

Charlestown Board of Selectmen
Zoom Workshop
April 29, 2020 @ 4:00 pm

Selectmen Present and their location: Chairman Albert St. Pierre-Selectboard office
Jeff Lessels- Health & Human Resource office
Scott Wade-home office
William Rescsanski-home office
John Streeter- home office

Staff Present via zoom: Jessica Dennis: Administrator
Kelly Wright: Administrative Assistant
Patricia Chaffee: Town Clerk/Tax Collector
Chief Patrick Connors: Police Chief

Chairman Mr. St. Pierre called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. He announced the meeting was being held via zoom and if anyone wished to address the board they must state their name for the recording secretary. All motions will be done by a roll call.

The Board discussed the current budget and where there may be possible savings. Ms. Dennis answered Chief Connors is holding off on hiring a new full time police officer and the library has filled their opening with a part time employee instead of a full-time. Mr. Rescsanski asked about the part-time salary line in the Town Clerk/Tax Collector budget. Ms. Chaffee responded that the deputy's salary comes out of the full-time budget line. Mr. St. Pierre recommended that many questions regarding the budget would be better answered once the Finance Committee started meeting again, then the new board members would have a better understanding of how the monies were appropriated.

Mr. St. Pierre recommended the Selectboard re-open the Committees to start meeting again as of May 4, 2020. After discussion, Mr. Lessels moved to re-open the Selectboard and Committee meetings after May 4, 2020, with careful consideration to follow the Governor's executive order of maintaining the feet feet apart and the ten person gathering rule. Mr. Wade seconded the motion and on a roll call motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre- yes, Mr. Lessels- yes, Mr. Wade- yes, Mr. Rescsanski- yes, Mr. Streeter- yes; motion passed.

Mr. Streeter asked about reopening the Town Buildings for Committees to use for meetings. After discussion it was decided the Community Room was the best place for Zoom meetings.

Ms. Dennis reported at the next Selectboard meeting they will need to open bids for crack sealing, chip sealing and paving. NHMA recommended the bid opening should be held outside, but after discussion the board decided to have the meeting as planned in the community room.

Ms. Dennis reported the office staff has been working on inventories and retyping policies at home. She would like to rotate the staff's schedules once they return back to the office to allow for the social distancing. The Board agreed to revisit the staffing needs at the next board meeting on May 6, 2020.

Mr. Lessels suggested allowing the Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector to remain at home so in the event Ms. Chaffee was ill so she could come in and cover. After discussion the Board agreed to stay the course for another week and discuss staffing needs on May 6, 2020.

The Board discussed opening up the pool this year. There were concerns about leaving the pool unopened and how it would affect it for next year and whether or not the State will still mandate a ten person gathering rule. The Recreational Committee is meeting on May 5, 2020. Mr. Streeter will be attending and will bring back the Committees recommendations to the Board.

Mr. Lessels moved to go into non-public RSA 91-a:3 (I) legal at 4:45 pm, Mr. Wade seconded the motion and on a roll call Mr. St. Pierre-yes, Mr. Lessels- yes, Mr. Wade- yes, Mr. Rescsanski- yes, Mr. Streeter- yes; motion passed.

Mr. Lessels moved to accept the FairPoint Settlement offer and authorize Ms. Dennis to pay the first installment this July 2020, Mr. Rescsanski seconded the motion and on a roll call, Mr. St. Pierre-yes, Mr. Lessels- yes, Mr. Wade- yes, Mr. Rescsanski- yes, Mr. Streeter- yes; motion passed.

Mr. Lessels moved to adjourn at 5:00 PM, Mr. Wade seconded the motion and on a roll call, Mr. St. Pierre-yes, Mr. Lessels- yes, Mr. Wade- yes, Mr. Rescsanski- yes, Mr. Streeter- yes; motion passed.

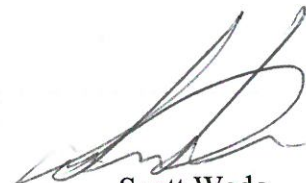
Respectfully Submitted,
Kelly N Wright



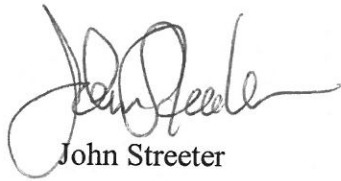
Albert St. Pierre




Jeffrey Lessels



Scott Wade



John Streeter



William Rescsanski

(Note: These are unapproved minutes. Corrections will be found in the minutes of the May 6, 2020, Selectboard meeting).

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Ms. Dennis explained the FairPoint Settlement offer and how the payments would be paid over three years. Annual payments would be made in July 2020, 2021 and 2022. FairPoint would also begin receiving tax abatement for the years 2020, 2021 and the abatement in 2022 will depend upon the amount due. The settlement payments would be coming from the overlay budget line.

Mr. Streeter moved to reconvene public session; Mr. Wade seconded the motion and on a roll call Mr. St. Pierre-yes, Mr. Lessels- yes, Mr. Wade -yes, Mr. Streeter- yes, Mr. Rescsanski- yes motion passed.

Submitted,

Kelly N Wright



Albert St. Pierre



Jeff Lessels



Scott Wade



John Streeter



William Rescsanski

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