



TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
OPEN SESSION
MINUTES
TOWN HOUSE-26 EVERGREEN ST. ROOM 200 & VIA ZOOM
MAY 7, 2024

6:00 p.m. – CALL TO ORDER – ROOM 200

Chairman Kimberley Emberg called to order the meeting of the Board of Selectmen at 6:00 p.m.—selectmen in attendance: Donald Alcombright, Sheila Vaughn, Tyler Bouchard, and Eric Crone.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- This meeting is being recorded by The Local Seen. 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.
- The Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, May 11th..
- The last day to register to vote in the Annual Town Election is May 8th.
- The Annual Town Election is scheduled for Saturday May 18th.
- Native Plant Order and Delivery – Shop online at bluestemnatives.com between May 14-May 28th. Orders can be picked up at the Highway Barn on Saturday, June 1st.
- Saturday, May 18th at Kingston Collection there is a Food Truck and Artisan Festival with a Car Show, there is more information on the Kingston Collection website.
- Ragnar Race will be happening in the early hours of May 18th
- The first Kingston Farmers Market was last Sunday, and will run on the 1st Sunday of each month through October from 10:00 am-2:00 pm at Gray's Beach.
- FY25 Recycling and Disposal Center stickers are on sale starting on June 3, 2024. These are available at the Highway Department window on Monday - Friday from 7:00 am-3:00 pm. Weekend hours begin on June 22nd from 8:00 am-4:00 pm through July 14th excluding holidays.
- A thank you letter from the Garden Club thanking the employees of the Highway Department for helping with the cleanup of their event.

Ronit Goldstein, of Eversource was in attendance to introduce Anthony Veilleux, the new liaison from the community relations team for Eversource. Ms. Goldstein discussed that there have been a lot of conversations about the double poles on Main Streets, as well as the transformer at the library. There are two major projects happening, the reliability project which is an upgrade to the circuit on Main Street to which Verizon sets the poles. These are higher volts to help with power outages. They understand that the poles are a significant eye sore, and she appreciates everyone's patience, Eversource is completely done with the work on their poles. The last ones on the poles are Verizon, and they have assured Ms. Goldstein, they will transfer the wires and remove the double poles.

The pad mount transformer will be installed after the work on Green Street is completed, with completion by the fall.

Mr. Hickey, the pad at the library currently still has an orange traffic cone on the pad, and a plastic cover and Mr. Hickey asked for it to be cleaned up.

Also mentioned was the Memorial Day Parade and he would like to have these double poles removed by mid-week or before Memorial Day as a show of good faith from the utility company to clean that all up.

Pine duBois discussed that there is a program titled Democracy at Risk at 3pm at the Council on Aging on Saturday, May 11th.

Chief Holmes provided an update to the Board with a document on Calls for Police Services.

Overall Calls -

Including Officer Initiated MN Stops and Building Checks

2021 - 12,923

2023 - 14,677

A 13.5% increase

Overall Calls For Service -

NOT including Officer Initiated (no MN stops or Building Checks)

2021 9,080

2023 -9,856

A 8.5% increase

Calls to 149 Main St (Baymont Inn)

NOT including Officer Initiated (no MN stops or Building Checks)

2021 - 144

2023 - 235

A 63.2% increase

Calls to Kingston Collection Way (The Point previously known as the Alexan) 2021 - Did not exist - 0

2023 - 270 calls for service

Call Type Examples 2021 compared to 2023 A 10% increase in Larceny Calls (60 vs 66)

A 43% increase in Domestic Incidents (104 vs 149)

OPEN FORUM:

Susan Sherman of Main Street encourages the Selectmen not to extend this project as it has been 2 years. There are low hanging wires that would prevent an ambulance from passing at 196 Main Street and feels this is unacceptable. There is an eyesore with cones as well she would like the Board to slow down and make a plan.

Pine duBois with the Jones River Watershed has been counting fish since 2005 and Silverlake has never had so many fish since the dam removal.

Ms. duBois brought up to the Board of Health that behind the Fire Station on Maple Street there is an old boat, sitting there with water and leaves, which is a breeding ground for mosquitos.

APPOINTMENTS:

Proclamation for National Safe Boating Week, May 18, 2024, through May 24, 2024

Ms. Emberg explained that Marc Slechta from The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is requesting local cities and towns on the South Shore will support National Safe Boating Week (NSBW) (18-24 May) this year by recognizing NSBW in a proclamation. Mr. Bouchard read the proclamation that was in the packet.

Motion by Mr. Alcombright, seconded by Mr. Bouchard, and a 5-0-0 vote,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to declare May 18, 2024, through May 24, 2024, as National Safe Boating Week.

Proclamation for National Public Works Week, May 19, 2024, through May 25, 2024

Ms. Emberg explained that The Town Administrator is asking the Board of Selectmen to recognize the Kingston Streets, Trees and Parks Departments Water Department and Wastewater Departments for National Public Works Week as May 19, 2024, through May 25, 2024. Ms. Vaughn read the proclamation that was in the packet.

Motion by Mr. Bouchard, seconded by Mr. Alcombright, and a 5-0-0 vote,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to declare May 19, 2024, through May 25, 2024, as National Public Works Week and thank the employees of Streets, Trees, and Parks, Water Department and Wastewater Department for their dedication to the Town.

Proclamation for National Police Week, May 15, 2024, through May 21, 2024

Ms. Emberg explained that The Town Administrator is asking the Board of Selectmen to recognize the Kingston Police Department for National Police Week as May 15, 2024, through May 21, 2024. Mr. Crone read the proclamation that was in the packet.

Motion by Mr. Alcombright, seconded by Mr. Bouchard and a 5-0-0 vote,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to declare May 15, 2024, through May 21, 2024, as National Police Week.

6:00 PM Continuation of Public Hearing: Petition from Verizon New England Inc. and NSTAR Electric Company dba Eversource Energy, proposing to place new facilities on Maple Street

Continuation of Public Hearing which was opened in May.

Ms. Emberg explained that in March a public hearing was held for the placement of new poles on Maple Street. The public hearing was continued due to outstanding questions.

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

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen open the public hearing.

Dave Topham from Cyient Engineering representing Verizon discussed that this is to Install one (1) JO mid-span pole 119/1.5 on the northerly side of Maple Street. The new location being approximately one hundred sixty (160) feet west of the centerline of Landing Road; and is approximately sixty-four (64) feet westerly of existing pole 119/1; and is approximately sixty-four (64) feet easterly of existing pole 119/2.

Ms. Emberg asked if this was a replacement, or an addition and Mr. Topham stated it was an additional pole.

Ms. Emberg asked about the timing of when this would occur if approved and Mr. Topham stated it would be a few weeks.

Mr. Alcombright asked if the impacts of the other projects in town and feels if this does not impact the others which Mr. Topham said they are separate the Board should not approve until the cleanup is done.

Mr. Crone asked if we don't do this, what will happen? Ms. Goldstein stated that holding it up won't help the residents, and asked if it could be contingent upon progress on Main Street vs a denial.

Ms. Emberg stated she is struggling to say yes, and Mr. Bouchard shared his frustrations with working with public utilities.

Susan Sherman of Main Street why there are representatives and cannot answer the questions when the other projects can be finished.

Carl Pike of Shore Drive supports business and believes that Eversource's is doing great things for Kingston.

Mr. Hickey asked if the Board approved tonight contingent on the removal of double poles on Main Street, it would

more of an incentive to get the removal done faster.

Motion by Mr. Alcombright, seconded by Bouchard, and a 5-0-0 vote,
VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to close the public hearing.

Motion by Ms. Emberg, seconded by Mr. Crone, and a 5-0-0 vote,
VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen approve the request from Verizon New England Inc. and NSTAR Electric Company dba Eversource Energy, to install one (1) JO mid-span pole 119/1.5 on the northerly side of Maple Street. The new location being approximately one hundred sixty (160) feet west of the centerline of Landing Road; and is approximately sixty-four (64) feet westerly of existing pole 119/1; and is approximately sixty-four (64) feet easterly of existing pole 119/2. Contingent upon on the removal of the double poles on Main Street from Cumberland Farms intersection going south prior to May 25th and contingent on final approval from Streets, Trees and Parks Superintendent

Approval of New Common Victualler License

Ms. Emberg explained that A New Common Victualler License Application from St. Mary & St. Moses Inc. dba Sawtelle's Pizza located at 78 Summer Street. All departments have reviewed and signed off on the application. This will require final approval from the health agent.

Ms. Vaughn thanks the family of Sawtelle's for their business.

Motion by Ms. Vaughn, seconded by Mr. Alcombright, and a 5-0-0 vote,
VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen approve the common victualler license for St. Mary & St. Moses Inc. dba Sawtelle's Pizza effective immediately through December 31, 2024, upon final inspection of the Health Agent.

Approval of One Day Liquor Licenses

Ms. Emberg explained that Micheal Snowdale of Stellwagen Beer Co is requesting a One Day Liquor Licenses for a Food Truck and Artisan Fest on May 18, 2024, at Kingston Collection. This was reviewed by Police and Fire with no objections.

Motion by Ms. Vaughn, seconded by Mr. Alcombright, and a 4-0-0 vote,
VOTE: I move to approve the request from Micheale Snowdale dba Stellwagen Beer Co for One Day Beer and Wine Liquor License for a Food Truck and Artisan Fest on May 18, 2024, at Kingston Collection from 9:00am – 3:00pm.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

Request from Town Clerk to Approve and Post the Warrant for the Saturday, May 18, 2024, Annual Town Election

Ms. Emberg explained that The Board of Selectmen are required by State law to accept and post the Annual Town Election Warrant. Town Clerk Paul Gallagher recommends the election warrant included in your Board materials.

Motion by Mr. Alcombright, seconded by Mr. Bouchard, and a 5-0-0 vote,
VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen approve and authorize the Town Clerk to post the Annual Town Election Warrant scheduled for Saturday, May 18, 2024, as presented by the Town Clerk

Request from Troop 49 for Camperships

Ms. Emberg explained that Troop 49 has requested the funding for four Camperships be approved to give four (4) Boy Scouts the opportunity to attend summer camp.

Motion by Mr. Bouchard, seconded by Mr. Crone, and a 5-0-0 vote,
VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen approve the request from Troop 49 for funding in the amount of \$1,830 from the William H. Willis Charity Fund for 4 Camperships for the BSA Summer Camp, the disbursement to be made to Troop 49.

Reappointment to Memorial Day Parade Committee

Ms. Emberg explained in 2021, John Bartlett and Todd Hamblin were appointed to the Memorial Day Parade Committee until April 30, 2024, when the correct term ending date should have been June 30, 2024. To correct this error, we are asking that you reappoint Mr. Bartlett and Mr. Hamblin until June 30, 2024, so they can complete their current term at the same time as other Committee members.

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

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen (reappoint/not reappoint) John Bartlett and Todd Hamblin to the Memorial Day Parade Committee through June 30, 2024.

Acceptance of Donation – The Veteran’s Department received the following donations and has asked the Board to accept:

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

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen (accept/not accept) the following donations:

- \$25 from Carolyn McCarthy
- \$100 from John Cann
- \$50 from Kurt and Anna Messner
- \$50 from Martha and William O’Meara
- \$50 from Joan and Robert Barove

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Hickey read from his report:

Financial Updates

- Town and The Local Scene will meet at the Intermediate School Friday morning to go over the Town Meeting set up. The Town Meeting handout has been posted to the website. Copies will be available by Thursday.

Project Updates

- The new boat ramp is in place. Bids have been awarded for supplying the concrete and finishing the concrete for the parking. Work began over the weekend with a completion date of no later than May 15th.
- The Conservation and Planning offices applied to the state's Municipal Vulnerability Program (which funds climate resiliency projects) in late April for approximately \$1.8 million. In a nutshell, the Town is positioned to be able to make an offer under a Right of First Refusal (the property is on the market and is under Chapter 61) for the ~ 58-acre Correia Bogs property on Wapping Road (Rte. 106) in Kingston. This property is an important inland asset along the Jones

River, important in order to enhance the capacity of the river to adapt to future climate impacts projected in terms of rainfall intensity and sea level rise. The Jones River is a tidal river and is the largest input into Cape Cod Bay, and an important nursery ground for Gulf of Maine fisheries. The Town Open Space & Recreation Plan specifically calls for protection of the mainstem Jones River. The Conservation Commission and local nonprofits have worked together over the past four decades to preserve much of the land around the Jones River that had not already been developed. This property is the last piece that ties it all together. The property has been appraised and conversations with the property owner are ongoing. In-kind hours and the cooperative efforts of local land trusts are proposed as the local match (these partners have been part of the conversations with the property owner), and restoration and enhancements will be funded by grants in the future.

Project Objectives:

- Purchase of Correia property along/off Wapping Road, to be held by the Conservation Commission or a nonprofit partner.
- Drafting and submittal to DCS of a Conservation Restriction meeting the DCS model standards.
- Survey of property boundaries and installation of corner monuments.

The land being sought is primarily undeveloped riparian riverfront property and primarily wetlands.

SELECTMEN COMMENTS:

The Board reminded everyone of Town Meeting and Town Elections

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

VOTE: I move to adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33pm

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Tucker

Assistant to the Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen

Documents used at the meeting:

Agenda

Agenda Addendum

Proclamation

Public Hearing Information

Common Victualler

One Day Liquor License

Donations

Reappointments

Town Administrator Report