

GOSNOLD BOARD OF SELECTMEN

March 19, 2021

Meeting open @ 10:30am.

Board of Selectmen via Zoom: Gail Blout – remote participation, Stewart Young – remote participation, Sarah Berry – Present.

Lisa Wright, Sarah Smith, Michael Milanoski, Fran Veeder, Paul Lehner, Roxy Leeson, Rosie Goettsche, Serena Davis, Charmaine Gahan, Bev Prevost, Diane Croswell, George Shaw, Jon Winet, Leo Roy, Andy Bobola, Lindley Huey, Marla Garfield, Phil Houha, Slater Anderson, Terri Lowell, David Warr, Seth Garfield, Paula DiMare, Dale Lynch, David Frothingham, Lexi Lynch, Nina Brodeur

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

A motion was made to approve the minutes of February 19, 2021. Duly seconded. So moved.

Unanimous vote. Roll call: Gail Blout – here, Stewart Young – here, Sarah Berry – here.

Gail reported that she and Michael met with Steve McKenna of Coastal Zone Management. There is a resiliency grant program that would allow the town to apply for funds to reconfigure the solid waste area and rebuild the fuel farm. The town's contribution would be 25%. There was discussion about the use of convault tanks for fuel storage. \$150,000 was allocated to the fuel project at last town meeting.

Sarah reported that the USDA is offering small equipment grants up to \$150,000 to help with budget constraints. Ideas for this grant include: fire truck, rescue boat, backhoe, forklift, solid waste equipment, solar panels, generator.

Michael Milanoski reported that the IRS is conducting an audit as 4 employees received both 1099s and W2s. Sarah Smith is working on retrieving the information required from 2018.

The Department of Revenue will present their Financial Management Review in April.

A motion was made to appoint Ren Davidson as Inspector of Animals. Duly seconded. So moved. Roll Call: Gail Blout – here, Sarah Berry – here, Stewart Young – here. Unanimous vote.

The Selectmen discussed financial commitments for the upcoming fiscal year:

Visitor Center - \$85,000

Road/Wall/Drainage Project - \$100,000 (From Chapter 90 Funds)

Lookout Park Buy out - \$120,000

Water - \$7,200 due for interest from short term loan 1 year after project completion

USDA Equipment Grant - \$25,000 (potential of \$100,000 not yet awarded)

Coastal Resilience Grant - \$75,000 (potential of \$500,000 not yet awarded) Possible funding for SW & Fuel Depot

Fuel Farm - \$150,000 (appropriated at TM 2020 – from Harbor Special Projects)

Solid Waste – TBD

Buzzards Bay Coalition Land Acquisition- \$20,000
Playground - TBD

There was discussion about postponing Town Meeting to June 14 or 21st. Lisa will get in touch with the Avalon to find out which date is better as the meeting will be held outside on the lawn again this year.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT:

Andy Bobola our Building Inspector summarized the purpose of having a building department. It is for the safety of the residents. If people don't get permits homeowner's insurance will not cover damages caused by construction, electric or plumbing work. The town will allow people to come forward and get permits for unpermitted work. Some situations may require people to file with the Zoning Board of Appeals for a variance of special permit. *Stewart made a motion to institute a moratorium on building code enforcement for 60 days, starting today, March 19, 2021, and issue a notice to tax payers informing them of the moratorium. Duly seconded, so moved. Unanimous vote. Roll call: Gail Blout – here, Stewart Young – here, Sarah Berry – here.*

BOARD OF HEALTH:

The vaccination program is improving as more sites are opening and getting appointments is easier than in previous weeks. Next Monday travel bans are loosening and ages for vaccination are lowering.

WATER:

Stewart reported that he followed up with Environmental Partners and had a good conversation with CEO, Paul Gabriel. The communication lines are open.

Stewart made a motion: *The Gosnold Water Commissioners are to approve the consensus changes from the Water Operator and Town's Peer Review Engineer that by definition are considered minor as they are more of means and methods to existing layout that focus on the following:*

- a) Remove the requirement for a diesel generator in the wellfield area during change over*
- b) Keep existing well system on-line as a backup system with scheduled water testing*
- c) Modify ductal iron piping to copper that will allow for easier repairs if needed that can be done on-island and as described in the peer review/detailed alternative design and sequencing dated March 16, 2021.*

iii) The Water Commission designates Stewart Young as the sole Water Commissioner in charge of the Water Project and its evaluation and development of a plan and authorizes him to negotiate and implement the project on behalf of Water Commission based on revised well plans.

So moved. Roll call: Gail Blout – here, Stewart Young – here, Sarah Berry – here; Sarah Berry opposes part B of the motion.

Dale has concerns about the diesel generator and questions if the Conservation Commission would approve of it due to possible contamination concerns within the public water source and the generator would consume approximately 1000 gallons of diesel. Dale feels that the town should not be financially penalized for mistakes that EP may have made in the design including but not limited to gutting the pump house and construction during the winter.

PLANNING BOARD:

Slater Anderson is working on a map for the solar field showing an overlay district for the Green Community application.

SOLID WASTE:

Michael reported that Solid Waste expenses are approximately \$120,000 and we only collect about half that amount. The new \$5.00 Environmental Fee that will be charged to boaters in 2021 should collect \$20,000 - \$25,000. Reviews will be made on the C&D fees, white goods disposal, bag fee and an individual house fee,

CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

Meeting April 9.

ELECTRIC LIGHT COMMISSION:

The kilowatt rate will remain at .45 through May. The ELC will reassess the budget in late summer to see if they can offer that rate again, beginning in October instead of January.

HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

HMC met yesterday. The harbor and marina will open May 15, all are expecting a very busy season.

A motion was made to adjourn. Duly seconded. Roll Call: Gail Blout – here, Sarah Berry – here, Stewart Young – here. Unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned @ 1:32.

Respectfully submitted by: Lisa Wright

Gail Blout

G. Stewart Young

Sarah Berry

Gosnold Board of Selectmen
Approved April 16, 2021 Via Zoom