

## Sunderland Selectboard Minutes

Monday, May 5, 2020

Attending: D. Pierce, S. Bergeron, T. Fydenkevez, G. Kravitz

Others present: P. Gagarin, Police Chief E. Demetropoulos, L. Smith, C. Bennett, J. Corwin, W. Houle, J. Ewen

Meeting via Zoom recorded and televised by FCAT.

Meeting called to order at 6:30PM.

### MINUTES

Mr. Fydenkevez motion to approve minutes of April 27, 2020, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0.

### BUSINESS

**COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY UPDATE:** There was one newly reported case of COVID-19 over the weekend for a total of 8 cases in Sunderland. Plans are being prepared for an emergency dispensing site at the Elementary School and Public Safety Complex. Police officers are taking precautions and have sufficient PPEs. The message sign in Town will be updated with additional messages. The Governor has ordered people to wear face masks in grocery stores, pharmacies, retail stores, and in public when social distancing cannot be adhered to.

**FY21 BUDGET:** Information from the state indicates that the FY20 budget will be held harmless. The state and federal governments are working on school funding. FY21 will be difficult and all parties need to work together to determine the best way to move forward responsibly. The current estimate in the Sunderland budget is a 20% reduction in state aid. It will be adjusted as more accurate figures are available. There were \$359,000 in capital requests and the Selectboard advised that capital expenditures should not exceed the actual raised value for FY21.

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING:** A plan needs to be developed to ensure a safe Town Meeting. Residents were encouraged to vote early by mail in the local elections. The Selectboard took the following votes on ATM motions:

Article 2: Mr. Fydenkevez motion to reduce Selectboard salaries to \$0 for FY21, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0

Article 7: Mr. Fydenkevez motion to recommend, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0

Article 8: Mr. Fydenkevez motion to recommend, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0

Article 9: Mr. Fydenkevez motion to recommend, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0

Article 10: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0

Article 11: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0

Article 12: Mr. Fydenkevez motion to recommend, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0

Article 14: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 2-1

Article 15: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0

Article 16: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0

Article 17: Mr. Fydenkevez motion to recommend, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0

Article 18: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0

Article 19: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0

Article 24: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0

Articles 27-32: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend consent articles, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0

**CULTURAL COUNCIL APPOINTMENT:** Mr. Fydenkevez motion to appoint Barbara Morrell to the Cultural Council, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0.

**MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY:** The Whately VFW offered to send 3 people to Sunderland on May 22 to lower the flag to half-mast and provide a gun salute. A small ceremony at the cemetery, with limited group and a small parade, including a fire engine, police cruiser, and ambulance, down Main Street was discussed. It could be broadcast through Zoom and FCAT and elected officials could be invited to participate remotely.

**HOUSING CHOICE COMMUNITY APPLICATION:** Mr. Fydenkevez motion to apply for Housing Choice Community designation, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0.

**BUILDING COMMISSIONER:** The Sunderland Building Commissioner has been hired as the Building Commissioner for Hadley. The Town Administrator will have a discussion with Hadley about the possibility of a shared position.

#### SELECTBOARD UPDATES

The Community Preservation Committee was meeting on Wednesday, May 7, the Capital Planning Committee was meeting on Tuesday, May 6, and there would be a discussion between Sunderland, Conway, Deerfield, and Whately Selectboard chairs to discuss town approaches to their respective budgets and the school budget.

#### TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

Heat pump installation in the Town Office Building was completed. Letters went out to residents whose properties are being affected by the North Main Street Reconstruction Project notifying them of their right to an appraisal and just compensation. Department heads met to discuss the budget and plans for reopening.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

The question was raised whether CPA funds could be used to supplement the budget, which is not allowed by the legislation.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pierce motion to adjourn at 8:19 PM, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Geoff Kravitz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Geoff Kravitz, Town Administrator