



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
REMOTE MEETING**

Friday May 1, 2020

Members Present: Shana M. Shufelt, Chair
Brian T. Valcourt, Vice Chair
Ann E. Boxler, Clerk
Steven J. Ouellette
Richard W. Brewer

Also Present: Timothy King, Town Administrator

Select Board Chair, Ms. Shufelt called the remote meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair's Announcement – Under MGL Chapter 30A, section 20(f) – Meeting being recorded.
Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Westport Board of Selectmen is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order. The public was invited to join the meeting through the links provided at the time of posting.

1. COVID-19 EMERGENCY

Director of Public Health, Matt Armendo, updated the Board: there are 46 cases in town and 22 have since recovered; 2 people have passed away. The BOH has issued a face covering in public order. He is working with Jim Hartnett on developing a daily plan to handle disinfection.

Ms. Shufelt noted all Town Buildings were to be closed through May 5th and then the Governor extended that through May 18th. Mr. Armendo stated that his recommendation is to stay closed until the 18th at least to give time to the employees to plan for reopening. Mr. Brewer does not see a compelling reason to discontinue the closure,

MOTION by Mr. Brewer to continue the status quo for the time. Seconded by Mr. Ouellette. The Board voted 5-0 in favor by roll call.

Hix Bridge Landing

The Board agreed to allow the boat ramp to remain open.

Town Beaches.

Last Monday the town allowed permit holders to park on East Beach as long as permit holders remained in their cars. Discussion ensued over opening all beaches. **MOTION** by Mr. Valcourt to open all parking lots at C&W Beach, Beach Ave and East Beach effective May 2. Seconded by Mr. Ouellette. The Board voted 4-1 in favor by roll call with Ms. Shufelt voting nay.

Memorial Day recommendation

The VSO, Carol Freitas, recommended that the public ceremony be cancelled and replaced with a pre recorded abbreviated ceremony with additional clips from past years. They anticipate a proclamation from the Governor by May 11 and will record it at that time. She plans to invite just the families of La Tessa and Fontaine to memorialize them on this day. **MOTION** by Mr. Ouellette to approve. Seconded by Mr. Brewer. The Board voted 5-0 in favor by roll call.

Trailer Permits

Last Monday the BOS authorized the permits to be issued Yesterday the BOH issued a public health order prohibiting trailers from being placed on East Beach until May 18 pursuant to the Governor’s order. This is an order outside the permit scope of the BOS. The Board will continue to issue permits as long as applicants comply with other department requirements. Several trailer owners rebutted the order and asked to place but not occupy their trailers on the lots before May 18. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Shufelt stated that the Board has covered all that needs to be discussed before May 11 related to COVID.

Mr. Ouellette noted that the numbers are creeping up and we need to follow the guidelines.

Ms. Shufelt interprets the Governor’s order to stay at home.

2. Topics not reasonably anticipated forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting.

None.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Ouellette to adjourn the regular meeting at 5:15 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Valcourt. The Board voted 5-0 in favor by roll call.

Respectfully submitted,



Lucy Tabit Administrative Assistant/
Confidential Clerk

APPROVED:



Ann E. Boxler, Clerk, Select Board Member