

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS  
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD  
MINUTES

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Date: June 23, 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, Steve Dunn, David Seligman, Lannon Killea, Steve Cohen, Joyce Frater, Morriss Partee, Laura Allen, Joan Goodkind, Eileen Vining.

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

MINUTES:

Acceptance of minutes was deferred to the next meeting.

TOWN OFFICIALS:

Barbara Kalish did not attend the meeting as planned.

NEW BUSINESS:

Two applications were received for the position of Highway Personnel Member. One applicant is unqualified and agrees that he is not. One applicant is fully qualified and licensed and is an Egremont resident. Road Superintendent Jim Noe recommends, after an interview, consideration of the one qualified applicant. The Human Resources Committee will interview the applicant on Friday, June 26.

The Board discussed with Conservation Commission Chairman Bill Tynan the process for Building Permit applications that may infringe on wetlands. The Commission feels like it has not been informed of building permit applications that they may have jurisdiction over. The Board moved to make the Building Inspector aware that the Conservation Commission must be in the loop on building permit applications and must have access to the online building permit program.

The Board is interested in applying for the MassDOT Shares Streets & Spaces Grant in particular for Route 23/41. Chairman McGurn will take the lead on this and may ask the Taconic Foundation for help. Office Administrator Brazie will contact the Great Barrington Town Administrator to see if Great Barrington would like to partner on the application.

OLD BUSINESS:

Vice-Chairman Vermeulen noted that she is near completion of the BART grant for a transportation van.

The Board, after duly posting its intention to consider this issue, and in concurrence with the Moderator Stephen Cohen, voted to reduce the town's quorum temporarily to 30 residents as allowed by Section of Chapter 92 of the Acts of 2020, S.2680. This designation can remain in effect until November 1, 2020.

Though a phone message had been received from the Director of Southern Berkshire Elderly Transport Corporation (SBETC) no written response to the Town's request for a credit and extension had been received until mid-way through this meeting when a letter was received denying both the credit and

the extension. Egremont will not move forward with a contract with SBETC but is funding a line item for transportation. The Town has a \$25,000 grant to pay for transportation through the end of the calendar year and applying for funds to purchase its own transportation van. Council on Aging Chairman Bruce Bernstein reported one ride to date under the Taxi grant.

Morriss Partee announced that Emerald River LLC has procured a location, 195 Hillsdale Road, for its proposed retail marijuana shop. Their attorney and the town's attorney are working on a Host Community Agreement for the Board's review. An outreach meeting will be held on July 2 via zoom.

#### COVID-19:

There have been two issues that the Board is aware of at the Tennis Courts; a double booking and a foursome game. The Police took necessary steps to enforce.

The Playground will remain closed. New signage will be posted announcing that no cleaning or sanitizing is taking place.

The Board has received a complaint from a Hudson resident regarding the town's current policy of only Egremont residents at the Dog Park. Legal Counsel advised closing the park. The Board concurred that it will keep the current status.

#### SELECTBOARD ITEMS:

The Board will meet on June 30, at 10am via zoom.

#### FY 21 BUDGET/TOWN MEETING:

It had been proposed to require info from non-voters attending the meeting for the purpose of contact tracing. Legal Counsel was concerned so the Board agreed to make this voluntary. The predicted high temperatures, high humidity, and change of storms/showers was of some concern. This can be dealt with if need be at the meeting. It was agreed to take some water coolers up for attendees to have access to drinking water.

Meeting adjourned at 11:34am.

Mary Brazie,  
Office Administrator

minutes.20/jun23

*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.*