

**TOWN OF LAKEVILLE  
Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
April 6, 2020 – 3:00 PM  
REMOTE LOCATION**

On April 6, 2020, the Board of Selectmen held a meeting at 3:00 PM remotely from various locations. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Chairman Fabian. Selectmen present were: Chairman Fabian and Selectman LaCamera. Also present were Maureen Candito, Town Administrator; Michael O'Brien, Fire Chief; Matthew Perkins, Police Chief; Jesse Medford, Chairman of Open Space Committee; Nancy Yeatts, APC Coordinator and Tracie Craig-McGee, Executive Assistant. LakeCAM was recording the meeting for broadcast.

In accordance with the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A, §20, relating to the 2020 novel Coronavirus outbreak emergency, the April 6, 2020 public meeting of the **Board of Selectmen** shall be physically closed to the public to avoid group congregation. **However, to view this meeting in progress, please go to [facebook.com/lakecam](https://www.facebook.com/lakecam) (you do not need a Facebook account to view the meeting). This meeting will be recorded and available to be viewed at a later date at <http://www.lakecam.tv/>**

Chairman Fabian read an introduction regarding the need for a remote meeting and how a remote meeting will be conducted.

**Request from Fire Chief to appoint two (2) Temporary Full Time Firefighters**

*Michael O'Brien, Fire Chief, was present for the discussion.* Chief O'Brien said he is asking for two (2) call firefighters to be appointed as Temporary Full Time Firefighters in anticipation of more requests for service. Chairman Fabian read into the record the memo from Clorinda Dunphy, Human Resources Director. The evaluation team recommended the appointment of Anthony McCauley and Nathan Gagnier. Chief O'Brien summarized their experience. Selectman LaCamera said the Town will receive a 75% reimbursement from FEMA for their salaries.

Upon a motion made by Chairman Fabian and seconded by Selectman LaCamera, it was:

VOTED: To appoint Anthony McCauley and Nathan Gagnier until the time the State deems the COVID 19 crisis to be over.

Roll call vote: Chairman Fabian – aye and Selectman LaCamera – aye.

**Discuss and vote to change the Non-Union Call Firefighter Wages to conform to the State's Minimum Wage**

*Michael O'Brien, Fire Chief, was present for the discussion.* Chief O'Brien requested an increase in the wage rates for Junior Call Firefighters to \$12.75 and Probationary Call Firefighters to \$12.75 per hour, which is minimum wage. Selectman LaCamera said the Board will be re-evaluating the wage scale for the Call Firefighters. Chief O'Brien said he would like to tie Call Firefighters into the other non-union employees for pay raises.



Upon a motion made by Selectman LaCamera and seconded by Chairman Fabian, it was:

VOTED: To increase the Junior Call Firefighter from \$11.50 per hour to \$12.75 per hour and Probationary Call Firefighters from \$12.50 per hour to \$12.75 per hour.

Roll call vote: Chairman Fabian – aye and Selectman LaCamera – aye.

### **COVID 19 update**

*Matthew Perkins, Police Chief, Michael O'Brien, Fire Chief, and Edward Cullen, Health Agent, were present for the discussion.* Chief Perkins said that his Officers are trying to resolve issues by telephone when possible. Questions came in today regarding advisories versus orders from the State. The advisories are not through Police Department enforcement, but the orders do. The Stay at Home Advisory is a Public Health Department. You are not limited to staying home, but it is a recommendation for their health and is recommended from the Center for Disease Control to use a facial covering for all going out into public. The order has a fine associated of \$300 for a second offense regarding the ten (10) person congregation limit inside or outside in confined spaces. They are patrolling Town property for that. Chairman Fabian said some people were using the fields yesterday at Ted Williams Camp. She hopes that people will just stay home. Selectman LaCamera said this is a critical period of time and we need to make sure we have social distancing. Nothing should be happening at the fields. Chief Perkins said it is your civic responsibility to follow the guidelines and advisories being put out by the State. Chief O'Brien said everyone is working together and supporting each other. We have structured procedures to handle emergencies and have the materials we need. We are also dealing with mutual aid from other Towns. Tele-medicine is helping people stay safe. He is confident they will be able to handle this.

Selectman LaCamera thanked Governor Baker and Robert Kraft for the delivery of supplies from the National Guard. Chief O'Brien said there is a first responder test site at Gillette Stadium. All tests being performed for First Responders are being paid for by the Kraft Family. FEMA calls daily. We are trying to lessen the burden on the Fire Department regarding burn permits, so outdoor burning has been shut down. Morton Hospital belongs to the Steward Group; COVID patients will be transferred to Morton to an expanded ICU area. It is not taking over the whole hospital. The Emergency Room is still open and accepting patients.

Chairman Fabian said we have been taking lots of calls regarding posting the number of cases in Lakeville. Mr. Cullen said he was advised by Mass Department of Public Health (DPH) to not post the number of cases. When the cases came out in Lakeville, there was a lot of attention focused on who it was. Not posting helps to provide privacy. There have been 12,500 confirmed cases and 963 cases in Plymouth County. There are more than two (2) cases in Lakeville, and we are getting cases every day. You need to worry about people with no symptoms walking around. Social distancing needs to be done. People don't know they have COVID 19. Don't focus on the numbers; consider everyone to be a possible case. The risk is increasing every day. People don't get tested; they stay home and recover so they don't get on the list of confirmed cases. We have abided by the DPH's recommendation not to post the number of cases. It was not a decision of the Board of Health. Selectman LaCamera said if the Board of Health would like to announce cases, it is fine with him. Ms. Candito said there are a lot of questions and concerns are from not posting the numbers, and it is a distraction at this point. She would prefer to post the numbers once a week. Chairman Fabian noted as of this date, there are 13 cases in Lakeville, 2 of which have recovered. We are not intentionally keeping the information hidden. We followed the State recommendation. Mr. Cullen said masks will help people that may be spreading the disease; it is more dangerous every day. Until we get to the peak, the risk increases every day. The more people out there the more exposure. It is not safer



now because some people are wearing the mask; not everyone is wearing it. Wearing a mask does not make it safer. Chief O'Brien said conditions are deteriorating; don't take the mask as going out to socialize. The only safe measure is to stay home. Chairman Fabian said the Board is constantly following the governor and the legislation that is coming and going. We have budget issues going on and a new calendar for Town Election and Town Meeting. We are trying to keep business moving at Town Hall. Selectman LaCamera said the Town has set up a call center so people can ask questions and get advice. People have been calling the call center to find out where the cases are. We cannot disclose who the people are and where they live. Please do not call for those reasons. The number is (508) 946-0044. If the person cannot answer the call, they will pass it along to the appropriate person. Selectman LaCamera said the Senior Center is doing the best they can with Meals on Wheels. If you have a neighbor or a friend that is a senior and alone, please give them a call and check on them.

### **Town Administrator's Report**

Ms. Candito thanked the Chiefs and Health Agent for their work. Town Hall is still closed to the public. We are staffed with a skeleton crew. We are trying to keep working, but make it safe. If you need to make a payment, most can be made online. We have a vestibule set up after the Fire Station door that you can leave things. We do have forms available in that vestibule. June 1, 2020 is new due date for real estate taxes; dog licenses will be extended to June 1, 2020. Senior Center is providing Meals on Wheels and Brown Bag lunches, but we need drivers to do Meals on Wheels. We will leave forms in the vestibule. We are doing outreach for seniors by phone. Library is closed to the public. Transfer Station is open for bagged trash only. Recyclables need human contact, which we are trying to limit. This will be for the foreseeable future. Building permits can be done on the Town's website. The Town Election has been postponed. DPW is on opposite shifts right now in smaller groups. We are fortunate with our employees. Being connected with our IT has been helpful.

### **Discuss rescheduling the Annual Town Election and Town Meeting**

Chairman Fabian said the Town needs to postpone the election due to the COVID crisis. We need to get the Town Clerk's input on a new date, but wanted to discuss this. Selectman LaCamera said we need to hold the election prior to June 30, 2020. The stay at home advisory may be extended through May. The Town Clerk has no objection to June 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup>. She would prefer June 16<sup>th</sup> for setup purposes, which will not interfere with anything going on at the Loon Pond Lodge on June 14<sup>th</sup>. We have to hold the election the same day as Freetown due to the Regional School Members. He suggested holding it on June 16, 2020 and a date for the Annual Town Meeting on June 22, 2020.

### **Discuss email received from Nancy Yeatts, Assawompset Pond Complex Manager, regarding APC Rangers**

*Nancy Yeatts, APC Manager was present for the discussion.* Ms. Yeatts spoke about how many people are using the Assawompset Pond Complex land, including Betty's Neck, which was packed yesterday. She is worried about running out of money for rangers. There are 4,000 acres in the APC. We are trying to redirect people so that they are not all at Betty's Neck or at Neagus Way at the Water Treatment Plant. We typically don't have the amount of rangers out there now; she has added another person out there due to the weather. Selectman LaCamera said New Bedford and Taunton will help to fund the rangers. When we need more money, we will address it with them. Ms. Yeatts said she will bill them extra and see what happens.

Ms. Yeatts said regarding haying the fields on Betty's Neck, she has a new farmer willing to pay \$2,500 and seed and lime the fields for this coming year. It has been two (2) years since the fields have been taken care of and they need it desperately.



Upon a motion made by Selectman LaCamera and seconded by Chairman Fabian, it was:

VOTED: To allow Ms. Yeatts to have the new farmer take care of the fields with \$2,500 to be donated back to the Town.

Roll call vote: Chairman Fabian – aye and Selectman LaCamera – aye.

### **Discuss Guidelines for Remote Meetings**

Chairman Fabian said we are developing guidelines for remote meetings. There will not be any physical meetings taking place. Ms. Candito said that the Boards, Commissions and Committees will be receiving communication regarding using Zoom for meetings. We are working on new policies and procedure.

### **Discuss request received to remove Lakeville Country Club, 31 Stetson Street and 1 Cedarberry Lane properties from Chapter 61A & 61B**

*Jesse Medford, Chairman of the Open Space Committee is present for the discussion.* Chairman Fabian said the Board has received a request to remove the Lakeville Country Club, 31 Stetson Street and 1 Cedarberry Lane from Chapter 61A and 61B. Selectman LaCamera said the Open Space Committee provided a list of properties they would like to see protected, and Lakeville Country Club is on the list. There are four (4) pieces of property. The owner has requested to take this out. The potential buyer is looking to build a distribution center. Mr. Medford said Open Space's concern is to protect the character of the Town. The Town would be losing passive recreation space if this is developed. He felt townspeople would rather have it as recreation. Selectman LaCamera said he felt there needed to be four (4) different applications. We are waiting on Town Counsel for a response. The Assessors will need to calculate the back taxes. The property is being sold for \$7.2 million. If we wanted to pursue this, we would need an appraisal of the property to determine market value. Chairman Fabian asked Mr. Medford to keep in touch with Ms. Candito and Selectman LaCamera.

### **Discuss scheduling a joint meeting with Park Commission regarding going out to bid for Management Services and Cleaning Services for Loon Pond Lodge**

*Jesse Medford, Park Commission member, was present for the discussion.* Chairman Fabian said the event management contract expires November 1, 2020. She would like to meet with the Park Commission regarding this. Mr. Medford said the Park Commission has not discussed this yet.

### **Discuss and vote making Direct Deposit for Employee Checks mandatory**

Chairman Fabian said according to the Human Resources Director, there are still some employees that receive a paper check. She has been reaching out to these employees to begin direct deposit. This has been a bit of an issue since the COVID 19 crisis. Ms. Candito said it has become an extra burden on the Town to deliver checks to an employee's home or mail them out. Direct Deposit gives them their money two (2) days earlier. She was planning on phasing this out by December 31, 2020. She would now like to do this by June 1, 2020. We are among the last Towns to still have paper checks. Selectman LaCamera said there may be some union questions because he is not sure we can make it mandatory for direct deposit. It may require Town Meeting approval. Ms. Candito said she has reached out to other Towns and most of them were just a vote of the Selectmen. Chairman Fabian asked Ms. Candito to check if it requires Town Meeting approval and to discuss it with the unions. We will table this and bring it back when you get more information.

### **Request from Town Clerk to renew Junk Dealer, Junk Collector and Auctioneer Licenses**



Chairman Fabian said the Town Clerk has requested that we renew Junk Dealer, Junk Collector and Auctioneer licenses. Mr. Darling has performed the inspections and recommended approval of all the licenses.

Upon a motion made by Selectman LaCamera and seconded by Chairman Fabian, it was:

VOTED: To approve the following licenses to expire on May 1, 2021: Anthony & Dorita Morris for 33 Myricks Street: Auctioneer License; Junk Dealer License and Junk Collector License.

Roll call vote: Chairman Fabian – aye and Selectman LaCamera – aye.

Upon a motion made by Selectman LaCamera and seconded by Chairman Fabian, it was:

VOTED: To approve the followings three (3) Junk Dealer License and Junk Collector Licenses to expire on May 1, 2021: Hugh & Judy Rogers – 201 County Street; Robin E. Marques & Donald L. Bernier, Jr. and Christine Ann Goyette.

Roll call vote: Chairman Fabian – aye and Selectman LaCamera – aye.

#### **Discuss and vote reappointments of Animal Control Officer/Constable and Assistant Animal Control Officers**

Chairman Fabian said it is a State statute for the appointments of Animal Control Officers and Assistant Animal Control Officers, which expire April 30, 2020.

Upon a motion made by Chairman Fabian and seconded by Selectman LaCamera, it was:

VOTED: To appoint David Frates as Animal Control Officer/Constable for a term to expire April 30, 2021.

Roll call vote: Chairman Fabian – aye and Selectman LaCamera – aye.

Upon a motion made by Chairman Fabian and seconded by Selectman LaCamera, it was:

VOTED: To appoint Darcy Lee, Jennifer Nash, Harold Marshall and Lisa Podielsky as Assistant Animal Control Officers for terms to expire April 30, 2021.

Roll call vote: Chairman Fabian – aye and Selectman LaCamera – aye.

#### **Discuss and voter reappointment of Veterans Agent/Graves Officer**

Chairman Fabian said the appointment for the Veterans' Agent and Graves Officer expire April 30, 2020.

Upon a motion made by Chairman Fabian and seconded by Selectman LaCamera, it was:

VOTED: To reappoint Wilford Corey as Veterans' Agent and Graves Officer for a term to expire April 30, 2021.

Roll call vote: Chairman Fabian – aye and Selectman LaCamera – aye.



**Discuss and vote reappointment of Parking Clerk, Veterans' Services Director and Plymouth County Advisory Board Member**

Chairman Fabian noted that the following appointments needed to be made and are usually filled by the Selectmen: Parking Clerk, Veterans' Services Director and Plymouth County Advisory Board Member. She currently serves as the Parking Clerk and Plymouth County Advisory Board Member.

Upon a motion made by Selectman LaCamera and seconded by Chairman Fabian, it was:

VOTED: To appoint Chairman Fabian as the Parking Clerk and Plymouth County Advisory Board Member and Selectman LaCamera as Veterans Services Director until the Annual Town Election to be held in June of 2020.

Roll call vote: Chairman Fabian – aye and Selectman LaCamera – aye.

**Request from SunMulti Sports to change date of Patriot Half Triathlon until September 5, 2020**

Chairman Fabian said SunMulti Sports has requested to postpone the Patriot Half Triathlon to September 5, 2020.

Upon a motion made by Selectman LaCamera and seconded by Chairman Fabian, it was:

VOTED: To approve the change of dates for the SunMulti Sports Patriot Half Triathlon to September 5, 2020.

Roll call vote: Chairman Fabian – aye and Selectman LaCamera – aye.

**Request from Spark Bike Run Sports to reschedule The Mix Tape Cycling Event until June 28, 2020**

Chairman Fabian said Spark Bike Run Sports has requested to reschedule The Mix Tape Cycling Event to June 28, 2020. Lt. Sean Joyce has indicated that he approves the change of date with the Board of Selectman approval.

Upon a motion made by Selectman LaCamera and seconded by Chairman Fabian, it was:

VOTED: To approve the change of date from April 5, 2020 to June 28, 2020 for The Mix Tape Cycling Event.

Roll call vote: Chairman Fabian – aye and Selectman LaCamera – aye.

**Review and vote to approve Selectmen Meeting Minutes of March 2, 2020; March 4, 2020; March 16, 2020 (12:00 PM); March 16, 2020 (6:30 PM) and March 25, 2020**

Upon a motion made by Selectman LaCamera and seconded by Chairman Fabian, it was:

VOTED: To approve the Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes of March 2, 2020; March 4, 2020; March 16, 2020 (12:00 PM)); and March 16, 2020.

Roll call vote: Chairman Fabian – aye and Selectman LaCamera – aye.



## **New Business**

Chairman Fabian announced that Ms. Craig-McGee received a \$1,500 grant from the Petco Foundation for the Animal Shelter.

## **Old Business: Update on Lakeville Hospital Property**

Selectman LaCamera said that the proposed buyers for the former Lakeville Hospital Property are Rino Capital Advisors from Boston. They have a Purchase and Sales Agreement on the property to develop it. They are proposing to tear down the buildings, clean up the landfill and build a distribution center. They will be coming before the Board of Selectmen with an overview of their plans in a few weeks.

## **Any other business that may properly come before the meeting**

At 4:44 PM, upon a motion made by Chairman Fabian and seconded by Selectman LaCamera, it was:

VOTED: To enter into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A, §21a (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining, specifically the Firefighters' Union, Police Union and Laborers' Union if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Board, and the Chair so declares and pursuant to pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A, §21a (7) to comply with the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c.30A, §22(f): approval of Executive Session Minutes for December 30, 2019; February 10, 2020 (5:00 PM) February 10, 2020; February 13, 2020; March 23, 2020; and March 26, 2020.

Roll call vote: Chairman Fabian – aye and Selectman LaCamera – aye.

## **Other Items**

1. Letter from Petco Foundation announcing \$1,500.00 Grant for the Lakeville Animal Shelter
2. Public Notification Requirement – Notice of Application for special Project Designation Permit Extension/Modification
3. Notice from SRPEDD regarding Call for At-Large Commissioners
4. Letter from Comcast regarding postponement of Cartoon Network Moving to Digital Preferred Tier
5. Letter from Division of Capital Asset Management & Maintenance regarding search for lease space

## **List of documents provided at the Board of Selectmen Meeting of April 6, 2020**

1. Agenda cover sheet
2. Letter from Police Chief and memo from Human Resources Director regarding appointment of two (2) Temporary Full Time Firefighters
3. Memo from Fire Chief
4. Agenda cover sheet
5. Agenda cover sheet



6. Agenda cover sheet
7. Letter from Nancy Yeatts, Assawompset Pond Complex Manager
8. Agenda cover sheet
9. Application to remove Lakeville Country Club, 31 Stetson Street and 1 Cedarberry Lane from Chapter 61A & 61B
10. Agenda cover sheet
11. Agenda cover sheet
12. Memo from Town Clerk, memo from Building Commissioner and memo to Building Commissioner
13. Agenda cover sheet
14. Agenda cover sheet
15. Agenda cover sheet
16. Letter from Sun Multisport Events
17. Letter from Spark Bike Run Sports; email from Lt. Sean Joyce
18. Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes of March 2, 2020; March 4, 2020; March 16, 2020 (12:00 PM); March 16, 2020 (6:30 PM) and March 25, 2020