



## **TOWN OF THORNTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Town of Thornton • 16 Merrill Access Road • Thornton NH, 03285 • 603.726.8168

Approved on: \_\_\_\_\_  
BOS Initial: me  
Rec'd by Town Clerk on: 5/11/2020  
Town Clerk Initials: djm

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### **Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes April 8, 2020**

**10:00 AM Chairwoman Peabody opened the Thornton Board of Selectmen meeting work session with the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**ROLL CALL:** Chairwoman Marianne Peabody, Vice-Chairman Brad Benton, Selectman Roy Sabourn, and Selectman Joseph Monti.

**PRESENT VIA PHONE CONFERENCE:** Selectman Jack Gaites, Bill DeLeo, Chief Defosses

**STAFF PRESENT:** Debra Shepard, Town Administrator, Police Chief Miller, Sandy Moulton

#### **Emergency Management Meeting**

Chief Miller met with the Board to provide an update of Emergency Service Operations.

Chief Miller informed the Board that last week he sent out an email regarding the National Forest Service. There are no plans at this time to shut down the trailheads due to social distancing. The National Forest Service is monitoring the trails and are confident that trail users are respecting the social distancing order from the Governor.

Chief Miller stated that the recent Governor's executive order states that the renting of AirBnB's should be limited to essential workers and not rented for vacationing purposes. Chief Miller stated that the updated RSA does give the Police Department the authority to enforce the Governor's orders relative to vacationers but he intends to reason with the public as a first course of action.

A message has been posted on Facebook asking second home owners to stay at their primary resident and not come to their second homes in Thornton due to the stay-at-home order. Traffic has been less in town.

NH Chiefs of Police had a conference with the AG office and reiterated that there is no travel ban in place and no legal basis to stop out of state vehicles to inquire about their travel plans.

Chief Miller stated Paul Hatch does not believe the cost of the message board signs will be reimbursable under this order. The cost is about \$1,000 per month for three signs. Chief Miller does not believe that this is needed in town at this time.

Chief Miller stated that for the third day in a row, their COVID-19 activity level is down according to the IMHE with a projected data peak being within the next few weeks.

The executive order allows campgrounds to remain open if the campground was already open prior to March 28, otherwise Campgrounds should not open. Goose Hollow Campground claims that they were open prior to March 28. Goose Hollow will need to prove to the State that the Campground was open prior to the March 28 date. Selectwoman Peabody stated that as the health officer, she has been in contact with the Goose Hollow Campground owner regarding the need for social distancing if the State of NH allows the opening of the Campground.

Chief Miller drafted a county wide mutual aid agreement to allow agencies to assist each other as needed.

Chief Miller discussed quarantine options for Loon Mountain resort or Days Inn in Lincoln for first responders who have tested positive for COVID 19 so that they do not go home to infect their families. Chief Defosses stated that he was informed from Lakes Region Mutual Aid that there are only five people statewide that are taking advantage of this at this time.

Selectman Monti asked for an update on meal programs that are available for residents that were self-quarantining. Chief Miller stated that Principal Bownes and Librarian Nina Sargent have been checking on residents. There are notices on Facebook for those that need help and resources that are available. Selectman Peabody stated that the seniors in town are still receiving Meals on Wheels at this time.

Chief DeFosses stated that the Fire/EMS department is working as usual and tending to calls. Selectman Gaites asked if the Hospital notify the Emergency personnel if the person that they transport to the hospital has tested positive for COVID-19. Chief Defosses stated that the notification is not automatic, and information would need to be requested. Lakes Region dispatch does receive updated information as to residents in town that have tested positive for COVID-19 and this information is provided to Emergency Service personnel.

Discussion continued on additional hospital space that is available if there is a greater need. At this time, the hospitals are managing fine and no additional resources have been used even though additional space has been allocated if needed.

Chief Miller asked if an Emergency Director meeting is necessary on a regular basis moving forward. Chairwoman Peabody stated that she does not feel an emergency director meeting is needed at this time, unless there is a need for funds, large purchases, or a change in status. Selectman Sabourn stated that Chief Miller should schedule a meeting if there is a need. All in attendance agreed.

Chief Miller indicated at 10:40 AM his portion of the meeting was finished.

Chairwoman Peabody stated that while she did not call this meeting, since the Board of Selectmen are all present, she was hoping to have a discussion about a few BOS items and get some documents signed..

TA Shepard indicated to the Board that she has a questionnaire that needs to be completed by the BOS for the ongoing audit.

The Board reviewed the questionnaire from the auditors and provided as many answers as they could and will go into nonpublic at the end of this meeting to finish the remaining questions for the TA to finalize the form.

#### **Emergency Management Department- Board of Selectmen Representative**

The Board discussed the vacant Board of Selectman representative to the Emergency Management Department. Chairwoman Peabody nominated Selectman Joseph Monti for this position.

#### **MOTION: "To nominate Selectman Monti to the Emergency Management Department to be the Board of Selectmen Representative."**

Motion: M. Peabody

Seconded: B. Benton

Discussion: Selectman Sabourn stated that he is unsure if a representative is needed for EMD. Selectman Benton asked what the representative would do for the EMD. The board agreed that there should be no decisions made on behalf of the Board of Selectmen by their representative. Selectwoman Peabody stated that this position would be to assist in updating the emergency operations plan and updating the Board of Selectmen on important news.

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn – no, Joseph Monti – yes, Jack Gaites – yes.

**Motion Passes: 4 – Yes, 1 – No**

#### **Action Folder**

##### **ZCA Review**

#### **MOTION: "To approve ZCA #2020-06 for PID#17/14-15-8-3 for a three bedroom single family home on of Horizon Drive."**

Motion: B. Benton

Seconded: R. Sabourn

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes, Joseph Monti – abstained, Jack Gaites – yes.

**Motion Passes: 4 – Yes, 0 – No      Abstained: 1**

**MOTION: "To approve ZCA #2020-04 for PID#16/7-44A for a 30x20 two story barn."**

Motion: B. Benton

Seconded: R. Sabourn

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes,  
Joseph Monti – abstained, Jack Gaites – yes.

**Motion Passes: 4 – Yes, 0 – No Abstained: 1 – Joseph Monti**

**MOTION: "To approve ZCA #2020-05 for PID#8/15-1 for a roof top solar array."**

Motion: B. Benton

Seconded: R. Sabourn

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes,  
Joseph Monti – yes, Jack Gaites – yes.

**Motion Passes: 5 – Yes, 0 – No**

**MOTION: "To approve a yield tax levy for Anthony LaMonica PID #7/2-13-30 in the amount of 149.66."**

Motion: R. Sabourn

Seconded: B. Benton

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes,  
Joseph Monti – yes, Jack Gaites – yes.

**Motion Passes: 5 – Yes, 0 – No**

**MOTION: "To approve a yield tax levy for Sabourn Family Trust PID #3-7-7 in the amount of \$59.69."**

Motion: B. Benton

Seconded: J. Monti

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes,  
Joseph Monti – yes, Jack Gaites – yes.

**Motion Passes: 5 – Yes, 0 – No**

**MOTION: "To approve an Intent to Excavate for Johnston Brothers PID#15/4-24."**

Motion: R. Sabourn

Seconded: B. Benton

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes,  
Joseph Monti – yes, Jack Gaites – yes.

**Motion Passes: 5 – Yes, 0 – No**

**MOTION: "To approve an Intent to Excavate for Johnston Brothers PID#6/6-7."**

Motion: R. Sabourn

Seconded: B. Benton

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes,  
Joseph Monti – yes, Jack Gaites – yes.

**Motion Passes: 5 – Yes, 0 – No**

**MOTION: "To approve a request to the Trustee of Trust Funds to withdraw funds from the CIA Technologies Mapping Contract fund for Invoice #9261 in the amount of \$22,500."**

Motion: B. Benton

Seconded: R. Sabourn

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes,  
Joseph Monti – yes, Jack Gaites – yes.

**Motion Passes: 5 – Yes, 0 – No**

**MOTION: "To approve a request to the Trustee of Trust Funds to withdraw funds from the Municipal Building Capital Reserve Fund for Dumont Invoice in the amount of \$6841.01."**

Motion: B. Benton

Seconded: R. Sabourn

Discussion: J. Monti would like to amend the motion to require Contractor Dumont submit a letter in writing to the Board explaining why the project is not finished. TA Shepard informed the Board that she had just spoken with Mr. Dumont a few days ago and he indicated he is prepared to move the doghouse in to place and install the foundation, however the ground is not suitable due to spring conditions and the Town of Thornton road bans are still in place, which is a good indication the ground is still too wet. He has assured her that once the road dries up, he will finish the project. J. Monti would like to see his plan in writing. B. Benton asked if this should be part of the motion. Chairwoman Peabody called for a vote on the amendment suggested by Selectman Monti. Marianne Peabody – no, Brad Benton – no, Roy Sabourn – no, Joseph Monti – yes, Jack Gaites – no. The amended motion failed and the Board voted on the original motion.

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes,  
Joseph Monti – abstained, Jack Gaites – yes.

**Motion Passes: 4 – Yes, 0 – No**

**Abstained: J. Monti**

**MOTION: "To approve a total abatement interest for three properties in the amount of \$1.11."**

Motion: R. Sabourn

Seconded: B. Benton

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – yes, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn – yes,  
Joseph Monti – yes, Jack Gaites – yes.

**Motion Passes: 5 – Yes, 0 – No**

**11:38 A.M. MOTION: "To enter into nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91A:3, II (c)."**

Motion: M. Peabody

Seconded: B. Benton

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: R. Sabourn – Yes, M. Peabody – Yes, Brad Benton – Yes, Joseph  
Monti – Yes, Jack Gaites – Yes.

**Motion Passes: 5 – Yes, 0 – No**

**11:46 A.M. MOTION: "To come out of nonpublic session."**

Motion: M. Peabody

Seconded: R. Sabourn

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: R. Sabourn – Yes, M. Peabody – Yes, Brad Benton – Yes, Joseph  
Monti – Yes, Jack Gaites – Yes.

**Motion Passes: 5 – Yes, 0 – No**

Selectman Jack Gaites left the meeting.

#### *Manifests*

**MOTION: "To approve the payroll manifest dated 4/10/20 in the amount of \$27,325.69."**

Motion: B. Benton

Seconded: J. Monti

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – abstained, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn –  
yes, Joseph Monti – yes.

**Motion Passes: 4 – Yes, 0 – No      Abstained: 1**

**MOTION: "To approve the vendor manifest dated 4/10/20 in the amount of \$275,339.85."**

Motion: R. Sabourn

Seconded: B. Benton

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: Marianne Peabody – abstained, Brad Benton – yes, Roy Sabourn –  
yes, Joseph Monti – yes.

**Motion Passes: 4 – Yes, 0 – No      Abstained: 1**

**12:25 PM MOTION: "To adjourn."**

Motion: J. Monti

Seconded: R. Sabourn

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: R. Sabourn – abstained, M. Peabody – Yes, Brad Benton – Yes,  
Joseph Monti – Yes.

**Motion Passes: 3 – Yes, 0 – No**

Respectfully submitted,

Jessi Fleury  
Board Secretary