

David Hall, Chair person
Wendy M. Mead, Vice Chair
Jesse Limanek, Clerk
Jonathan Anderson
Jeffrey Bannon



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James A. Smith, Town Manager

Town of Sutton
Select Board

Meeting Minutes

Minutes Accepted and filed with the Town Clerk on 5/19/2020 by a vote of 5-0

4:00 p.m. – April 28, 2020
REMOTE DIAL IN MEETING

Members in Attendance by video chat:

Chairperson David Hall, Vice Chair Wendy Mead, Clerk Jesse Limanek & Select board Jonathan Anderson & Jeffrey Bannon
Town Manager James Smith & Deb Jacques, secretary
Town Finance Director Timothy Harrison

Chairman Hall calls meeting to order with Good afternoon, This Open Meeting of Sutton Select Board is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the "COVID-19 Virus."

In order to mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 Virus, we have been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor's Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible *physical* location. Further, all members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

The Order, which you can find posted with agenda materials for this meeting allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting.

Ensuring public access does not ensure public participation unless such participation is required by law. This meeting will not feature public comment.

Public Forum: N/A

Selectperson Limanek motions to approve as presented minutes from 3/19/2020 meeting, Selectperson Anderson seconds passes 5-0
Selectperson Limanek motions to approve as presented minutes from 4/07/2020 meeting, Selectperson Anderson seconds passes 5-0

Conservation Commission/Planning Board appointments: Town Manager Smith explains James Marran (ZBA member) is requesting an appointment as an Associate Member on Conservation and Kyle Bergeson (Associate member on Planning) is requesting to be moved to a full voting member. Jim has also included correspondence from Town Council regarding Mr. Marran being on two boards. Selectperson Limanek knows both of these individuals, they are completely dedicated. Jesse does stress the importance of a certification class for those wishing to join Conservation to insure they are fully knowledgeable. Vice Chair Mead appreciates all the work that Kyle and Jim do on Town Boards. Selectperson Anderson knows both these residents and says they are dedicated in their roles. Selectperson Bannon asks for clarification between Associate and full member. Chairman Hall reviews with the other members that the new Charter (approved in 2018) passed in 2018 to add associate members to boards. Vice Chair Mead motions to appoint James Marran to Associate member on the Conservation Commission and Kyle Bergeson from Associate Planning Board member to full voting member with a term to expire June 30, 2023, Selectperson Anderson seconds passes 5-0 (roll call vote taken)

Letter of support: Sutton Housing Authority: Town Manager Smith informs the Select board Sutton Housing Director John Slocum and Town Planner Jen Hager have been working along with CMRPC for a \$191,000. grant for improvements for infrastructure (sidewalks, gardens) this is to make safer and more attractive. This is also to help aid residents of the Housing to better access the plaza in Wilks. The select board all feel these improvements are great for the seniors as well as Sutton Housing. They are all in full support of this letter and thank Jen for working along with John Slocum. Selectperson Anderson motions to authorize the Select Chair to sign a letter of support for the Sutton Housing Authority to submit an application for a grant, Vice Chair Mead seconds passes 5-0 (roll call)

Ratification of new Police Officers: Town Manager Smith informs the Select board that over the last month 2 full time police officers were hired. When we have regular meetings again they will be invited to come to a meeting to meet the Select Board. Both of these officers are experienced and academy trained. Alexander Sinni is from Dudley and Kevin Kasabula (previously a Sutton Dispatcher) grew up in Sutton and was working in Las Vegas for a few years. Select person Limanek says these are two fine additions to the force. Vice Chair Mead apologizes for the current events in the country. Wendy thanks Jim and Dennis for their efforts in hiring two well suited candidates. Select person Anderson is happy they have previous experience; he is happy Kevin knows the town. Selectperson Bannon asks if the force is now fully staffed, Jim replies yes. Chairperson Hall offers congratulations to Dennis for two great hires. Select person Bannon motions to ratify the appointment of Alexander Sinni to the position of full time Sutton Police Officer, Selectperson Limanek seconds passes 5-0 (roll call)
Select person motions to ratify the appointment of Kevin Kasabula to the position of full time Sutton Police Officer Selectperson Limanek seconds passes 5-0 (roll call)

Town Manager Update:

- Schools have closed for remainder of school year. The school dept. is working with teachers regarding remote learning.
- Cancellation of the following events: June 19th MRA triathlon; May 31st PTO 5K Roadrace; May 25th Memorial Day activities and June 28th 4th of July parade.
- Manchaug Lake Boat ramp fees: Matt Stencel has covered the collection box so there will be no fees collected for this season. We believe this will be safest for those that handle the cash directly.
- Fin Com meeting: there is a Fin Com meeting on May 5th, this will be a joint meeting with the Select Board to discuss the newly scheduled Town Meeting of June 22 and the current state of the budget.
- Municipal electric prices: the Town is working with Constellation energy on a new 3 year municipal contract. We have a contract due to begin on July 1 at .94 cents per kilowatt (an increase from .87 cents) Doreen is working with them to see if we go to a 4 year contract would there be a reduction in price.

Select Board round table:

Selectperson Limanek reads the needed items for the Food Pantry. He also thanks all that have donated as well as a thanks to Michelle Saucier for Meals on Wheels deliveries, EMS and Pam and Chris in the Cable Dept for all they have done during this time.

Vice Chair Mead thanks Pam and Chris they took the ball and ran to make these meetings and other things go on. Thankyou also to Als Rubbish for gift cards and donation to the Food Pantry.

Selectperson Anderson thanks Pam and Christine, we are all continuing to learn to adapt and we are getting better. They are allowing us to continue to be as transparent as possible. Thankyou also to police and Fire that continue to do their jobs.

Selectperson Bannon thanks the town employees as well as the residents of town for the patience and kindness being displayed.

Chairperson Hall thanks Pam and Chris also in addition to Cheryl Rawinski who continues to show professionalism, knowledge and hard work. Also a thank you to the supermarket employees.

6:07 pm Select person Limanek motions to adjourn the meeting, Vice Chair Mead seconds passes 5-0 roll call taken