

Sunderland Selectboard Minutes  
Monday, November 2, 2020

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

Others present: Senator Comerford, Representative Blais, K. Umstot, L. Smith, A. Falbel, J. Pelletier

Meeting via Zoom recorded by FCAT.

Meeting called to order at 6:31PM.

### MINUTES

Mr. Bergeron motion to approve Selectboard minutes of October 26, 2020, Mr. Pierce second, vote 2-0.

### BUSINESS

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Senator Comerford, who serves on the COVID committee, mentioned the new executive orders related to COVID-19 that were issued. She noted that both chambers voted to go into formal session. The Senator stated that there was significant legislation upcoming, including a transportation bond bill, economic development bond bill, climate bond bill and a public health 2.0 bill to re-envision regional and local public health. There is also still the FY21 budget to pass, which will hopefully be level funded. Representative Blais stated that her office is receiving numerous calls about unemployment. She spoke about the Rural Jobs Act, the desire of farmers to cultivate hemp on APR land, advocating for additional rural and small towns grant funding, and the importance of protecting school and local aid in the state budget. The Representative noted that the FY22 budget would likely be a difficult one and require discussion of how to increase revenue and reduce expenses. Both legislatures said that the legislature is making good faith estimates with regard to budget projections, though there are differing opinions on how best to raise revenue. The legislators also mentioned the recent boat trip down the Connecticut River and how impressed the officials were with the boat launch and river walk.

LIBRARY REOPING BY APPOINTMENT PLAN: Ms. Umstot reviewed the draft plan to reopen the library by appointment only on November 10. 30-minute appointments would be available on Tuesdays and Saturdays, with 30 minutes between appointments to clean. Curbside pickup and digital options will remain available. Mr. Bergeron motion to approve the plan pending the Board of Health's response, Mr. Pierce second, vote 2-0.

COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY: Ms. Smith stated that there was one new case on Friday and 2 new cases on Monday. The rise could be attributed to increased testing and the return of colder weather. Residents were urged to remain vigilant. The Town Administrator stated that beginning on Friday, 11/6, all residents above the age of 5 are required to wear face coverings in public, gatherings must end by 9:30pm and are limited to 10 or fewer indoors and 25 or fewer outdoors, restaurants and other establishments must stop serving at 9:30PM and a stay at home advisory is in effect from 10PM-5AM.

### CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Bergeron move to sign and send letter to MassDOT outlining feedback from the Village Center Committee, Mr. Pierce second, vote 2-0

### TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

The Town Administrator noted that the Community Pathways Committee will be adding stone dust to the river walk on Saturday, 11/7 at 9:30AM and volunteers are welcome.

### SELECTBOARD UPDATES

Mr. Bergeron noted that Tuesday is election day. Voting is from 7AM-8PM at the Sunderland Public Library.

### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bergeron motion to adjourn at 7:24 PM, Mr. Pierce second, vote 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Geoff Kravitz, Town Administrator