

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Steven P. Rose, Chairman  
Robert F. Brady, Jr., Clerk  
Eric S. Beckerman, Associate

Gregory S. Enos  
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

# Town of Avon Massachusetts



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TOWN OF AVON  
2020 MAY 12 A 11:43  
TOWN CLERK

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2020  
6:30 P.M.

**Members Present:** Steven P. Rose, Chairman  
Eric S. Beckerman, 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)

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. Chairman Rose requested that any questions or comments during the meeting, be e-mailed to [info@avon-ma.gov](mailto:info@avon-ma.gov) for a response from the Board while discussing the correlating subject matter. Links to watch the recorded meeting will be available on the Avon Cable Access website [avontv.org](http://avontv.org).

Chairman Rose called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with Selectman Brady absent from the meeting. Chairman Rose was present in the Mary McDermott meeting room, while Mr. Beckerman was 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 acknowledge their presence by responding in the affirmative when Chairman Rose called their names.

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

Chairman Rose called for a Moment of Silence for all those suffering with COVID-19 and for those who have passed away from the virus.

## Public Participation

None

## **APPOINTMENTS**

None

### **Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the minutes of April 2, 2020 (Regular Session) as written. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Dangerous Dog Hearing – Status Report**

Mr. Enos stated that the Animal Control Officer Laurice Hedges has informed him that she is satisfied with the kennel constructed from the owner of the dangerous dog on Oak Street. Mr. Enos stated that the Flynn's are having trouble getting the second dog adopted. This dog was not deemed dangerous and is kept inside the house. Mr. Enos stated that the Flynn's may be seeking to neuter this dog and keep with them. Mr. Enos will keep the Board apprised of the situation.

### **Town of Avon's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Chairman Rose read the memorandum from Health Agent Kathleen Waldron regretfully informing citizens that Avon had its first COVID-19 related death. The Board conveyed their sympathy to the family for their loss. Chief Spurr informed the Board that Avon currently has 28 positive cases with three people currently hospitalized for the illness. Chief Spurr stated that nine people have recovered from the virus. Chief Spurr stated that most emergency medical calls have been related to COVID-19 and patients experiencing symptoms. Chief Spurr informed the Board that the Fire Department has received some personal protective equipment from MEMA. The Fire Department also collaborated with the Council on Aging this week to receive food donations from Gillette Stadium to be distributed to veterans. Finally, Chief Spurr stated that the Council on Aging and the school are still working together to distribute lunches to seniors and distribute approximately 80 meals per day.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **DW Field Park**

Mr. Enos stated that Chief Bukunt has informed him that the Brockton Police Department have closed off DW Field Park to traffic, making it available for pedestrian use only. Mr. Enos stated that the reason the park was closed to vehicle usage was to increase space for social distancing purposes for the pedestrians. Mr. Enos stated that the gates on both the Brockton/Oak Street side of the park as well as the Avon/South Street and Harrison Boulevard side of the park have locked gates. Chief Spurr expressed concern that on the warmer, busier days that the gates could be blocked by vehicles. He emphasized that gates should not be blocked by parked vehicles in case emergency personnel need to access the parks for medical purposes. Mr. Enos will speak to Chief Bukunt regarding these concerns.

### **Personnel Action Forms**

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Form for Council on Aging Van Driver Meghan Mallett for a rate change from a F7, Step 5, to an F7, Step 6 at the rate of \$15.42 effective March



21, 2020, on her anniversary date. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Form for Town Administrator Gregory Enos for a rate change for a merit-based increase effective July 1, 2019. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Form for Police Chief Jeffrey Bukunt for a rate change for a merit-based increase effective July 1, 2019. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **Announcements**

Chairman Rose announced that the Treasurer/Collector and the Assistant Tax Collector have extended the Fourth Quarter Real Estate and Personal Property Tax due dates relative to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency and in conjunction with House Bill #4974. To ease the burden of taxpayers during the pandemic, the following provisions have been made by the Tax Collector. (1) Fourth Quarter taxes (Real/Personal) will be delayed by 30 days, making the new due date June 1, 2020. (2) The Treasurer-Collector will waive interest that would initially accrue after May 1, 2020. (3) The Tax Exemption/deferral due date will be extended by 30 days from April 1, 2020 to June 1, 2020.

Chairman Rose announced that this week is National Public Safety Telecommunications Week and thanked the Town's dispatchers for their services. Avon's Public Safety Dispatchers include Lisa Bimber, Sheri Carney, Chelsea Faria, Linda Farley, James McIsaac and Peggy Geyer.

Chairman Rose announced that this week is also National Animal Care and Control Appreciate Week. He thanked the Town's Animal Control Officer Laurice Hedges for her service.

Chairman Rose announced the May meetings of the Board as May 7, 2020 and May 21, 2020.

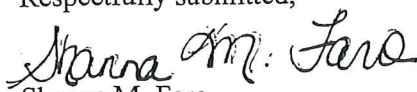
### **Adjournment**

At 7:00 p.m., Chairman Rose requested the Board make a motion to conclude the Regular Session and to convene in Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to Collective Bargaining with Union Bargaining Units (Police, Fire & AFSCME), and Employment Agreements with Non-Union Personnel as such discussion may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the governmental body, so declared by the Chair. The Board will reconvene in Open Session for the sole purpose of adjournment. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Beckerman voted aye.  
Chairman Rose voted aye.

Respectfully submitted,



Shanna M. Faro

Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator

### **LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

1. April 16, 2020 Board of Selectmen Meeting Agenda
2. April 2, 2020 Meeting Minutes (Regular Session)
3. Memo from Health Agent Kathleen Waldron dated April 13, 2020 regarding First Death Related to COVID-19
4. Personnel Action Form for COA Van Driver
5. Personnel Action Form for Town Administrator
6. Personnel Action Form for Police Chief