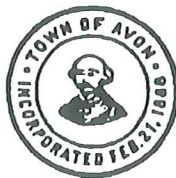


BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Steven P. Rose, Chairman
Eric S. Beckerman, Clerk
Jason L. Suzor, Associate

Gregory S. Enos
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town of Avon Massachusetts

Town Offices
Buckley Center 02322
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FAX (508) 559-0209



TOWN OF AVON
2021 MAR -5 A 9:19
TOWN CLERK

BOARD OF SELECTMEN THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2021 6:30 P.M.

Members Present: Steven P. Rose, Chairman
Eric S. Beckerman, Clerk (via videoconference)
Jason L. Suzor, Associate (via videoconference)

Others Present: Gregory S. Enos, Town Administrator
Shanna M. Faro, Executive Assistant (via videoconference)
Joseph S. Lalli, Esq., Town Counsel (via videoconference)
Fire Chief Robert Spurr (via videoconference)
Kathleen Waldron, Health Agent (via videoconference)

Chairman Rose announced that 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 Board of Selectmen is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public was permitted, but every effort was made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order. Chairman Rose reminded the viewing audience that persons who would like to view this meeting while in progress may do so by watching local cable on Channel 9 or joining the Zoom link for the videoconference. Links to watch the recorded meeting will be available on the Avon Cable Access website www.avontv.org.

Chairman Rose called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with all members present. Chairman Rose was present in the Mary McDermott meeting room, while Mr. Beckerman and Mr. Suzor were present through the videoconference Zoom. Each Board member acknowledged their presence at the meeting by responding in the affirmative during the roll call. In addition, all anticipated speakers acknowledged their presence by responding in the affirmative when Chairman Rose called their names.

Mr. Beckerman led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Participation

None

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of February 4, 2021 (Regular Session) as written. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COVID-19 Updates & Update on Town Offices Opening Plan

Ms. Waldron informed the Board that Avon has had a total of 24 positive coronavirus cases over the past two weeks in a continued downward trend which puts Avon in the yellow zone for a lower risk community. Ms. Waldron stated that Governor Baker announced that as of February 18, 2021, COVID-19 vaccinations will be available to individuals 65 years of age or older, and to individuals with two or more co-morbidities, and to individuals residing in senior housing. Ms. Waldron encouraged individuals meeting the criteria to register using the state website. Ms. Waldron stated that if anyone is having difficulty navigating the website, to call her office for assistance. Chief Spurr stated that the Town's first responders had a high compliance rate for the vaccine. Chief Spurr stated that over seventy seniors aged 75 or older received their first dose of the vaccine at the Town Hall clinic and he was working with Ms. Waldron to secure the second dose of vaccines for that group. Chief Spurr stated that unfortunately, the state has now taken over the vaccination clinics and no further vaccine distribution clinics will be available in Avon.

Mr. Enos did not recommend opening the Town Offices to the public currently.

Discussion of Annual Town Meeting/Fiscal Year 2022 Budget

Mr. Enos informed the Board that the draft budget for Fiscal Year 2022 is close to being finalized. Mr. Enos stated that he has a draft Annual Town Meeting Warrant which contains approximately 35 to 40 articles. Mr. Enos stated the logistics and location of the Town Meeting are still under consideration as to whether the meeting should be held indoors or outdoors as the pandemic is still ongoing. Mr. Beckerman and Mr. Suzor both recommended that the Annual Town Meeting be held on the second Tuesday of May and inside the high school auditorium as dictated by the bylaws. Mr. Beckerman also recommended usage of the electronic voting system. Chairman Rose suggested having a workshop meeting during the second or third week of March to review any amended line items in the budget, the warrant articles, and the location of the Annual Town Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Gift Acceptance Forms

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the gift donation from Peter and Linda Breen in the amount of \$200 for the Council on Aging lunch program in memory of Joanne Leear. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the gift donation of office furniture such as desks, chairs, filing cabinets, conference room tables and chairs, lunchroom tables and chairs, podiums and credenzas from an office located at 275 Bodwell Street at an estimated amount of approximately \$17,000 to be used for town offices and the renovated fire station. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Temporary Sign Permit

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Temporary Sign Permit requested by the Board of Health for approximately 100 "#Mask Up Avon" law signs to be displayed in various locations throughout the

town during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Personnel Action Forms

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Form of Lisa Lima-Soares for a new appointment to the full-time Public Safety Dispatcher position for a Grade D-1, Step 3, at the rate of \$22.89 per hour effective March 15, 2021. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Form of Kya Murray for a new appointment to the Recording Secretary position at the rate of \$16.00 per hour effective February 22, 2021. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Announcements

Chairman Rose announced that the Special Town Meeting will be held on Saturday, February 20, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the Avon Middle High School auditorium.

Chairman Rose announced that the March meetings of the Board will be March 4, 2021 and March 18, 2021.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Enos informed the Board that a temporary Memorandum of Agreement has been drafted between Avon and Stoughton for coverage for the Animal Control Officer as she will be taking a three-week vacation. Mr. Enos stated that this is an hourly contract. He informed the Board that he will seek a more permanent agreement going forward. Mr. Enos stated that Town Counsel has reviewed the contract. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign and execute the temporary Memorandum of Agreement for vacation coverage for the Animal Control Officer once it is finalized. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Town Counsel's Report

Mr. Lalli informed the Board he has been working on licensing issues, multiple contracts and following-up on the conclusion of the Dangerous Dog Hearing.

Adjournment

At 7:08 p.m., Chairman Rose requested the Board make a motion to adjourn the Regular Session and to convene in Executive Session for the review and approval of executive session minutes to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements – and more specifically the Open Meeting Law, G.L. Chapter 30A, Sections 22(f) and (g) and to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining (AFSCME, Police, Fire) as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's bargaining or litigating position. The Board will reconvene in open session for the sole purpose of adjournment. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session and to convene in Executive Session. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shanna M. Faro".

Shanna M. Faro
Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

1. February 18, 2021 Meeting Agenda
2. February 4, 2021 Meeting Minutes
3. Gift Acceptance Forms for Council on Aging and Town Offices
4. Temporary Sign Permit for #Mask Up Avon
5. Personnel Action Forms for Public Safety Dispatcher and Recording Secretary