

MINUTES
Town of New Gloucester
SPECIAL BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
7:00pm
Monday – February 22, 2021
Via Zoom

WWW.ZOOM.US
ID: 846 3025 6388 P: 325570

SPECIAL BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE

Chairman, Karen Gilles, called the meeting to order at 7:01pm. Present were Chairman, Karen Gilles; Vice-Chairman, Linda Chase; Selectmen, Peter Bragdon, George Colby and Tammy Donovan; Town Manager, Brenda Fox-Howard; and Recorder, Sharlene Myers.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING:

- Board of Selectmen's Meeting – 7:00pm, Monday, March 1, 2021, via Zoom

A. Adjustments to the Agenda

Mr. Bragdon moved and Ms. Donovan seconded a motion to reconsider the previous motion from November 23, 2020 meeting on Charter Commission appointed members. The motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Prior Meeting Update – Selectmen Chair

No updates.

B. Prior Meeting Update – Town Manager

No updates.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Updates

a. Selectmen

Linda Chase – said she wanted to Welcome Lee and Emily to the Library. She said curbside begins on Tuesday. She reminded people to be careful during that evenings storm.

Peter Bragdon – said the Adhoc Marijuana Committee met and is need of additional members.

Tammy Donovan – no comments.

Karen Gilles – said she wanted to extend condolences to an employee whose family member passed and to the family of Rick Kimball. She said to be careful in the storm and wanted to welcome the new staff members to the Town.

b. Town Manager

No comments.

c. Dept. Heads

d. Boards & Committees

B. Action Items

2.73 To See What Action the Board Wishes to take in Regard to Resignation of George Colby from the Board of Selectmen

Ms. Chase moved and Ms. Gilles seconded a motion to accept the Resignation of George Colby from the Board of Selectmen, with regret. The motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

2.74 To See What Action the Board Wishes to take in Regard to Board of Selectmen Vacancy

Ms. Chase moved and Ms. Donovan seconded a motion to fill the vacant Board of Selectmen seat in the June Election and the nomination papers to note it is a completion of term. The motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

2.75 To See What Action the Board Wishes to take in Regard to Liaisons for Boards and Committees

The Board made the following changes to the Board/Committee Liaisons:

Chandler Brothers – Karen Gilles

Cable TV Committee – Peter Bragdon

Land Management Planning Committee – Tammy Donovan

Water District – Linda Chase

2.76 To See What Action the Board Wishes to take in Regard to Election for Recall Petition

Ms. Chase moved and Ms. Donovan seconded a motion to cancel the election scheduled for recall petition due to the resignation of George Colby.

Mr. Bragdon asked if the date could still be utilized for a special election for Stevens Brook.

Ms. Gilles said there is not enough time to get the numbers and paperwork together to meet the necessary guidelines.

The motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

2.77 To See What Action the Board Wishes to take in Regard to Town Meeting Process

Mr. Bragdon moved and Ms. Donovan seconded a motion to hold an in-person Town Meeting on May 8, 2021.

Mr. Bragdon said he has done research and would like to see the Annual Town Meeting held in person, at the Fairgrounds. He said there was a previous vote to not hold Town Meetings on Saturdays but believes there is wiggle room to change that. He said the meeting could be drive-in style, check in while still in car and hand them the voting materials, and they could stay in their vehicle but utilizing speakers through their car radio, sound system costs would be \$452, tent for the public would be \$1,700, and a small tent for the Board would be \$65. He said other towns have had drive-in style meetings.

Ms. Donovan said a resident mentioned to her about using the equestrian center at Pineland.

Ms. Gilles said there are limits for indoor meetings. She said if an outdoor meeting, what happens when it rains, how many cars can fit social distancing and not infringing on the Water District area.

Ms. Chase said what happens if there is a secret ballot vote requested, how will the visibility be for counting votes, additional restrooms would be needed, and there are concerns in May when the grounds are still soft.

Mr. Bragdon and Ms. Donovan rescinded their motion.

Ms. Gilles said to direct staff to do the following and bring information back at the March 1st Selectmen's meeting:

- 1) look in the Pineland Equestrian Center – available dates
- 2) Secret ballot in-person with COVID restrictions
- 3) Clarify the number of people allowed (COVID)
- 4) Reach out to the Town's Representatives
- 5) Karen will reach out to Governor and give any information to the Town Manager
- 6) Check with Parks & Rec Director for feedback on the field in May
- 7) Check on having Sherriff's department utilized for traffic flow

2.78 To See What Action the Board Wishes to take in Regard to Town Manager Intention of Employment

Ms. Chase moved and Ms. Gilles seconded a motion to accept the Town Manager Resignation effective April 2, 2021, with regret. The motion carried on a vote of 3-1, with Ms. Donovan opposing.

2.79 To See What Action the Board Wishes to take in Regard to Reconsider the Previous Motion from November 23, 2020 Meeting on Charter Commission Appointed Members.

Ms. Chase said she recommends having staff reach out to the Town Attorney where the time frame was not met and the do and don'ts on how we should proceed. She said if we are told this needs to be done at an upcoming meeting, it will give us time to tweak the Committee Application form advertise for letters of intent and completed application of those wishing to serve. She said she recommends the March 15th meeting for the appointments.

Ms. Gilles said pending information from legal, appointments would be on the March 15th agenda with all information to Ms. Myers by March 10th to be included in the packets.

Mr. Bragdon said that is too long to wait and it should be advertised starting tomorrow. He said he does not like the idea of Committee Applications included in the packets for all to see.

Ms. Chase and Ms. Donovan said the information is public.

Ms. Chase moved and Ms. Gilles seconded a motion to table this discussion until further information from legal. The motion carried on a vote of 3-1 with Mr. Bragdon opposing.

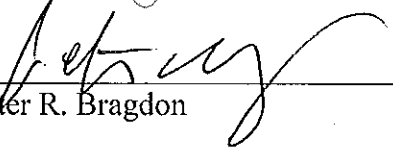
VII. ADJOURN

Ms. Chase moved and Ms. Donovan seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:05pm. The motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

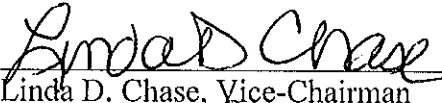
Approved March 1, 2021



Karen L. Gilles, Chairman



Peter R. Bragdon



Linda D. Chase, Vice-Chairman



Tammy L. Donovan