



TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
OPEN SESSION
TOWN HOUSE-26 EVERGREEN ST. ROOM 200 & VIA ZOOM
SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

6:00 PM – CALL TO ORDER – ROOM 200

Chairman Kimberley Emberg called to order the meeting of the Board of Selectmen at 6:00 PM. Selectmen in attendance: Donald Alcombright, Sheila Vaughn, and Jessica Kramer.

Staff Present: Keith Hickey, Town Administrator; Gloria Mitchell, Assistant Town Administrator; and Patricia Tucker, Assistant to the Town Administrator.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

This meeting is being recorded by PACTV. 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.

Over 1,500 registered voters took advantage of the early voting option for today's state primary.
Thank you to those who voted and to the town clerk's office employees.

Due to recent resignations, the Library Trustees and Recreation Commission are seeking candidates interested in filling the open seat until the next town election in the Spring of 2023.

OPEN FORUM:

Victoria Bond of True Repertory Theatre was in attendance to discuss that the last production of Auntie Mame was postponed due to COVID. Due to this, the theater is looking for donations as they lost money due to the show's cancelation. A performance will be on Saturday, September 17th, and they will perform on Playwrights Platform to raise money. Tickets are \$25 for all three shows.

APPOINTMENTS:

DECLARATION OF SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH, SEPTEMBER 2022

Ms. Emberg introduced this item that Ms. Jennie Babcock from Plymouth County Suicide Prevention Coalition requested that the Selectmen declare September as Suicide prevention month. Ms. Babcock was not in attendance.

Motion by Mr. Alcombright, second by Ms. Kramer, and a 4-0-0 vote,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to declare September 2022 as Suicide Prevention Month

JOINT MEETING WITH RECREATION COMMISSION FOR APPOINTMENT DUE TO RESIGNATION

Ms. Emberg explained that Dan Shropshire resigned from the Recreation Commission on July 6, 2022, leaving a vacancy. The Recreation Commission is in attendance requesting that a joint appointment be made with the Selectmen and the Recreation Commission to fill the vacancy until the next Annual Town Election. There was one candidate who

was interested in filling the vacancy: Suzanne Haggerty.

Mr. Davis called the Recreation Meeting to order by roll call vote Andy Davis, Joe Cunningham, and Missy Bateman at 6:12pm.

Mr. Davis introduced Ms. Haggerty to the Board, and Ms. Haggerty introduced herself and provided her background.

Motion by Ms. Bateman, second by Mr. Davis, and a 7-0-0 vote,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to appoint Suzanne Haggerty as a member of the Kingston Recreation Commission effective immediately until the next Annual Town Election.

The Recreation Commission adjourned at 6:17pm.

UPDATE FROM AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST ON THE HOWLANDS LANE PROPERTY

Ms. Emberg asked Ms. Kramer to discuss this topic.

Ms. Kramer discussed the Affordable Housing Trust's interest in the town-owned property on Howlands Lane. The Trust is engaging in a feasible housing study and will seek proposals from Consulting Firms. They can provide leadership, direction, expert advice, and a detailed developmental/feasibility study that includes all financial aspects for the disposition of 4 Howlands Lane and adjacent parcels to develop affordable housing.

Ms. Kramer asked the Board if they were comfortable moving forward with this plan.

The Board briefly discussed this.

Ms. Emberg asked how this would impact the Treasurer, as the Tax Title Custodian, and Mr. Pike stated that the tax title lawyer is looking at a list of 40 properties, and this property is on the list with a note that the Affordable Housing Trust is reviewing it. Mr. Pike stated that as the tax title custodian, it is inappropriate to hold this property, and sitting on it is a liability.

Ms. Vaughn asked about the timeline for the auction, and Mr. Pike answered that they should have an answer within the next 2-3 weeks. Mr. Pike stated he is uncomfortable holding this property for another six months.

Mr. Pike said that he would like the Board to vote at the next Board of Selectmen's meeting whether or not they support including the Hillside Club property in the auction of tax title properties.

PRESENTATION BY CDM SMITH - UPDATED COMPREHENSIVE WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Ms. Elaine Fiore, the chair of the Sewer Commission, was in attendance to introduce CDM Smith, who provided an overview of the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan before submitting the report to the DEP in September. Mr. Ben Mosher of CDM Smith shared his screen with the Comprehensive Management Plan presentation in the Board's packet. Ms. Kara Johnston also spoke. For the presentation, there was a discussion about septic nitrogen removal, which is required for the mass estuaries project.

Mr. Hickey asked if this was an unfunded mandate, which was answered, and there is no grant funding at this time.

Mr. John Hobill of DEP discussed the timing and the land use analysis. The snapshot was from 2016, and the buildout since then is not an accountant; without going forward with this expanding may not lower nitrogen removal.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

ACCEPTANCE OF REAPPOINTMENTS

Ms. Emberg explained that the Selectmen's Office had received a request for reappointment from Verna Dalton to continue serving on the Cultural Council and Paul Basler for Tree Warden.

Motion by Ms. Kramer, second by Mr. Alcombright, and a 4-0-0 vote,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to reappoint the following:

Verna Dalton to the Cultural Council effective immediately through June 30th, 2025

Paul Basler as Tree Warden effective immediately through June 30th, 2023

ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENTS

Ms. Emberg explained that there are two vacant positions on the Waterfront Committee. The Selectmen's Office has received three volunteer requests forwarded to the Waterfront Committee. Mr. Bouchard sent an email in his absence regarding his recommendation. The recommendation of the Waterfront Committee is to appoint Thomas Bombardier and Michael Ellis.

Motion by Mr. Alcombright, second by Ms. Kramer, and a 4-0-0 vote,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to appoint the following to the Waterfront Committee:

Michael Ellis, effective immediately through June 30th, 2025

Thomas Bombardier effective immediately through June 30th, 2023.

APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE FIRE CHIEF

Chief Douglass discussed this appointment that due to the upcoming retirement of the current Assistant to the Fire Chief, the Fire Department advertised the position he is recommending hiring Jennifer Jackunas to fill the position. Ms. Jackunas is currently a full-time public safety dispatcher.

Motion by Ms. Vaughn, second by Mr. Alcombright, and a 4-0-0 vote,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to appoint Jennifer Jackunas for the position of Assistant to the Fire Chief, a Grade C3, Step 6 full-time, nonexempt position within KTEU -Clerical conditions an anticipated start date of September 7th, 2022, with the following condition, satisfactory CORI Check

REVIEW, CONSIDER AND VOTE ON RESPONSE TO THE OPEN MEETING LAW COMPLAINT AGAINST THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DATED AUGUST 24, 2022, FILED BY JAMES CONLEY ON FILE WITH THE TOWN CLERK

Ms. Emberg explained that a Town resident filed an Open Meeting Law Complaint against the Kingston Board of Selectmen. The complaint was forwarded to legal counsel, who has prepared a response on behalf of the Selectmen.

Motion by Mr. Alcombright, second by Ms. Kramer, and a 4-0-0 vote,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to approve the Open Meeting Law complaint response drafted by counsel and authorize counsel to submit the response on our behalf as amended.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

Ms. Hickey presented to the Board his report. Mr. Hickey discussed that he is speaking with the Superintendent of Schools regarding a representative seat for collective bargaining; Ms. Emberg looked to have Mr. Hickey join the meetings. It was discussed that this would be a topic at a future meeting.

The Department of Revenue has certified Free Cash. Below are the balances for each of the funds:

General Fund	\$3,644,017
Enterprise Fund - Water	\$ 476,182

Enterprise Fund - Wastewater \$ 131,499

Enterprise Fund - Renewable Energy \$ 9,240

Historically, the General Fund Free Cash balance has been near \$2.5 million, except in 2020, when the balance was \$3.2 million.

- The Recreation Department received a budget earmark from the State of Massachusetts in the amount of \$50,000 toward the cost of the new Gray's Beach playground.
- Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Ms. Emberg, Community Development Director Jason Silva, Town Planner Valerie Massard, and the Town Administrator met with Senator Moran and Representative LaNatra met on August 29 to discuss the recently approved MBTA zoning. The primary topic of discussion was the process that would be followed to request the MBTA eliminate the Kingston commuter rail stop. Senator Moran and Representative LaNatra were very willing to investigate the appropriate process and if Kingston would no longer be required to adopt the new zoning requirements if the station were closed.

Town Planner will also be applying for available grant funds to assist in the creation of the MBTA zoning area if the Town chooses to approve the new zoning regulation.

Members of the Town staff attended a virtual online seminar on September 8 hosted by the Department of Housing and Community Development to better understand the requirements of the MBTA zoning rules.

The two recently hired police officers have successfully finished their police academy training. Both officers will begin their 13-week field training in Kingston this week.

Miscellaneous Updates

- Mr. Hickey will be away at my annual ICMA conference from September 16 -21.
- Staff met with four members of the MassDEP team to discuss the ongoing issues related to excavation activities on a property on Marion Drive. The Southeastern Regional Director of MassDEP, who attended the meeting, vowed to provide a more detailed update on the property owners' activities by September 2.

MEETING MINUTES:

There were no minutes to be approved.

SELECTMEN COMMENTS:

Mr. Alcombright provided an update on Main Street. There will be sidewalk repairs on Main Street near the 106 side, which will happen this fall. There will be signage added near the crosswalks near Maple Avenue.

Mr. Hickey stated that the signage would identify the crosswalk and hope people would slow down.

Ms. Kramer talked about the Librewery Event on September 18, and the Agricultural Fair will be happening on the other side of the street. Tickets are on sale, and the Librewery Event has a limited number of spots.

Mr. Alcombright added that Fall Fest is no longer happening at Gray's Event due to the removal and construction of the playground at Grays Beach.

The removal of the existing playground will happen this fall.

Motion by Ms. Vaughn, second by Mr. Alcombright, and a 5-0-0 vote,

VOTE: I move to adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Tucker
Assistant to the Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen
Approved: October 4, 2022

DOCUMENTS USED AT THE MEETING

Suicide Proclamation
Recreation Letter of Interest
Presentation from CDM Smith
Reappointments/ Appointment
Appointment of Administrative Assistant to the Fire Chief
Open Meeting Law Complaint
Town Administrator Report
Addendum