
MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION – December 21, 2020

ROOM 03 – TOWN HALL

7:00 PM

PRESENT: Chairman William E. Kingkade, Jr., Selectmen Michael K. Walsh and Thomas J. O'Loughlin and Town Administrator Richard A. Villani.

1. Chairman Kingkade read a statement regarding Milford TV providing closed captioning for the Selectmen meetings.
2. Chairman asked for a moment of silence for long time Town Moderator, Mike Noferi.
3. Mr. O'Loughlin moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To sign the warrant, UNANIMOUS.
4. Mr. O'Loughlin moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To approve the Regular Session Minutes of December 21, 2020 as submitted. UNANIMOUS.
5. Invitation to Speak – James Butler a resident living at 28 Cape Road informed the Board that Amazon semi-tractor trailer trucks travelling on Route 140 try to take a left-hand turn onto Wood Street have hit his mailbox and have torn up the neighbor's land. He asked for a sign to be installed saying "No Tractor Trailers." Mr. Kingkade said we could have the Police Chief look into installing a sign. He also mentioned that Selectman O'Loughlin and Town Administrator Villani are now the liaisons to Amazon for dealing with resident issues. Mr. O'Loughlin said Amazon has agreed to notify their drivers not to go on Wood Street. He is also requesting Amazon put up their own sign with their logo informing their drivers not to turn on Wood Street. He is creating a spread sheet listing all complaints concerning Amazon. We have received complaints from residents on Hayward and Beach Streets. He is also asking Amazon to change their GPS settings to reroute their trucks. Mr. Walsh said the Town now has opened a line of communication with Amazon. He said he contacted Amazon and asked them not to cut through the St. Mary's cemetery to get back to their warehouse and they have complied. Mr. O'Loughlin advised the public to call or email him or the Town Administrator with any issues.
6. Police Chief Mike Pighetti, Fire Chief Mark Nelson and Director of Public Health Jackie Murphy were present to update the Board on the COVID19 virus. Dr. Murphy informed the Board that the number of cases and percentage of positivity have increased significantly. Also, the Board of Health conducted a "pop up" test site at the High School and tested 280

people. About 11% or 20 people tested positive. There are 40 patients in Milford Regional Medical Center with 6 in ICU. 74 Milford residents have passed away from COVID 19. Chief Nelson said their PPE is more than adequate. He has been sharing PPE with the Health Care and Long-Term Health Facilities. Milford Regional PPE supplies are in good shape. The Fire Department did receive a \$50,000.00 Grant used to purchase sprayers, masks, gowns and other PPE supplies. He said First Responders can still be tested at the House of Corrections. There are no COVID 19 cases in the Fire Department. Police Chief Pighetti said their PPE is in good shape. Unfortunately, three (3) Officers have tested positive in December. One has returned to work. One dispatcher who tested negative is still in quarantine. He said Mask compliance has been good and all Protocols have been updated as per the Governor's Order.

7. Town Counsel Charles Boddy, IT Director Chris George and Town Clerk Amy Neves were present to update the Board on the Special Town Meeting to be held on January 6th and 7th 2021. Amy said there are 241 Town Meeting members and a quorum would be 122. To date 42 members have registered to attend the Special Town Meeting. Town Counsel Boddy stated the Special Town Meeting will be complex. The Town Clerk will open the meeting and then there must be nominations and a vote to elect a Temporary Town Moderator. There will be a few Town Meeting members in Town Hall needed to conduct the meeting. Further, the members will need to take a vote to conduct the meeting remotely. He noted there will be obstacles, but we need to work to overcome them. Mr. O'Loughlin said we need to notify the At Large members and advise them they need to register for the remote meeting. We need to "Look at the Quorum number" also. IT Director Chris George informed the Board that the members can use desktop computers, laptops, tablets and phones to participate in the meeting. Mr. O'Loughlin recommended calling Town Meeting members to see if they need assistance in participating in the meeting. The Board agreed to place the matter of reducing the Quorum on the January 4, 2021 Selectmen meeting.
8. Finance Director, Zach Taylor, was present to review a proposed contract for Scanlon & Associates to conduct the Town audits. The contract is for three (3) years. Mr. Walsh moved, seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin: To approve the new three (3) year contract with Scanlon & Associates. UNANIMOUS.
9. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – December 21, 2020
 - A. Police Assistance for 1st Sergeant Bryan Fletcher – I want to thank Chief Pighetti and members of the Milford Police Department for assisting in the funeral of 1st Sergeant Bryan Fletcher who passed away on December 11th. The Department posted a uniformed officer at the front of Edwards Funeral Home this morning for

the duration of the service. They then escorted the funeral procession to Rt. 495 along with a State Police escort who then escorted them to the National Cemetery in Bourne, Ma.

- B. Licenses for 2021 – A reminder to local businesses to pick up their licenses for 21021. I also want to thank Tax Collector, Terri Dias, Town Treasurer Chris Pilla and Town Counsel Charles Boddy for their assistance in collecting and processing tax payments as well as preparing Tax Agreements as needed.
- C. ADA Project Update- I am pleased to report the Town completed important ADA Projects in 2020. Specifically, we made all restrooms at Town Hall and the Senior Center handicapped compliant. In addition, we completed the installation of a new handicapped ramp at Town Hall and redoing the parking lot. Finally, this week we will completing the installation of a new handicap access ramp at Memorial Hall this week. I want to thank Facilities Director Carlos Benjamin and Town Engineer Mike Dean for overseeing these projects.
- D. Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve- A reminder that Town Hall will be closed at 1:00 PM on Thursday, December 24, 2020, the day before Christmas and at 1:00 PM on Thursday, December 31, 2020, the day before New Years'.

10. Mr. O'Loughlin provided an update on communications with Amazon. He informed the Board he has sent a list of complaints from residents to the Amazon representative.

11. TJ Café & Games of 146 South Main Street, Milford filed an application seeking to Amend its Common Victualler License for a Change of Location to 146 South Main Street. Mr. Walsh moved, seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin: To approve the amendment for the Change of Location. UNANIMOUS.

12. Town Treasurer, Chris Pilla, was present to update the Board on the offer of land at 5 South Cedar Street for sale to the abutters by a direct disposition. He went out to bid, but no bids were received. He said the assessed value for the land is \$4,400.00. The Board discussed lowering the minimum bid price. Mr. O'Loughlin said he would prefer to see the property back on the tax roll. Mr. Walsh moved, seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin: To amend the prior Select Board vote of November 16 2020, to now authorize the Town Treasurer to offer land for sale to the abutters by a direct disposition with a minimum bid of \$5,000.00, or such other amount within his discretion, with the explicit condition that within three months of sale the parcel be merged with the abutting parcel by the filing, approval and recording of a plan merging the two parcels into a single tax parcel. UNANIMOUS.

13. Town Treasurer, Chris Pilla, was present to update the Board on the Public Auction of Town properties. He informed the Board that the auctioneer, Zekos Group, has agreed to postpone the auction to the week of May 3, 2021.

14. The Board reviewed a Memo from Police Chief Mike Pighetti regarding an email from Dartmouth Drive resident, Amber Rose. Mr. Kingcade read the Memo in full.
15. The Board reviewed a Memo from Police Chief, Mike Pighetti, recommending installing a “No Parking” sign on Ivy Lane. Mr. O’Loughlin moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To install a “No Parking Sign Here to Corner” sign on the southerly side of Ivy Lane facing east approximately 140 feet in from Purchase Street. UNANIMOUS.
16. The Board reviewed a Memo from Police Chief, Mike Pighetti, recommending installing two “No Parking” signs on Glines Avenue. Mr. Walsh moved, seconded by Mr. O’Loughlin: To install two (2) “No Parking Signs Here to Corner” signs on Glines Avenue as recommended in the Memo by the Police Chief dated December 13, 2020. UNANIMOUS.
17. At the request of the Town Administrator, the Board decided to reschedule the appointment of a part time custodian to work at the Police Station.
18. **INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE – NONE.**
19. Mr. O’Loughlin stated he has an issue with the Police Chief compensating Detectives to be on-call on weekends. He said he believes the Chief does not have the authority to negotiate with a subset of the Police Union. He would like the Police Chief to come to a meeting to discuss the issue. He said he tried to deal with the issue administratively to have the Chief not continue this practice. He has discussed the matter with Town Counsel, Finance Director and the Town Administrator. The Chief provided a Memo to the Board explain the establishment of the on-call compensation. He also believes the Chief exceeded his authority in creating three (3) new Lieutenant positions. The Chief will be invited to the January 4, 2021 Selectmen meeting.
20. Mr. Walsh stated Amazon is building a new facility in Northboro and a Selectwoman in Northboro reached out to him for contact information for Amazon. The Selectwoman told Mr. Walsh that Amazon has been in contact with her.
21. Mr. Kingcade said the Board received a letter from Robert Cappuziello regarding parking for residents at Town Hall as well as the parking ban during snow storms. The Board agreed to respond to his concerns raised in his letter.

22. Mr. Walsh moved, seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin: To adjourn the Selectmen's meeting at 9:00 PM, UNANIMOUS.

Richard A. Villani
Minutes Recorder

William E. Kingkade, Jr. Chairman

Michael K. Walsh

Thomas J. O'Loughlin