

The Board of Selectmen met remotely on Tuesday March 24, 2020 at 7:00pm Due to Covid-19

The following members participated.

James O'Neil, Chairman

Nancy Mackenzie, Vice Chairman

Benjamin Barrett, Clerk

Mark Gallivan

David Salvatore

Also

Town Administrator, James Johnson

Mr. O'Neil called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. O'Neil read the following statement. All members will be participating remotely during the meeting due to unprecedented time in the history of the Commonwealth. The Governor has authorized remote participation for all public boards due to the Emergency declaration order that was issued on March 12, 2020. Every vote will be taken via roll call vote.

We do not have anyone coming in as the town hall is closed. We will go right to New Business.

#### Update on Coronavirus

Mr. Johnson Updated as to what we have. The Board of Health has informed the town we have 8 confirmed cases in Walpole, trash pickup is normal, Medical reserve corps has been activated. notices have been sent to restaurants regarding no serving inside through April 5<sup>th</sup>. We have administered the 6 foot distance at least. We have put a freeze on hiring with the exception of public safety. All non-emergency related purchases have been frozen with the exception of trash pick up utility costs and gas purchase, Out of town meetings have been stopped. We are operating with a skeleton crew at this time for town hall staff. Recreation is closed helping with food bank. Coronavirus have ramped up our website, online food pantry food form to deliver to houses. A lot of municipal reform changes, the proposals, regarding permits granting of permits 45 days of all permits before ZBA, conservation. Administration is also proposing that would allow retirees so we can tap more forces. Bringing on some recruits. To allow liquor license holders to sell beer and wine. That has not yet been approved. People can pay their bills and put in the drop box. No cash. There is legislation for late payments, allow tax bill date extension. Everyone is working together so people can get their money. For FY 2021 budget there will be cutbacks. The Moderator has postponed town meeting, working with Town Counsel to get this done correctly. The Town Election I expect that to be delayed. I will work with Town Counsel. The Town clerk is still providing birth Certificates, wedding certificates, Death certificates, make nomination papers. Ashley has created an outreach website for business. The COA is closed until further notice. Students 80 homes were delivered food today. The Police Dept. the Chief and his staff have new policies and procedures for anyone going out on the street. Have opened East Walpole station. On Bldg. dept. they keep going out, emergency inspections, vacant bldg., video of peoples homes. The construction is temporarily stopped. My intent is not to shut the sites down permanently. There are hand stations to wash and distancing. I expect by the end of the week we will get people back to work.

Mr. O'Neil I will ask each member. We are in a very unusual time here and what I have seen here in the last few weeks, you have all done an amazing job with the safety of town and employees. It is amazing to watch people come together. I think it is important and it is a credit that we can

function the way we are. We don't know how long this will go on for. We will see how the next few weeks ago.

Mr. Salvatore thank you for the comments about the town I agree they have done a great job. The chief has had about using the ambulances. We realize this is a fluid where things can change. The state guidelines, construction of housing it is good and hopes those projects can get back on board. To know when that standard is going to be lifted.

Mrs. Mackenzie Jim you have done a great job keeping us and residents updated and everything everyone is doing, Everyone has realized and everyone is being very flexible. Everyone has stepped up and providing service to the town,

Mr. Barrett echo's what everyone has said and the chiefs and the staff. Having it be such a fluid situation. You can never be too safe.

Mr. Gallivan agrees with what has been said. I am pleased to see the Town employees getting the work done. I really appreciate that.

Mr. O'Neil it is a fluid situation, the town is in good hands with Jim and town employees.

### 3-26 Conditional offer of employment to three paramedics

Mr. O'Neil we have 3 conditional offers we want to make tonight to Firefighters that are in various steps of training. This is to make sure that we have enough first responders in place. These are hires we were intending to do anyway. These are just going to be accelerated

Chief Bailey three candidates 2 of which are veterans, they both have been working on paramedic vehicles for private ambulance service, they both have fair amount experience as well as their military experience as combat medic of healthcare specialist. The third is a Walpole graduate and he has been in to see me several times over the last couple of years and he has met the requirements of paramedic. He has experience of EMT on an ambulance. We should be able to get him up to speed in the next couple of weeks,

Mr. Gallivan I don't have any questions I like all the resumes and I am glad that we are hiring .

Mr. Salvatore Thanks chief I appreciate you opening up the two station and all the changes that have been made.

Mrs. Mackenzie I was knocked out for a while.

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Board members had no issues.

Chief Bailey I appreciate the Board taking this action.

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to offer conditional employment as Firefighter/Paramedic to Peter Kistner, Rafael Lara and Sam Bruce seconded by Mr. Barrett VOTED Roll Call Mr. Salvatore-Aye, Mrs. Mackenzie-Aye, Mr. Barrett-Aye, Mr. Gallivan-Aye, Mr. O'Neil-Aye

Mr. Johnson noted there is something else the Chief would like to talk to you about.

Chief Bailey in the interest of separating personnel and separating personal and with the incident that happened last week it knocked out the command staff a Lt, captain and 8 firefighters. We are currently an 8 man minimum I have been looking and I would like to propose it I would like the board to approve to go to a 9 Man minimum temporarily which would allow me to separate them further. Take the captain and LT at Station 1 and put the LT down at Station 2. Four at station 2 and five out of station 1. A fire truck as well as an ambulance out of there. The remaining staff coming out of uptown. What that will do is on with the new staff that we have hired it will allow us to run the third ambulance if we have to. Currently we have four ambulances and three of them are in service and we can run three with our license. Putting me a 9 per shift would help and benefit this crisis's. I would like to be able to do that if and when we have personal available so By putting me at 9 temporarily separating the staff. Myself, Deputy Chief and Linda have been working from home. This past week both the deputy and I have been coming in trying to take care of the logistical issues that we have especially with personal protection equipment. We have made some gains on that but still have a ways to go but we are actively working on that and have our staff working on that so we have had some business partners in the community that have stepped us to help us as well. Siemens will be doing some fit testing for us in the next week or so for the N-95 these are all positive things we are working on. One thing I want to bring the board up to date on is we purchased two different types of disinfecting machines for the apparatus as well as for the Station. One is a fogger is a disinfect fogger. What that does it does a fine particular mist and permeates through everything disburse it into then we have two wet mist it sprays on and then we have to wipe it down Limited amount of fluid. Use it on the ambulances. Primarily on ambulance and we have a request for more fluid.

Motion moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to support the chiefs proposal for 9 man request on shift and disinfecting equipment, seconded by Mr. O'Neil, VOTED roll call Mr. Salvatore-Aye, Mrs. Mackenzie-Aye, Mr. Barrett-Aye, Mr. Gallivan-Aye, Mr. O'Neil-Aye

### 3-21 Change of Manager and Change of Directors Walpole Country Club

Mr. Johnson the paperwork is in order.

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to approve the change of manager to Richard Campbell and change of directors for the Walpole Country Club seconded by Mr. Gallivan VOTED roll call Mr. Salvatore-Aye, Mrs. Mackenzie-Aye, Mr. Barrett-Aye, Mr. Gallivan-Aye, and Mr. O'Neil-Aye

### 3-22 Change of Manager, Applebee's

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to approve the change of Manager to Michael Boory for Applebee's seconded by Mr. Gallivan Roll call VOTED roll call Mr. Salvatore-Aye, Mrs. Mackenzie-Aye, Mr. Barrett-Aye, Mr. Gallivan-Aye, Mr. O'Neil-Aye

**3-23 Request of Conservation Commission to authorize the Chairman to sign Right of Entry for MA DOT for Route 1A Reconstruction on either side of Cobbs pond dam**

Mr. Johnson explained this is for the TIP project they wanted area to store equipment and it has been vetted by Conservation Commission and Town Council, they are looking for easement for staging .

No questions from Board members.

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to approve the request of Conservation Commission to authorize the Chairman to sign the Right of entry for MA DOT seconded by Mr. Gallivan VOTED Roll Call Mr. Salvatore-Aye, Mrs. Mackenzie-Aye, Mr. Barrett-Aye, Mr. Gallivan-Aye, Mr. O'Neil-Aye

**3-24 Request for one day all alcohol license for Fish and Game Club**

Can we reverence that it can only be used if the Governor lifting his order in place of no more than 10 people because of this emergency.

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to Approve the request for a one day all alcohol license for the Fish and Game Club for April 25,2020 seconded by Mr. O'Neil VOTED Roll Call Mr. Salvatore-Aye, Mrs. Mackenzie-Aye, Mr. Barrett-Aye, Mr. Gallivan-Aye, Mr. O'Neil-Aye

**3-25 Renewal of membership to committee**

Mr. O'Neil unless we have an issue. To renew those that have request reappointment. Mr. Salvatore yes, Mrs. Mackenzie yes, Mr. Barrett yes, Mr. Gallivan yes.

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to renew the membership of those listed on document 3-25 that are not highlighted and Richard Bringhurst and Stephen Schaub seconded by Mr. Gallivan VOTED Roll Call Mr. Salvatore-Aye, Mrs. Mackenzie-Aye, Mr. Barrett-Aye, Mr. Gallivan-Aye, Mr. O'Neil-Aye

**Adams Farm**

Elizabeth McAfee

**Cultural Council-** Mary McNamara Culliane

**Board of Health:**

Mona Bissany  
Dr. Richard Bringhurst-  
Stephen Schaub  
Racheal Jackson

**Historical Commission-**Christine Cocharane  
Kathleen Birtwell  
Michael Amaral  
Robert Doane

**Committee for Alcohol  
and Drug awareness**

Laura Whelan Bratsis

**Housing Partnership** Audrey Grace  
Kurt Tommy  
Philip Czachorowski  
Benjamin Barrett

**Conservation Commission**

Emidio DiVirgilio  
Albert Goetz-

**Insurance Advisory** Eric Kraus

**Council on Aging**

Dorothy Smith-  
Josette Burke  
Mary Jones  
Janet Fasanello

**Permanent Bldg. Com** Jeffrey Fisher

**Pond Management** Ken Southwood  
Eric Skogseth

<b><u>Registrar of voters</u></b>	Linda Garr	<b><u>Recreation Com</u></b>	Michael McGrath Lorraine Dundon Umesh Kumar Douglas Shea Brad Hickey
<b><u>Town Forest</u></b>	Gary Riggott		
<b><u>Trust Fund Com</u></b>	John Sheehan		
<b><u>Veterans Service Com</u></b>	David Ferrara Rita Mienscow John Robinson Jr	<b><u>Walpole Trails com</u></b>	Michael Brennan Gary Riggott
<b><u>Zoning Board of Appeals</u></b>	Mary Jane Coffey Andrew Delaney		

### Consent Agenda

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to accept with gratitude the following donations

Walpole Cooperative Bank to Recreation community events	\$5000.00
Junior Woman's Club of Walpole to Recreation community events	\$500.00
Middlesex savings Bank, Community Policing/Marketing	\$10,000

Seconded by Mr. Gallivan VOTED Roll Call Mr. Salvatore-Aye, Mrs. Mackenzie-Aye, Mr. Barrett-Aye, Mr. Gallivan-Aye, Mr. O'Neil-Aye

### Town Administrator's Update

I covered most everything as part of the coronavirus update. The Board of health received a \$10,000 grant from DPH for investigation toward the Covid-19. We can use that for the nurse. For us it is mostly coronavirus. We will get through it one way or another.

Mr. O'Neil we will get through it one way or another. At some point we will get through it and adjust as needed. Thank Patrick from Walpole Media that the technology is working. Thank you.

MOTION moved to adjourn the meeting VOTED Roll Call Mr. Salvatore-Aye, Mrs. Mackenzie-Aye, Mr. Barrett-Aye, Mr. Gallivan-Aye, Mr. O'Neil-Aye