

Approved 05/28/2020

I. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm in the basement meeting room at the Fremont Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Gene Cordes, Neal Janvrin, Roger Barham and 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 have 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. Chester Road will be closed again Friday, opened for the weekend, and closed again next Tuesday for the final paving. Reclaiming was done today. Dust control measures will be in place throughout the time until the paving is complete. Local and emergency traffic will be permitted. Extensive drainage work was done over the past 10 days. Janvrin rode by the area earlier this evening and said it looks great so far.
3. Supervisors of the Checklist are working on how to hold the required June 2, 2020 meeting for change of party and new voter registrations. This is the last day to change your party affiliation before the September 8, 2020 Primary. The NH Secretary of State has made modifications to the forms and trying to simplify the process for those who may not be able to leave their homes. Residents can also make an appointment with the Town Clerk to register to vote. Information and forms are available on the Supervisor of Checklist and Town Clerk pages of the website.
4. Trash and recycling collections will be delayed next week by one day due to the Memorial Day holiday on Monday. Thursday collections will be Friday and Friday collections will be Saturday.
5. Due to the pandemic the Town has unfortunately not been able to hold any of our regular events, and in following some Veteran's Administration's guidelines we have placed flags along the front of the cemetery. Battery-operated window lights will also be on at the Historic Meetinghouse in honor of Memorial Day. A wreath will be placed in front of the Town Hall on Sunday May 24th to commemorate our usual services and honor our Veterans.

III. LIAISON REPORTS

The May 18, 2020 FCTV Committee Meeting was cancelled for lack of business items. Janvrin remarked that all the new equipment purchased has been installed and is up and running and seems to be working 100%.

The Planning Board met Wednesday May 20th at 7:00 pm at a Virtual meeting. Barham said ultimately virtual worked, but he is finding the system is probably being inundated with traffic making it difficult for people to remote in (takes more time); and voices often break up and are unclear.

The Board's one business item was the Fremont House of Pizza. They have expressed an interest to expand the site to provide outside seating during this pandemic. This process has to go through the State Fire Marshall's Office, Fire Department and Building Inspector's Office, depending on use of tents and whether permanent or temporary. As this may be a permanent, an application would then make it a more in-depth process and a site plan may need to be amended. Barham said at this stage they may need to do temporary for business through the present crisis and eventually do a permanent process for the future.

Approved 05/28/2020

The Garden Club is tentatively planning the Plan Sale for Saturday June 13, 2020 at the Fremont Public Library parking lot and will follow all appropriate social distancing guidelines. The Library Trustees meet next Wednesday and will further discuss but are leaning toward approval with proper social distancing and use of masks.

The Town continues to make plans for the slow reopening of Town Buildings. Appointments are being taken for services, and all services will continue to be available electronically as well.

The Town Administrator and Emergency Management Director met this week to work on the grant submissions to try and allocate expenses to the location where they are most likely to be approved (FEMA, CARES, etc). All other Emergency Management functions continued as usual, with the Emergency Management Director participating in several conference calls throughout the week.

A very special thank you to Fire Rescue members Mark DeVeber and Joel Lennon for their help with the cemetery flagpole, and as well to Kevin Bolduc and his crews at Bolduc Tree Service for assistance restringing the broken flag rope at the cemetery today.

Also, a very special thank you to all the members of the Fremont Garden Club who have been working to get gardens looking wonderful for the season.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After review, a motion to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2020 meeting minutes as written was made by Janvrin and seconded by Barham. The vote was unanimous 3-0.

V. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS - times scheduled to change based on the flow of the meeting

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Update on Black Rocks Village – the Board has received some legal correspondence and will discuss later in non-public session.

2. Covid-19 First Responder Stipend – Carlson distributed copies of the updated roster showing all those members of Fire Rescue and Police Departments that have submitted to remain active and be part of the allocated First Responder Stipend program. In response to the Board's questions in prior weeks, Chief Twiss has worked over the 30 hour average during the crisis and Lt Morelli has worked an average of 29 hours.

In keeping with the program guidelines, the tally of the total eligible personnel and stipends on the roster is \$35,214.29. A motion to approve the Covid-19 first response stipend roster and related eligibility as presented, totaling \$35,214.29 was made by Barham and seconded by Janvrin. The vote was unanimous 3-0.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consent Agenda Items below were reviewed by each Board member. A motion was made by Janvrin to approve the Consent Agenda items as read. Barham seconded and the vote was approved 3-0. The folder circulated for each member to sign the necessary documents.

- a. Intent to Cut for parcel 01-060 located on South Road
- b. Intent to Cut for parcel 01-061-located on South Road

Approved 05/28/2020

- c. 2020 First Issue Property Tax Warrant in the amount of \$6,313,810.00-due July 1st.
- d. PSNH Abatement \$41,459.00 to cover final refund of 2019 settlement agreement on 2014-2016 property tax suit
- e. PSNH letter to Kevin Morrissey (Taxes Director) relative to abatement and updated amount to pay for first issue 2020 property taxes
- f. Elderly exemption for parcel 03-177.006 not qualified at the present time. Will be asked to reapply next year.

2. Carlson spent considerable time reviewing with the Board the GOFERR (Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery) Agreement with the State of NH for all grant funds available to the Town to recover costs from the State and Federal Governments for local costs supporting the public health emergency related to Covid-19. There are extensive policy guidelines as part of the grant agreement, which the Town already supports, and additional information will be forthcoming as needed to document same. This includes Drug Free Workplace, Lobbying (does not apply to Fremont), Certification regarding Debarment, Suspension, and other responsibility matters – primary covered transactions (does not apply to Fremont), ADA Compliance, Environmental Tobacco Smoke, Assurance of Compliance Nondiscrimination in Federally Assisted Programs, and Certification regarding the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) Compliance.

Carlson has been working on these forms for completion which is quite lengthy with all the certifications required in this agreement. A motion was made by Barham to approve the GOFERR agreement with the State of NH and designate Town Administrator Heidi Carlson as the Town's Signing Representative for all necessary grants, paperwork and administration of all grants and submissions on behalf of the Town of Fremont NH. This was seconded by Janvrin. The vote was unanimous 3-0.

3. Adopt provisions of NH RSA 21-P:43:

21-P:43 Appropriations and Authority to Accept Services, Gifts, Grants, and Loans. – Each political subdivision may make appropriations in the manner provided by law for making appropriations for the ordinary expenses of such political subdivision for the payment of expenses of its local organization for emergency management. Whenever the federal government or any federal agency or officer offers to the state, or through the state to any of its political subdivisions, services, equipment, supplies, materials, or funds by way of gift, grant, or loan for purposes of emergency management the state, acting through the governor, commissioner, or such political subdivision, acting with the consent of the governor and through its executive officer, city council, or board of selectmen, may accept such offer, subject to the terms of the offer and the rules and regulations, if any, of the agency making the offer. Whenever any person, firm or corporation offers to the state or to any of its political subdivisions services, equipment, supplies, materials, or funds by way of gift, grant, or loan for purposes of emergency management the state, acting through the governor, or such political subdivision, acting through its executive officer, city council, or board of selectmen, may accept such offer, subject to its terms.

Carlson explained this Statute, which the Board of Selectmen is empowered to adopt. This allows the Town to avail itself to reimbursement funds for State or Federal funds that become available for emergency management. The Governor's Executive Orders and the Declared Public Health Emergency put the Town in a position to have expenses that are reimbursable through a variety of State and Federal funds.

A motion was made by Barham to adopt the provisions of NH RSA 21-P-43 and thus be able to submit for any and all eligible grants or reimbursement funding available to offset the Town's expenses during the pandemic. Janvrin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

Approved 05/28/2020

4. Selectmen reviewed the folder of incoming correspondence including: complaints from a Beede Hill Road resident regarding trucking on Sunday; email from Chief Twiss on Sunday's patrols and follow-up to the complaints; information relative to the FAA organizing roof replacement at the dugouts at Memorial Fields.

VIII. WORKS IN PROGRESS

1. Lane Roofing is doing some work for the Town as organized by the FAA. They are re-roofing the dugouts. FAA volunteers stripped the old shingles last weekend, and Lane Roofing is due to complete their work tomorrow or over the weekend.

2. Town staff and crews still have considerable work to complete tomorrow to be ready for Memorial Day.

At 7:10 pm Janvrin moved to enter into non-public session pursuant to NH RSA 91-A:3 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

At approximately 7:15 pm the Board began their non-public session.

After a brief discussion of the legal correspondence related to Black Rocks Village, the Board decided to send a letter to Joshua Manning and Carlson left the meeting to prepare it. The Board members remained in the building.

Carlson typed a letter and the Board reviewed it at approximately 7:35 pm.

At 7:40 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.

Selectmen signed a letter to Lewis Builders outlining the balance of the scope of work to be completed and a timeframe to complete, failing which the Board of Selectmen will pull the remaining escrow to cover necessary bonded work and have it completed.

The next regular Board meeting will be held on Thursday May 28, 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 7:45 pm. Barham seconded and the vote was approved 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Carlson
Town Administrator