



TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
OPEN SESSION
TOWN HOUSE-26 EVERGREEN ST. ROOM 203 & VIA ZOOM
DECEMBER 16, 2022

11:00 AM – CALL TO ORDER – ROOM 203

Chairman Kimberley Emberg called to order the meeting of the Board of Selectmen at 11:00 AM by roll call vote. Selectmen in attendance via zoom: Kimberley Emberg, Donald Alcombright, Jessica Kramer, and Tyler Bouchard.

Staff Present in Room 203: Keith Hickey, Town Administrator; Patricia Tucker, Assistant to the Town Administrator; and Town Clerk Paul Gallagher.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

This meeting is being recorded. Anyone intending to make an audio or video recording of this meeting should notify the chair at this time.

Financial assistance applications are available on the town's website or by calling the selectmen's office.

Due to a recent resignation from the Silver Lake School Committee, the Kingston members of the Silver Lake School Committee and Board of Selectmen are seeking candidates interested in filling the open seat until the next Town election in April 2023. Interested candidates must submit a letter of interest along with their qualifications no later than Wednesday, December 28th at 2:00 pm. Please submit your information by mail to Kingston Board of Selectmen's office or you can email a member of the Board of Selectmen or School Committee.

Sheila Vaughn joined the meeting at 11:02am.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

RECONSIDERATION OF DATE FOR ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

Ms. Emberg explained that Jess Kramer requested a reconsideration of the vote taken at the last meeting. Ms. Kramer discussed that she requested the meeting due to the Town Clerk reaching out to her and explaining the process of the Town Election and the reason he requested that April 22, 2023, be the date of the Annual Town Election.

Ms. Kramer asked that the Board to reconsider the previous voted.

The Town Clerk spoke that the date was based on the bylaw. The bylaw states that it is the 4th Saturday of April and consideration for holidays and emergencies if needed, the election has fallen on April school vacation for many years. Mr. Gallagher discussed that he started the process of the date back in December for the 4th Saturday and didn't realize that the Board would discuss a date other than the one recommended by him so that is why he did not attend the previous meeting.

Ms. Emberg read the bylaw which states the election "shall be held on the fourth Saturday of April or a Saturday before or after, to accommodate holidays and other days not particularly conducive to participation." She explained that many people reached out to her and other Selectmen last year asking for the election to not take place on the weekends during school vacation and she said that she would argue that school vacation week could certainly be considered not

conducive to participation. Ms. Emberg stated that if the intention of allowing other dates should only be for emergencies or holidays then the bylaw should be adjusted to reflect just that. Ms. Vaughn agreed and shared her concerns regarding conflicts due to school vacation and shared that she too received a number of complaints from residents.

The Board discussed along with the Town Clerk.

Motion by Mr. Bouchard second by Ms. Kramer, and a 3-2-0 vote, by roll call (Ms. Emberg and Ms. Vaughn voted against)
VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen take the recommendation of the Clerk's office to set the Town Election for Saturday, April 22, 2023.

Motion by Mr. Kramer second by Mr. Bouchard, and a 5-0-0 vote, by roll call
VOTE: I move to adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 11:20am.
Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Tucker
Assistant to the Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen