

GOSNOLD BOARD OF SELECTMEN

April 17, 2020 – Via Zoom

Meeting open @ 10:32

GOSNOLD BOARD OF SELECTMEN HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL 17, 2020 VIA ZOOM

In Attendance: Sarah Berry, Stewart Young, Gail Blout, Lisa Wright, Sarah Smith
Philip Houha, Robyn Weiser, Slater Anderson, Dale and John Joseph, Seth Garfield, Paula DiMare, Mary Louise Couvillon, Ann Conway, Maddie Lynch, Lise Stone, Lexi Jackson, David Warr, Jay Merriam, Leo Roy, George and Anna Shaw, Christine Fairchild, Ann Gary, Bev and Ned Prevost, Fran Veeder, Nina Brodeur, David Frothingham, Dale Lynch, Sara and Paul Lehner, George Isabel, Marla Garfield, Bee and Bob Elmore, Katie Leeson, Nancy Wilder, Karl Hinrichs
and
From Martha Vineyard Commission, Chris Seidel
From Audubon: Nick Rossi and Bob Wilbur

COVID-19:

The Harbor Management Committee thought it best to keep the harbor and marina closed until June 15, in order to keep the employees from exposure to Covid-19 and to keep the general public away from the island. All services such as: public restrooms, fuel, water, pump out and dingy docks will not be available until 6/15, at the earliest. There are currently no confirmed cases of Covid-19 on Cuttyhunk or in the Town of Gosnold, the hope is to keep it that way. Chilmark is not opening until July 1 and there is currently a mandatory 14 day quarantine in Rhode Island for anyone arriving by boat to many of the larger marine facilities. A public notice will be circulated and put on the website and displayed at a few marinas on the mainland, indicating Cuttyhunk is currently “closed”.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

A motion was made to accept the minutes of March 20, 2020. Duly seconded. So moved. Unanimous vote.

A motion was made to accept the proposal from Foth Engineering to facilitate the grant for the walls and road repair. Gail will sign the contract. Duly seconded. So moved. Unanimous vote.

The Selectmen are looking at a new fee schedule for Solid Waste, Building Department and Zoning.

The town is borrowing \$160,000 for the Buzzards Bay Coalition land acquisition. This is a 10 year payback schedule.

The payment of \$170,000 to buy back the easement at Lookout Park is due on June 30. Sarah B. is asking the National Park Service if there could be a postponement of payment due to the pandemic.

Annual Town Meeting can be postponed until June 30. Towns are looking into different types of town meetings, virtual town meetings are currently not allowed.

AUDUBON:

Nick Rossi and Bob Wilbur joined the meeting to discuss the future of the pillboxes on land that is being donated to Audubon from Oriel Ponzecchi. The "far bunkers" are in rough shape, many feel their historical significance is of great importance and they should be preserved. Sarah is requesting a five year timeline to see if there is a workable solution.

OPEN SPACE:

Chris Seidel of the Martha's Vineyard Commission joined the meeting to discuss finalizing the Open Space and Recreation Plan. It's important to have this plan when applying for certain grants and fundraising.

TAX COLLECTOR:

Sarah S. reported the real estate and personal property tax bills are going out today. Massachusetts is allowing for delayed payment with no penalty due to the pandemic. *A motion was made to accept the tax payment deferral program. Duly seconded. So moved. Unanimous.*

Cemetery:

The Selectmen thanked Christine Fairchild for her generous land donation to expand the cemetery.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

The Notice of Intent for the removal of the fuel tanks is not finished yet. Leo will be working with Dan Perry on finalizing the end of the lease between Ralph Packer and the Town of Gosnold. Orders of Conditions have been issued for the CYC septic project and the Wellfield project.

FUEL FARM:

Leo reported that he had a quote from Dependable Petroleum to upgrade the pipes, dispensers and wiring for \$11,000. There are two permits required to store less than 10,000 gallons of fuel; one from the Fire Chief, one from the Conservation Commission.

HUMAN RESOURCES:

There was discussion about salaries and health insurance contribution for the 2021 budget. Many feel this is not the time to propose salary increases due to revenue unknowns attributed to the Corona Virus. The Finance Committee will look at the budget with a 25% increase in health insurance contribution by the town. A warrant article is required to vote on this change. A Town Administrator will be hired.


SOLID WASTE:

Solid Waste has run at a deficit for some time. The Selectmen will review ways to increase income as expenses have been escalating. A household fee is being considered and fee increases for white good disposal.

A motion was made to adjourn. Duly seconded. So moved. Meeting adjourned @ 12:41pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Lisa Wright

Sarah Berry


Gail Blout

G. Stewart Young

Gosnold Board of Selectmen
May 15, 2020 – by virtual meeting