price is \$700 per unit (currently).

Barham moved to approve the agreement contract of \$23,680.00 for five years with Axon with Twiss to sign on behalf of the Board. This was seconded by Janvrin with unanimous vote 3-0. Then Barham moved to approve PO 2020-01PD in the amount of \$9,500.00 to cover first year contract with Axon and approve Carlson to sign on behalf of the Board. Janvrin seconded and the vote was unanimous 3-0.

Twiss also discussed the updated situation at the Recreation trails in Fremont. Twiss stated that more people are getting out of their houses due to Covid 19 and we have seen a large increase in the usage of the trail with Fremont having the largest parking lot anywhere along the trail. On Easter weekend, the parking lot was full, and there are a lot of Massachusetts plates, and has just about been that way over the last month. Even during the week, the lot has been full. He called and spoke with Chris Gamache from DRED regarding this issue, sharing the Town's concerns and they said they were investigating this situation, and he would be glad to come down to post signs for the parking concerns. He came down and a lot of signage has been placed. Twiss said that for the most part people are obeying them. Last weekend he got a complaint call of someone driving a side by side which was illegal on the street, the duty officer responded but couldn't find any vehicle violations. He has not put our machines out there to provide any patrols recently due to the Covid-19 issue.

Carlson discussed one other issue regarding citizen complaints about the trash barrel at Whittier Drive Fire Pond being used for household trash and asked the Chief what kind of signage can be placed up there and is it needed. Chief thought removing the barrel, so they are not able to go there to dump and see what happens. The Board agreed, and it will be removed.

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VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Paving at Black Rocks Village - Dan Tatem was contacted by the Attorney for the BRV Homeowner's Association regarding quality of paving. Tatem, redirected him to the Board. The Board wanted to refresh on the current situation, as at the end of last year, Lewis Builders basically said they were not doing any further remediation. The Board's recollection was the bond remaining was for the decel lane turning into the development. There was discussion about the ripples in the hot top last year that was still being monitored, and Janvrin said he drove in last week and found it to be the same condition.

Cordes said he did not wish to delay this too much longer, just get it done. What pondered what the Homeowner's Association might be trying to accomplish, but noted the Town's bond cannot address outside issues. The Homeowner's Association likely needs to take up some of their concerns with Lewis Builders.

2. The Sandown Road Bridge Overflow guardrail is due to be replaced tomorrow, weather permitting. Holmes was waiting to hear from the company, but to date hasn't so possibly the rain might delay this happening tomorrow.

3. The Governor has not yet made a decision about how and when to reopen different components of the State's services. Town Services are continuing as they are now, by appointment, until further preparations can be made. Carlson reports that gradual reopening may be possible, but there are many things to think about including individual use of PPE, and more importantly the constant and increased need for sanitation. Cordes thought it would be helpful to generate a list of issues and possible solutions possible along with distancing importance. Carson mentioned the Library is considering a possible start with a return to curbside. Carlson was asked to work on a master list of the concerns and considerations.

4. Martin Road Bridge copy of an email. Carlson told state where we are in terms of money. The Warrant Article voted down, not enough money to get through the first phase to get state reimbursement and go forward. We are up in the queue July 1st, options are available. Board needs to get scope of work available prior to go to engineering to save funds. We need a contract in place, decide on what avenue to pursue prior to FY 22.

If we wait another year or two, does it have different rules. Carlson will prepare an excel sheet for all possible scenarios that could occur to include engineering fees estimates. If we don't do it and the rules change, are we going to lose what we have already invested. State revenues are going to be a major issue with them cutting back issues.

5. Dan Tatem has scheduled with the Highway Department to have a flagger work with Stantec on May 11, 2020 to do borings in the locations on Rogers, Shirkin and Leavitt Roads as part of the road evaluation study. Confirming that no other Town approval is necessary for the work. Road will only be shut down one lane or another as work progresses.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consent Agenda Items listed below were reviewed and a motion to approve all these items was made by Janvrin and seconded by Barham. The vote was unanimous 3-0.

- a. Payroll \$31,078.73 Manifest dated May 1, 2020
- b. Accounts payable manifest \$1,254,865.03 for the current week dated May 1, 2020;
\$1,200,000.00 payable to Fremont School District

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- c. Renewal NH DRED Forest Fire Warden, Deputy Warden and Issuing Agent reappointments for Bryan Bielecki, Ryan Dame, Joel Lennon, John Linville, Joe Nichols, Kevin O'Callaghan, Vincent O'Connor, Kevin Zukas and Richard Butler.
 - d. Forest Protection Bureau Federal Excess Property Cooperative Agreement for the forestry truck housed in Fremont
 - e. FCTV Revolving Fund Manifest 2020-9 for the down payment of \$6,800 (portion of on PO FCTV 2020-06 authorized last week) for work in the Control Room. (Due to Covid-19, Access AV is now requiring a 1/3 down payment to order the equipment). This work is scheduled for May 12 and 13, 2020.
2. Review the folder of incoming correspondence that includes: NH DHHS update #13 Covid 19; Correspondence from Black Rocks Village Attorney Ducharme; copy of the Tax Collector's notice to the NH Board of Land and Tax Appeals regarding the mailing date for the final 2019 tax bill; various emails from list-serves regarding appropriations and revenues; NH DOT correspondence on Beede Hill Road paving and their requirements for permits (for new construction and repaving) are the same as the Town's; Comcast extending their late extension policy to June 30 for disconnects; email from Access AV relative to the new installation work; Building Inspector's April report; email on Tavern Road where it was found work was being done on culverts and within the wetland without any of the necessary Town or State permissions; emails regarding the South Road access to the NH DRED Trail as well as truck traffic.
3. After review, a motion was made by Barham to sign the outgoing correspondence letter to Alfred Patterson addressing the work he did illegally earlier this month on Shirkin Road. This was seconded by Janvrin. The vote was unanimous 3-0.
4. Carlson was contacted by a resident asking about putting cloth masks (homemade by members of the community) at the Safety Complex and Town Hall on a "mask" tree. This is in response to some local postings that there are some residents who don't have a mask and don't know where they might get one. Carlson suggested the Town Hall as it is less of a safety concern, but after speaking with Chief Twiss and Deputy Nichols, they felt it would be OK to also put some on the Christmas tree at the Safety Complex, as it is out of the regular flow of traffic. The resident will take care of the Community (FB) page posting, and the masks will be in Ziploc bags and attached with clothes pins that will stay on the tree. The Board was fine with trying this venture, as they will be in an exterior location and need no engagement. It will be done in small quantities on each tree and will be the honor system.
5. Carlson said she had received Sansoucy's request for production of documents related to the revaluation of utility properties. She is forwarding this information forwarded to the utility companies. In turn they are asked to send all of the information directly to Sansoucy for the Fall values.

VIII. WORKS IN PROGRESS

1. Data entry continues for processing of first issue tax bills. We have had an increase in the day to day questions related to property values as well as closings and other property use matters.
2. George Sansoucy has sent the initial inquires to be sent out over the Town's signatures, to all of the utility companies for 2020 revaluation information.
3. The May Open Space Committee meeting will be held on Sunday, May 3, 2020 at 12:30 pm at the Fremont Library Parking lot. Bring a comfy chair and be prepared for social distancing.

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At 7:48 pm a motion was made by Janvrin to enter non-public session pursuant to NH RSA 91-A II (e) to discuss a legal matter. Cordes seconded and the roll call vote was unanimously approved 3-0: Cordes-yes; Janvrin-yes; Barham-yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Nygren
Selectmen's Administrative Assistant

The Board began their non-public session at approximately 7:50 pm. At 8:00 pm a motion was made by Janvrin to return to public session. Barham seconded and the roll call vote was unanimously approved 3-0: Cordes-yes; Janvrin-yes; Barham-yes.

With no decisions made, the Board thanked Chief Twiss for his time, and he left the meeting.

The next regular Board meeting will be held on Thursday May 7, 2020 at 6:30 pm. With no further business which may legally come before the Board, a motion was made by Janvrin to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 pm. Barham seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Carlson
Town Administrator