

**TOWN OF CONCORD
SELECT BOARD
MINUTES
APRIL 23, 2020**

Pursuant to notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, the Concord Select Board convened in a conference call on April 23, 2020.

Present were Michael Lawson, Chair; Linda Escobedo, Clerk; Terri Ackerman, Jane Hotchkiss, and Susan Bates. Also present were Stephen Crane, Town Manager; and Town Moderator, Carmin Reiss.

Call to Order

Select Board Chair Michael Lawson called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

Town Manager Update

Town Manager Stephen Crane reminded the community to be respectful of others and continue practicing social distancing. Mr. Crane noted that the Town has been receiving reports of crowding in recreational areas. The Town has not yet put out a mandate that residents wear masks outside, but it is recommended that residents do so if possible. Mr. Crane thanked the majority of those who are following social distancing practices during this time.

Governor Charlie Baker announced that schools and childcare centers are closed for the remainder of the school year, with the exception of childcare centers for essential workers.

The Town has two firefighters graduating for the Massachusetts Firefighters Academy, and will start working at the Fire Department. Both Police and Fire Departments are operating at full strength at this time, and Mr. Crane acknowledged the efforts of Chief O'Connor and Chief Judge for keeping their respective departments at full strength.

Hydrant Flushing will take place starting on April 27 from 9:00am-3:00pm, and will conclude on May 6.

April 19th-25th is National Library Week, and the Concord Public Library will be having virtual interviews with local authors, which will be published online. The library is continuing to offer virtual programming for people of all ages.

The Concord Police are warning residents of phishing scams. The advisory is published on the Town website. Mr. Crane advised that residents shouldn't be opening emails or clicking on links from people they don't know.

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Mr. Crane and the Board members discussed various complaints they have gotten about people not social distancing on trails and in other spaces. The Town Manager and Select Board reminded residents to please continue social distancing.

Earth Day 50th Anniversary Proclamation

Mr. Lawson stated that upon passing, this proclamation will be posted on the Town website.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was UNANIMOUSLY

VOTED: to proclaim April 19-25, 2020 to be Earth Week in Concord, Massachusetts, and urge all residents to reflect on how to contribute to a healthy, sustainable environment and take action to make Concord an even better place to live, work, and raise a family.

Roll call vote

Susan Bates: Aye
Linda Escobedo: Aye
Mike Lawson: Aye
Terri Ackerman: Aye
Jane Hotchkiss: Aye

Approve a 60-day Extension for Tour Guide Licenses

Existing Tour Guide licenses are set to expire May 31, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Town is unable to do a proper renewal license at this time.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was UNANIMOUSLY

VOTED: to approve a 60-day extension for Tour Guide Licenses set to expire on May 31, 2020, with the new expiration date being July 31, 2020.

Roll call vote

Susan Bates: Aye
Linda Escobedo: Aye
Mike Lawson: Aye
Terri Ackerman: Aye
Jane Hotchkiss: Aye

Moderator's Declaration

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Town Moderator Carmin Reiss issue the Declaration of Recess and Continuance on April 16th. The Town Moderator can only move the Town Meeting in 30-day increments under Massachusetts General Law. The Board and the Moderator expect that Town Meeting will need to be postponed until at least late June. The Town is still working out the parameters of what a Town Meeting in late June would look like. Mr. Crane noted that if the Town doesn't approve the FY21 budget at Town Meeting before June 30, they could operate on a 1/12 budget on a month-by-month basis based on a bill passed by the Legislature. The Town Moderator emphasized that the chosen approach needs to be safe, comfortable, and allow the necessary business of Town Meeting to move forward.

Committee Appointments: Remon Karian of 24 Walden Street to the Economic Vitality Committee for a term to expire April 30, 2023

VOTED: to appoint Remon Karian of 24 Walden Street to the Economic Vitality Committee for a term to expire April 30, 2023

Roll call vote

Susan Bates: Aye
Linda Escobedo: Aye
Mike Lawson: Aye
Terri Ackerman: Aye
Jane Hotchkiss: Aye

Miscellaneous Correspondence

The Select Board continues to receive lots of correspondence that have been posted online. At an Executive Session on April 16, Mr. Lawson and Town Counsel Mina Makarious prepared a statement about the issue at Estabrook Road. Mr. Lawson asked for a motion to authorize this statement to be posted online, and be sent to the Concord Journal.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was UNANIMOUSLY

VOTED: To authorize the Select Board statement regarding Estabrook Road to be posted on the Town website and sent to the *Concord Journal*.

Roll call vote

Susan Bates: Aye
Linda Escobedo: Aye
Mike Lawson: Aye
Terri Ackerman: Aye
Jane Hotchkiss: Aye

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Adjourn

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was UNANIMOUSLY
VOTED: to adjourn

Roll call vote

Susan Bates: Aye

Linda Escobedo: Aye

Mike Lawson: Aye

Terri Ackerman: Aye

Jane Hotchkiss: Aye

Meeting Materials: <https://concordma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/24599/April-23-SB-Packet>

Minuteman Media Network Coverage: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=StCMMVIPtpE>