

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS  
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD  
MINUTES

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Date: May 29, 2020  
Time: 10:00am  
Place: Town Hall  
Egremont

Present via zoom meeting were Chairman George McGurn, Vice-Chair Lucinda Fenn-Vermeulen, Board member Mary Brazie. Others in participating: Mary McGurn, Jason LaForest, for part of the meeting Bruce Bernstein.

It was announced that the meeting is video and audio recorded.

TRANSPORTATION:

There has no been word on the transportation grant filed.

The other grant being filed with the help of Berkshire Regional Transit Authority (BRTA) is a \$50,000 grant to purchase a van equipped for handicapped transportation.

The Board voted unanimously to seek a refund from SBETC for the time period no service was provided during the pandemic to get a credit to extend the current contract for 60 days.

COVID-19 Pandemic:

The Board reviewed the drafted re-opening plan for the French Park Dog Park. One suggestion is to limit attendees to either Egremont residents only or Massachusetts residents. The Board will confirm with legal counsel if this is possible and discuss again on June 2.

A draft re-opening plan for the horse back riding was also discussed but not finalized. Reservations vs honor system was discussed for all park venues. It was noted that the Tennis Court re-opening was going smoothly so far. The Board will reassess the need for reservations through town hall and the need for a weekday police officer detail at its June 2 meeting.

The Library is reopening on June 1 for curbside pick-up only. Originally the Library Director had posted a re-opening plan with the Board's review which included browsing inside and pick up in the vestibule which violated the guidelines from the Commonwealth.

FY 21 BUDGET/TOWN MEETING:

The Board will finalize the plan for the holding the Town Meeting at French Park at its next meeting. The tentative plan is for the meeting to take place on the little league field. A PA system is being rented at a cost of about \$400. The tentative plan is as follows:

Begin at 6pm.

No tent

Tables and Chairs for town officials - town has.

Podium and Chair for Moderator – town has

PA system to include mics in the audience and multiple mics for town officials.

Each attendee gets warrant, voter slip and disposable mic cover

Masks available for those who don't have.

A designated area for those refusing to wear masks.  
Attendees must wear masks, bring own chairs/blankets, and bug spray  
Mics in audience - at least three. Disposal mic covers for all attendees  
Mics for each town official so there is no sharing  
Cost for PA is about \$500 with mics and covers  
Lighting for town officials  
One entry makes it easy to control all attendees and maintain a quorum

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

Under the advise of town counsel, and as allowed under MGL Chapter 41, motion was made to accept the verbal resignation of Elliott Snyder from the Zoning Board of Appeals as given to George McGurn during a phone conversation. Mr. Snyder will be sent the email received by the Board from Nick Keene in which Mr. Keene reports on his conversation with Mr. Snyder at the Egremont Village Inn just before the recent ZBA hearing. The motion passed 2 in favor, 1 abstention. A notice of the acceptance of the resignation will be filed with the Town Clerk. The board agreed to recognize and thank Mr. Snyder for his years of service and thank him for his service.

Rolfe Tessem has expressed his interest in filling the vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Vice-Chairman Vermeulen moved to appoint. Selecdbaord member Brazie thought that this needed to be a joint appointment by the Board and the remaining members of the ZBA. This issue was deferred to a later meeting.

Chairman McGurn said that residents on General Knox Lane are concerned about the dust and traffic while a new house is being constructed on the lane. The Highway Department will be asked to utilize dust control on the road and put down temporary speed bumps.

Vice-Chairman Vermeulen noted that MassBroadband Institute has drafted a press release announcing the agreement between MBI and FiberConnect. It is thrilling to see it in print.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05am.

Mary Brazie,  
Office Administrator

minutes.20/may29

*The recording of the minutes is on record at the Town Hall for 90 days. Anyone who wishes to may obtain a copy or listen to the recording at Town Hall. Attachments are on file at Town Hall.*