



TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
OPEN SESSION MINUTES
ROOM 200/ZOOM
June 28, 2022

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

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

Announcements Ms. Emberg read:

- This meeting is being recorded by PACTV. Anyone intending to make an audio or video recording of the meeting should notify us at this time.
- Financial assistance applications are available on the Town's website or by calling the Selectmen's office.
- There is currently a lottery for two affordable housing units within the Jones River Estates, located at Barrows Brook Circle and Captain Jones Way. Both homes will be sold at an affordable price to households with incomes at or below 80% of the Area Median Income. A public information session will be held via Zoom on July 11 at 6 PM. Completed applications and mortgage pre-approvals must be received or postmarked by 2 PM on August 9. More information is available on the Town's website.
- New recycling and disposal center stickers, also known as the transfer station or affectionately known as "the dump," are on sale at the Highway Department, located just behind the Town House on Evergreen Street. You can purchase stickers Monday through Friday 7 AM-3 PM and Saturday and Sunday from 7 AM-4 PM through July 10. When buying your new sticker, make sure you have your car registration, photo identification that matches the registration, proof of residency, and a check or money order. Remember that if you show up at the transfer station without your sticker for the upcoming year, you will be instructed to go to the Highway Barn to purchase a new sticker. The stickers that expire on June 30, 2022, will be honored until July 3, 2022, due to the delay in removing the wind turbine.
- The Town of Kingston now offers electronic billing for real estate, motor vehicle excise tax, and water bills. If you are interested in receiving some or all of those bills electronically rather than by mail, please visit the Town's website for more information on how to enroll.
- Happening right now at Gray's Beach; there's music in the Park featuring Adam Frates Acoustic. Feel free to pack a picnic and grab your lawn chair to enjoy the music and the beach. The event will run until about 8 PM. This community event is open to the public, and parking is limited while no sticker is required for these special events. Keep in mind that there is a carry-in/carry-out policy for the Park for trash.
- Also, at Gray's Beach, the next farmer's market is this coming Sunday, July 3, from 10 AM-2 PM.
- With the upcoming weekend being the 4th of July, I wish everyone a happy and safe Independence Day.
- The applicant for the earth removal permit has requested a continuation, so we will not discuss that item other than to continue it to a future meeting.

OPEN FORUM

There was no one in attendance for open forum.

APPOINTMENTS

Request for Road Closure and use of Town Green for Agricultural Fair and Li brewery Event

Ms. Emberg explained that the Agricultural Commission is requesting the use of the Town Green on Sunday, September 18, 2022, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. The library is planning their Li brewery event in the library's parking lot on the same day. Both groups request the road closure of Green Street on Sunday, September 18, 2022, from 12:30 PM to 5:30 PM.

Debbie Grace was in attendance to talk about the Li brewery event, and she stated this was the 2nd time they would be holding this event.

John Wheble was in attendance to talk about the Agricultural Fair, a yearly event with excellent attendance.

Mr. Hickey explained that Police Chief Splaine and Paul Basler met with representatives from both organizations on June 22. A good traffic plan was developed and is supported by Town officials and officials representing the Agricultural Fair and Li-brewery event.

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

VOTE: I move to approve the request from the Agricultural Commission to use the Town Green and to close a portion of Green Street and close to thru traffic in the afternoon of September 18, 2022, from 1:00 PM-5:00 PM. With the following conditions:

1. Green Street will be open to one-way westbound traffic to Cross Street.
2. Signboard at Green & Summer announcing road Closed to thru traffic.
3. Parking is allowed on the north side of Green Street. Parking is available from the intersection of Summer Street up to the junction of Cross Street.
4. Handicapped parking will be in the library parking lot. Access to the library parking lot will be from Cross Street. All patrons exiting the parking lot are to follow the one-way traffic pattern.
5. Streets, Trees, and Parks erect barricades in the library parking lot to separate vehicles from pedestrians.
6. Green Street is closed to all traffic at the intersection of Cross Street.
7. One-way traffic on Cross Street back to Summer Street.
8. The barricades/signs at Cross Street and Summer Street indicate "No Entry/One Way Traffic."
9. Center Street is closed to all traffic. Barricades at both ends – (Main St. at Center St./ Cross St. at Center St.).
10. Green Street closed at Main Street. Barricades installed. Sign board announcing road closed to thru traffic.
11. Traffic detail officers (two) at both ends of Green Street.
12. The Street, Trees, and Parks Department shall provide sawhorses; road closed signs, one-way signs, and detour signs. The on-duty police supervisor and the detail officers shall ensure that the barricades and signage are in place before the events start.
13. Petitioners are to notify impacted residents of events and traffic restrictions.
14. Petitioners are to advertise the secured parking options to the visiting public."

Ms. Kramer stated that it was a great event!

Public Hearing for Earth Removal Permit Application

Ms. Emberg explained that the applicant had requested a continuation. Also, Mr. O'Donnell informed the Town that they feel confident they will be ready to go with DEP requirements by the next meeting.

Motion by Ms. Kramer, second by Mr. Bouchard and a, 5-0-0,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to continue the O'Donnell Family Realty Trust Earth Removal Permit Application public hearing until July 12, 2022.

Temporarily Road Closure Request

Ms. Emberg explained that this annual event comes before the Board to review. The request was received by Rebecca Hebert to close roads within the Nook for the evening of July 4. The proposal was reviewed by the Chief of Police, Fire, and the Superintendent of Streets, Trees, and Parks, who provided a recommendation within the motion.

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

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to approve the request from Rebecca Herbert to close a portion of East Avenue at Bayview Avenue, West Avenue at Bayview Avenue, Cole Street at Bagnell Street, and a portion of Rocky Nook Avenue from the intersection of East Avenue at Bayview Avenue to the junction of Rocky Nook Avenue at North Street on Monday, July 4, 2022, during the hours of 6:00 PM thru 11:00 PM, with the following conditions.

1. Access for emergency vehicles be maintained at all times.
2. The petitioner secures barricades and road-closed signage from the Highway Department to be erected by the petitioners during the event.
3. Notification is made by the petitioner to the neighborhood residents that are affected by the road closure.
4. The Streets are maintained at a width of 10 feet to allow for apparatus access.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

FY22 Budget Line-Item Transfers

Ms. Emberg explained that two transfers are being requested this evening. One is due to an increase in gasoline prices, and a transfer is required to cover the over expenditure. Additionally, a network failure recently required the purchase of equipment and technical support. It was discussed that the Finance Committee reviewed and approved the requests at their meeting last week.

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

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to approve transferring the following \$25,000 from 01910-51174 Health Insurance to 01192-54481 General Operations – Gasoline
And
\$6,000 from 01910-51174 Health Insurance to cover \$3,500 to 01155-58871 IT Computer Equipment Replacement and \$2,500 to 01155-52274 IT Website Expense

Approval of Water Superintendent Salary

Ms. Emberg explained that the Board of Selectmen is being asked to authorize the starting salary of the Superintendent. It was mentioned that the Water Commissioners and Wage and Personnel have reviewed and approved the salary based on past practice.

Motion by Ms. Kramer, second by Mr. Bouchard and a, 5-0-0,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to approve the starting salary of Water Superintendent Chris Veracka at Grade 4, Step 10 rate of \$103,798

Authorize the Hiring of the Following Positions

Ms. Emberg explained that due to several resignations and retirements, the Board is requested to authorize the following positions to be filled.

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

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to appoint the following individuals:

Mary Beth Lawton as a full-time Wage and Personnel, Grade S4, Step 7 exempt position of Director of Elder Affairs with the Council on Aging with an anticipated start date of July 11, 2022.

Luke Barron as a full-time, KTEU, Grade L4, Step 4 nonexempt position of Wastewater Laborer, with an anticipated start date of July 5, 2022

Nicholas Cotoulas as a full-time Wage and Personnel, Grade S3, Step 3 position of Archivist at the library with an anticipated start date of July 13, 2022

The above appointments are made pending the following conditions:

- Satisfactory CORI check;
- Satisfactory letter from your primary care physician that you can perform the functions of the position based on the attached job description;
- Successful completion of a six-month probationary period.”

Nick DeFelice is being promoted from a full-time Driver/Laborer to a full-time KTEU, Grade L4, Step 4, the nonexempt position of Heavy Motor Equipment Operator with Streets, Trees, and Parks, with an anticipated start date of July 1, 2022, pending satisfactory CORI check.

Taylor O’Neill as a full-time KTEU, Grade C3, Step 1, Emergency-911 Public Safety Dispatcher with an anticipated start date of July 18, 2022, pending the following conditions:

- Satisfactory results of a physical exam, including a drug test, by a town-appointed physician stating that you can perform the essential functions of a Public Safety Dispatcher;
- Satisfactory comprehensive background check with CORI screen;
- Successful completion of a six-month probationary
- Complete and submit the necessary identification forms to satisfy the U.S. Immigration Reform Act requirements.

It was noted that the position of the Emergency 911 dispatcher at the Police Department was to fill a vacancy.

Acceptance of Appointments

Ms. Emberg explained that this is to fill vacant seats. The Board had no comment.

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

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen appoints the following effective immediately:

- Donna Weinberg to Council on Aging Board until June 30, 2025
- Taylor O’Neill as a Police Matron until June 30, 2023
- Wayne Bouley to Capital Planning until June 30, 2025

The role of a police matron is required when a female inmate is being held and needs a female matron to be present during booking.

Acceptance of Reappointments

Ms. Emberg explained that this is reappointing individuals to their current seats. The Board had no comment.

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

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to appoint the following effective immediately:

- Joseph Mathias to Agricultural Commission until June 30, 2023
- Jessica Kramer to Affordable Housing Trust until June 30, 2025
- Elizabeth Corbett to Agricultural Commission until June 30, 2025
- Joseph Casna to the Recycling Committee until June 30, 2025
- Joseph Casna to Rent Control Board until June 30, 2025

Town Administrators Update

Mr. Hickey read from his report:

The Commonwealth notified all Massachusetts communities that the second half of the ARPA funds are available to be requested. Finance Director Carol McCoy will submit the necessary documentation to receive those funds.

The crane assembly to disassemble the wind turbine at the former landfill began on June 22.

The Main Street speed limit was established through regulation and supersedes speed limits set statutorily, including the Thickly Settled designation. Based on the summaries of traffic provided by the Kingston Police Department and Old Colony Planning, MassDOT representatives would not support a reduction in the speed limit. MassDOT noted that the speed study results provided by both parties, independently of each other, were very consistent, which leads MassDOT officials to find the results credible.

Mr. Hickey stated that he and Paul Gallagher attended Gladys Laughland's 104th birthday party on June 23 and presented her with the Boston Post Cane as Kingston's oldest living resident.

All non-emergency Town buildings will be closed on July 4.

Ms. Kramer discussed that she thought the thought we had requested the removal of the regulatory speed limit to be able to adopt the statutory speed limit.

Ms. Emberg explained that we asked MassDOT if we could reduce the speed regulatory speed limit from 35mph to 30mph, not adopt the statutory limit.

Ms. Vaughn asked about the update on Fox 25 news, ZIP Trip, and Mr. Hickey stated that if they have any suggestions, to let him know.

Selectmen Comments

Ms. Vaughn would like to say happy 4th of July! Ms. Vaughn mentioned she attended the Plymouth Pride on Saturday; two Kingston residents helped run this event.

Mr. Bouchard announced to everyone, Happy Independence Day, be safe!

Motion by Mr. Bouchard, second by Ms. Kramer, and a 5-0-0 vote,

VOTE: I move to adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Tucker
Assistant to the Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen

Documents used at the meeting:

Agenda
Agenda Addendum
Request for road closure
Line-item transfers
Water Commissioners vote on salary
Hiring information
Appointments
Re appointments
Town Administrator report