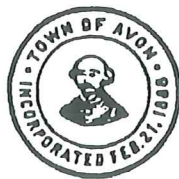


**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
Steven P. Rose, Chairman  
Eric S. Beckerman, Clerk  
Jason L. Suzor, Associate

Gregory S. Enos  
**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

# Town of Avon Massachusetts



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TOWN OF AVON  
2020 JUL 10 A 11:00  
TOWN CLERK

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2020**  
**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)  
Police Chief Jeffrey Bukunt  
Charles Comeau, Alternate Building Inspector (via videoconference)  
Patricia Bessette, Town Clerk (via videoconference)  
David Benvissuto, Ben's Pour House (via videoconference)  
Chris & Linda Martin, Shooter's (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 in session. 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 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 acknowledge their presence by responding in the affirmative when Chairman Rose called their names.

Police Chief Jeffrey Bukunt led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Moment of Silence**

Chairman Rose called for a Moment of Silence for Assistant Town Clerk Doreen Gouthro.

Chairman Rose called for a Moment of Silence for all persons suffering or who have lost their lives from COVID-19.

### **Reorganization of the Board of Selectmen**

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to nominate Mr. Rose as the Chairman of the Board. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to nominate Mr. Beckerman as the Clerk of the Board. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **Public Participation**

None

### **APPOINTMENTS**

#### **Swearing-In Ceremony for New Police Officer**

Chief Bukunt congratulation Hans Christopher Guillaume on successfully completing the Police Academy and welcomed him to the Avon Police Department. Officer Guillaume's badge was pinned on him by his mother.

### **Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of June 4, 2020 (Regular Session) as written. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. Mr. Suzor abstained. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of June 8, 2020 (Workshop Session) as written. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. Mr. Suzor abstained. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of June 11, 2020 (Workshop Session) as written. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. Mr. Suzor abstained. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **COVID-19 Updates**

Ms. Waldron informed the Board that Massachusetts is currently in Phase Two Part One of Governor Baker's reopening plan. Ms. Waldron stated that the Town's playgrounds are now open to the public and requested that children and parents using the playground following the social distancing guidelines. Ms. Waldron informed the Board that pop-up COVID 19 testing sites are available in Brockton and Randolph and anyone who attended the recent protests are encouraged to get tested for the virus. Chief Spurr informed the Board that the number of cases in Massachusetts has significantly decreased and is heading in the right direction. Mr. Enos informed the Board that the Town Hall employees will return to the building on June 22, 2020. Mr. Enos stated that Town Hall will still be closed to the public by



appointment only. Mr. Enos stated that the next step in this process is to bring the employees back to the Council on Aging and Avon Public Library for curbside pickup.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Town Meeting Quorum**

Mr. Enos informed the Board that due to the coronavirus pandemic, there is concern about the number of people who will attend the Town Meeting scheduled for June 29, 2020. Mr. Enos proposed limiting the quorum which can be done with the approval of the Town Moderator and as voted by the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Enos stated that the quorum can be lowered to a minimum of 10% of the Town's population as outlined by Governor Baker's Order. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to lower the quorum to five people for the Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting of June 29, 2020 only. Chairman Rose requested the motion be reviewed for discussion. Chairman Rose was uncomfortable with such a low quorum number and proposed the number be raised from five to twenty-five people. Chairman Rose made an amended motion to lower the quorum for the Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting of June 29, 2020 only to twenty-five people. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **Applications for Outdoor Dining – Phase Two Reopening Plan**

#### **Ben's Pour House**

The Board reviewed the application for Outdoor Dining for Ben's Pour House from David Benvissuto for five parking lot tables, five tables on the deck and two tables on the front deck with umbrella coverings. Mr. Comeau stated that he was concerned with water barriers protecting the tables in the parking lot. Mr. Comeau informed Mr. Benvissuto that they need to be concrete barriers and he will need to inspect the area prior to approval. Chief Spurr informed Mr. Benvissuto that since the phone lines at the restaurant were down, the fire alarm system was disabled. Chief Spurr stated that the fire alarm system must be reactivated prior to opening. In addition, Chief Spurr will need to inspect to make sure all other required safety equipment has current inspection stickers. Ms. Waldron informed the Board that she performed her health inspection on Ben's Pour House with satisfactory results. Mr. Suzor asked about the outdoor seating in the front of the building to which Mr. Benvissuto stated that he withdrew those two tables on his application as there was not enough room and obstructed the handicap ramp. Mr. Beckerman requested that the hours of operation be considered and sensitive to the adjoining neighbors and recommended a closing time of 9:00 p.m. for outdoor dining. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to allow outdoor seating on the porch as soon as possible pending approval from the Fire Chief on the fire alarm system with a closing time of 9:00 p.m. and a conditional approval to open the parking lot tables pending approval of the jersey barriers from the Building Inspector and that proper lighting is secured. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. Mr. Benvissuto requested that the Board reconsider the closing time until 10:00 p.m. Mr. Suzor made an amended motion to grant Ben's Pour House a closing time of 9:30 p.m. on a two-week trial basis to monitor for noise and reconsider a later closing time at that date. Mr. Beckerman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

#### **Avon House of Pizza**

The Board reviewed the application for Outdoor Dining for Avon House of Pizza from James Panagopoulos requesting to resurface and level 50% of the existing outdoor area to allow for two tables with umbrellas for customer convenience. The application stated that no table service would be offered.

The applicant was not present via videoconference at the meeting. After a brief discussion, the Board determined that this application does not fit the criteria for the Phase Two Reopening Plan Outdoor Dining Application and requested that the applicant seek permission for this request from the Building Inspector.

### Shooters

The Board reviewed the application for Outdoor Dining for Shooters from Chris and Linda Martin. The Martins proposed four picnic tables with umbrellas approximately six feet apart protected by bordering jersey barriers. Ms. Waldron and Chief Spurr informed the Board that they will need to inspect the kitchen prior to approval. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to conditionally approve the Outdoor Dining Application for Shooters with a closing time of 9:30 p.m. with the stipulation that the kitchen be inspected, the jersey barriers are approved by the Building Inspector and that the proper lighting be installed for the evening hours. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### Annual Reappointments/Appointments for 2020-2021

The following individuals submitted letters of interest to the Town Clerk for the annual reappointments/appointments for the 2020-2021 year.

<b>Appointments for FY 20</b>			
<b>Board</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Reappoint or appoint</b>	<b>Term</b>
Zoning Board of Appeals	Charles Comeau	reappoint	3 years
Zoning Board of Appeals (Alternate)	Edward Mekjain	reappoint	3 years
Zoning Board of Appeals (Alternate)	Carl S. Walker	reappoint	3 years
Alternate Building Inspector	Charles Comeau	reappoint	1 year
Cable TV Advisory Committee	Warren Lane	reappoint	1 year
Cable TV Advisory Committee	Gerald Picardi	reappoint	1 year
Cable TV Advisory Committee	Linda Chute	reappoint	1 year
Cable TV Advisory Committee	Paul Chute	reappoint	1 year
Cable TV Advisory Committee	Karen Johnson	reappoint	1 year
Capital Planning Committee	Gregory Karasininski	reappoint	3 years
Capital Planning Committee	Carl S. Walker	reappoint	3 years
Conservation Commission	Christopher Canducci	reappoint	3 years
Council on Aging	Deborah Greene	reappoint	3 years
Council on Aging	Nancy A. Puckett	reappoint	3 years
Historical Commission	Paul Chute	reappoint	3 years
Historical Commission	Linda Chute	reappoint	3 years
Plumbing/Gas Inspector	Alexander Campbell	reappoint	1 year
Alt Plumbing /Gas Inspector	Brian Campbell	reappoint	1 year
Alt Plumbing/Gas Inspector	Scott Angelos	reappoint	1 year



Official Weighers/Bituminous Concrete	Terry Edwards	reappoint	1 year
Official Weighers/Bituminous Concrete	Kevin Edwards	reappoint	1 year
Official Weighers/Bituminous Concrete	Kyle Foley	reappoint	1 year
Official Weighers/Bituminous Concrete	Stephen Edwards	reappoint	1 year
Official Weighers/Bituminous Concrete	Edward Doherty	reappoint	1 year
Official Weighers/Bituminous Concrete	Albert Weigel	reappoint	1 year
Norfolk County Advisory Board	Eric Beckerman	reappoint	3 years
Keeper of the Town Clock	Paul Barker	reappoint	1 year
Town Counsel	Joseph Lalli	reappoint	1 year
Wire Inspector	Dennis T. Collum	reappoint	1 year
Alternate Wire Inspector	Dennis M. Collum	reappoint	1 year
Alternate Wire Inspector	Brian Collum	reappoint	1 year
Special Police Officer	Sheri Carney	reappoint	1 year
Special Police Officer	Charles Comeau	reappoint	1 year
Special Police Officer	Alex Sinclair	reappoint	1 year
Special Police Officer	Warren Phillips	reappoint	1 year
Special Police Officer	Eric Beckerman	reappoint	1 year
Special Police Officer	Laurice Hedges	reappoint	1 year
Special Police Officer	Joseph Lalli	reappoint	1 year
Special Police Officer	Steven Rose	reappoint	1 year
Special Police Officer	Kathleen Waldron	reappoint	1 year
Special Police Officer	John Buker	reappoint	1 year
Special Police Officer	Gregory Enos	reappoint	1 year
Special Police Officer	Jason Suzor	appoint	1 year
Special Police Officer	Charles Guilbault	reappoint	1 year

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the annual appointments and reappointments as read. Chairman Rose seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

#### **Town of Avon United States Flag Policy**

Mr. Enos presented the Board with a draft of the Town of Avon's United States Flag Policy which would outline the protocol with respect to lowering the flag to half-staff at buildings and grounds under its jurisdiction. Mr. Enos informed the Board that the Town's Veteran's Agent, Dale Kurtz, has reviewed and approved this policy. Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the Town of Avon United States Flag Policy. Mr. Beckerman seconded this motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

#### **Abington Solar Agreement**

Mr. Enos presented the Board with a Memorandum of Understanding from the Town of Abington regarding the Net Metering Credit Purchase Agreement. Mr. Enos informed the Board that the Town of Avon saved approximately \$40,000 last year by signing the Abington Solar Agreement. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the

Net Metering Credit Purchase Agreement with the Town of Abington. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **Line Item Transfers**

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Line Item Transfer in the amount of \$12,288 from the Medical & Life Insurance Personal Services line to the Liability Insurance Expense/Other Charges line to cover the cost of the higher insurance coverage for the new Police Station. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Line Item Transfer in the amount of \$460 from the Medical & Life Insurance Personal Services line to the Plumbing Inspector Expenses/Purchase Supplies line to cover the unexpected \$900 label expense split between the gas and plumbing departments. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Line Item Transfer in the amount of \$448 from the Medical & Life Insurance Personal Services line to the Gas Inspector Expenses/Purchase Supplies line to cover the unexpected \$900 label expense split between the gas and plumbing departments. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Line Item Transfer in the amount of \$28,000 from the Medical & Life Insurance Personal Services line to the Town Hall & Building Expenses/Repairs, Maintenance, Building & Equipment line to cover higher maintenance costs than expected due to COVID-19 extra cleaning costs. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Line Item Transfer in the amount of \$16,000 from the Medical & Life Insurance Personal Services line to the Legal Expenses/Purchases Services line to cover legal needs higher than expected. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Line Item Transfer in the amount of \$42,500 from the Medical & Life Insurance Personal Services line to the Police Personal Services/Salary-Union Overtime line to cover unplanned overtime due to two officers being out, one is on military leave, while the other is on injured on duty. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Line Item Transfer in the amount of \$6,000 from the Town Accountant Personal Services/Salary Non-Union line to the Town Accountant Expenses/Professional & Technical line to cover unplanned additional consulting needed during transition from the prior Town Accountant to the current Town Accountant. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **Announcements**

Chairman Rose announced that the July meetings of the Board will be July 9, 2020 and July 16, 2020.



Chairman Rose announced that the Town of Avon is currently in Phase One of Watering Restrictions. All outside watering must be done by a handheld hose only. No lawn sprinklers or automatic devices are permitted. No outside watering is allowed between the hours of 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Rose announced that the Board of Selectmen will hold a Workshop Session on June 25, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the articles on the Town Meeting Warrants.

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

Mr. Enos congratulated Mr. Suzor on winning a seat on the Board of Selectmen and stated that he looks forward to working with him. Mr. Enos extended his sympathy to the family of Doreen Gouthro and stated that her colleagues will miss her dearly. Mr. Enos stated that he, the Town Clerk, and the Fire Chief will do a walk-through next week of the auditorium at the Avon Middle-High School in preparation of holding the Town Meeting in accordance with the social distancing guidelines

### **Adjournment**

At 8:12 p.m., Chairman Rose requested the Board make a motion to conclude the Regular Session and to convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Collective Bargaining with Union Bargaining Units and Employment Agreements with Non-Union Personnel, all of which could have a detrimental effect on the position of the governing body if discussed during Open Session. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried. The Board would reconvene in Open Session for the sole purpose of adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,



Shanna M. Faro

Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator

### **LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

1. June 18, 2020 Board of Selectmen Meeting Agenda
2. June 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes (Regular Session)
3. June 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes (Workshop Session)
4. June 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes (Workshop Session)
5. Applications for Outdoor Dining (Phase Two)
  - a. Ben's Pour House
  - b. Shooters
  - c. Avon House of Pizza
6. Excel Spreadsheet of Annual Appointments/Reappointments for 2020-2021
7. Town of Avon United States Flag Policy
8. Town of Abington Memorandum of Understanding – Net Metering Credit Purchase Agreement
9. Line Item Transfers
10. Phase One Watering Restrictions