



Town of Bellingham

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

10 Mechanic Street

Bellingham, Massachusetts 02019

Tel: 508-657-2800 * 508-966-4425

February 8, 2021

The Selectboard meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Michael Connor. All Board member were in attendance and participating via Zoom technology. Also actively participating in the meeting was Town Administrator Denis Fraine and Administrative Assistant Hilarie Allie. The remote meeting was being monitored by Jim Kupfer, Town Planner and Zoning Officer. It was determined by Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place that no in-person attendance of any member of the public would be permitted at this meeting. This meeting was accessible to the public via the Zoom online option.

Mr. DiMartino stated that he would like to talk to the Board about installing meter pits at the homes of the residents whose water meters still (after several attempts for permission to fix) are not working properly. Thanks in large part to the hard work of his staff this list consists of only a handful of properties. The meter pits would be installed, at the owner's expense, at the curb just before the water shut off valve in front of the homes. Mr. DiMartino stated his office would notify the homeowners of the pending installation via a certified letter or delivery by a constable. Mrs. MacKinnon stated the residents on this list have a history of ignoring mail from the Town and are notorious for paying their bills late, if at all, and feels they will not respond to a certified letter or pay a bill they receive. Mr. Martinis asked if we could involve the sheriff's department and serve them. Mrs. Mackinnon asked why we can't shut their water off especially given the fact that the Town is providing a service which they are not paying for. Mr. DiMartino stated he would need permission from the Board of Health before shutting their water off. Mr. Fraine stated he would contact KP Law about involving the sheriff's office and/or shutting off water for compliance reasons. The Board was in favor of pursuing this action. The Board will revisit this matter at a future posted meeting.

Mr. Fraine stated the Annual Budget Workshop is scheduled for February 20th at 9:00AM and thanked Mrs. MacKinnon for the great job she did on the budget books. He stated the books are now available for Selectboard members as well as FinCom and CIC members to review prior to the meeting. Mrs. Grant asked if they could be provided with copies of the School Department's budget books and Mr. Fraine stated he would try and forward those electronically.

Mr. Fraine requested an executive session to discuss an ongoing business relative to the purchase of land as well as to discuss contract negotiations. All members of the Board were polled with all voting in the affirmative.

Minutes of February 8, 2021
Page 2

On a Grant/McNulty motion, the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM with no further business to be discussed at the conclusion of the executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hilarie J. Allie".

Hilarie J. Allie
Administrative Assistant