

**TOWN OF CONCORD  
SELECT BOARD  
MINUTES  
June 22, 2020  
4:00PM  
VIDEO CONFERENCE CALL**

Pursuant to notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, the Concord Select Board convened in a meeting via video conference call on June 22, 2020 at 4:00pm.

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

**Call to Order**

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

**Consent Agenda**

- Approval of Town Accountant Warrants

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was UNANIMOUSLY  
**VOTED:** to approve the consent agenda

**Roll call vote**

Mike Lawson: Aye

Terri Ackerman: Aye

Jane Hotchkiss: Aye

Linda Escobedo: Aye

**Town Manager Update**

Police Chief O'Connor issued a statement answering some questions the Town has received about police practices in light of events occurring nationwide. Mr. Crane thanked Chief O'Connor for his leadership on ensuring the Police Department is responsive to community feedback.

The Town's water consumption during this time of year goes from about two million gallons a day to four million gallons a day. Mr. Crane cautioned the community to be mindful in their water consumption in order to reduce a demand and avoid a mandatory restriction on water use.

The utility work on Cambridge Turnpike has been completed.

The Town is actively recruiting a Chief Information Officer, and Mr. Crane reported the Town has received a number of strong applicants for the role.

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The Library's curbside pickup program has reportedly been extremely successful, and has been ongoing since early June.

**Chair's Remarks**

Mr. Lawson commended Town staff on the quick turnaround on outdoor dining applications for restaurants. Mr. Lawson encouraged residents to shop in Town when possible.

The Select Board received a response from the Attorney General on an Open Meeting Law Complaint that has been filed, and this will be reviewed at the June 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Town Meeting Update – Town Moderator**

Town Moderator Carmin Reiss pointed out that other communities in the state have held their Town Meeting recently, with most of them taking place outdoors. Most of these meetings have been abbreviated, with only about half of the warrant articles being taken up, with the rest delayed for a later date or placed on the consent agenda.

Ms. Reiss and Town staff toured Concord-Carlisle High School's facilities, and came to the consensus that the Doug White Field would be the best fit for holding Town Meeting due to the amenities (electricity, bathrooms, handicap accessibility, and temperature) in comparison to the turf field. The Town will likely hold the meeting during daytime hours in order to avoid complications with mosquitos. September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 is the tentative date. The Moderator noted that the goal is to only take up essential items at this meeting. Ms. Reiss has sent Mr. Lawson a list of articles she believes could be placed on the consent agenda. Ms. Reiss has reached out to the citizen petitioners in order to ask if they would be willing to postpone their articles to a later date.

The Select Board will continue to discuss Town Meeting logistics at upcoming meetings.

**Committee Appointments:** Richard Fahlander of 399 Old Bedford Road to the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Committee for a term to expire April 30, 2023.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was UNANIMOUSLY

**VOTED:** to appoint Richard Fahlander of 399 Old Bedford Road to the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Committee for a term to expire April 30, 2023.

**Roll call vote**

Mike Lawson: Aye

Terri Ackerman: Aye

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Jane Hotchkiss: Aye  
Linda Escobedo: Aye

**Committee Liaison Reports**

Ms. Hotchkiss attended the Board of Health meeting, where they discussed their responsibilities in the reopening of businesses in town, their role in Town Meeting, and appointing Police officers as Health Agents during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Mr. Lawson held the Chair Breakfast, where he asked chairs who had warrant articles set to be reviewed at Town Meeting to meet and determine whether they believe their articles are essential to be moved at the September Town Meeting.

Ms. Ackerman reported that Todd Benjamin of the Capital Planning Task Force has resigned, and they are looking for another member. The Concord Cultural District discussed anti-racism efforts in their organizations.

Ms. Escobedo attended the Community Preservation Community, where they reaffirmed their desire to have their warrant article considered essential at the upcoming Town Meeting. Hanscom Area Town's Selectmen met, where the communities discussed their different approaches for Town Meeting in light of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

**Miscellaneous Correspondence**

Mr. Lawson noted correspondence regarding questions surrounding police practices and techniques from residents in light of events occurring nationwide.

**Public Comments**

Brooks Reed of 366 Estabrook Road stated that he submitted correspondence to Mr. Lawson, who confirmed he received it.

Tanya Gailus asked whether or not articles not taken up at the upcoming Town Meeting could be postponed to a Special Town Meeting later on, which Mr. Lawson confirmed was the case.

**Adjourn**

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

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**Roll call vote**

Mike Lawson: Aye

Terri Ackerman: Aye

Jane Hotchkiss: Aye

Linda Escobedo: Aye

**Minuteman Media Network Coverage:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C179r4j37mY&t=17s>