

Approved: April 6, 2020

Board of Selectmen Meeting: March 16, 2020

Present: Freiman, Ulfelder, Olney, Sullivan Woods

Also Present: Jop, Frigulietti

Warrants approved: none

Meeting Documents:

1. Agenda
2. BOS Calendar
3. Draft Revised STM Warrant

1. Call to Order

Ms. Freiman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm online.

Ms. Freiman announced the meeting would be available for viewing at the You Tube link: <https://youtu.be/mrGRjU6dV7o> and would be telecast for later viewing at Comcast channel 8 and Verizon channel 40 and streamed live by Wellesley Media and available for subsequent viewing on the cable channels or at wellesleymedia.org. She stated Mr. Morgan would not join the meeting.

2. Citizen Speak

Ms. Freiman stated that no residents had contacted the Board for Citizen Speak. Ms. Jop confirmed the telephone line was open and no calls were received.

3. Announcements

Ms. Jop stated the Registrar of Voters had voted 2-1 to seek an emergency postponement of the scheduled March 17th Town election. She stated that the Norfolk County Superior Court had issued an order allowing that postponement not later than June 30, 2020, in an effort to help reduce the spread of Coronavirus. Ms. Jop reviewed the order and the basis for the request including the protection of election workers from the Coronavirus and accessibility for residents to participate in the election.

Ms. Sullivan Woods stated that many merchants had adjusted their hours and asked that patrons call individual stores prior to visiting. Ms. Jop stated that the Governor had mandated all restaurants stop “dine-in” services but could provide take-out or delivery orders only and all licensees had been notified of the Executive Order. Ms. Freiman reviewed how residents could receive daily notifications from the Town by signing up for the “News and Announcements”.

4. Modify Special Town Meeting Date

Ms. Jop stated that Annual Town Meeting was being consolidated and anticipated Town Meeting occurring on one evening with no presentations. She added that the date for Special Town Meeting had to be aligned with Annual Town Meeting. She noted that Town Meeting would be taking place on March 31st as a single event and Town Meeting Members would be told not to be present on March 30th. She added that the Moderator may postpone Annual Town Meeting to a later date and had the authority to postpone it for 30 days for emergency purposes. Ms. Jop noted that there were no changes to the Warrant for Special Town Meeting. The Board discussed the alignment of STM with ATM and the potential postponement of ATM as well as the Executive Orders issued by the State. Ms. Jop stated that other

municipalities were acting similarly with regards to Town Meetings and local elections and she expected further guidance from the Governor's Office in the future.

Upon a motion by Ms. Sullivan Woods and seconded by Mr. Ulfelder, the Board was polled and voted (4-0) to call a Special Town Meeting to March 31, 2020 and to authorize Ms. Jop apply digital signatures of the Selectmen to the Special Town Meeting Warrant reviewed by the Selectmen.

Ms. Sullivan Woods – Aye

Mr. Ulfelder – Aye

Ms. Olney – Aye

Ms. Freiman – Aye

5. New Business and Correspondence

Ms. Jop stated that all Town buildings would be closed to the public beginning Tuesday, March 17, 2020. She noted that Town operations continued to operate. She added that emergency operations plans continued to be reviewed including many employees working from home. Ms. Jop stated that online platforms were accessible to the public for payments and for services. She provided an overview of how the Town would operate during the health crisis. Ms. Jop noted that Town playgrounds would be closed and encouraged the public to socially distance themselves. The Board discussed the plan for Town operations to continue and the closures of parks and playgrounds to encourage social distancing. Ms. Freiman thanked Town staff for their quick action addressing the challenges that had emerged during the health crisis.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:03pm.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 23, 2020 at 7:00 pm online.