

CHARLESTOWN TOWN COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
May 26, 2020 7:00 PM

Call to Order – President Fockler called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The meeting was conducted by Zoom and conference call. Those in attendance on Zoom were Commissioners Fockler, Fields, Kronner, Letts and Wood, Town Administrator Wib Pumpaly. By conference call was Officer Lambert, Daniel Puhalski, Rich Pulliam, Dustin Delp, Jessie Crockett, Richard Mahan, and Bryan Lightner.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Richard Mahan

Approval of the Minutes – **May 12, 2020 Commissioner Kronner, moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Letts. Approved 5-0.**

Approval of the Public Hearing Minutes – **May 14, 2020 Commissioner Wood moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Letts. Approved 3-0-2.**

Accounts Payable Review – Accounts payable in the amount of \$42,706.86 were presented for approval. A question was asked about the stop sign payment. There are a number of places in town where the signs are so faded that they are hard to read. These were purchased to replace those signs. **Commissioner Kronner moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Letts. Approved 5-0.**

F/Y 2021 Final Review/Vote to Accept – President Fockler presented the final draft of the FY2021 budget for review. On page 3 of 10 a question was raised about the Capital purchases went from 50,823 to 15,000. A question was raised about the electric charges for the Cemetery. The cemetery does not receive a separate bill.

Ordinance 2020-04 to Accept 2021 Budget – **Commissioner Letts moved to approve Ordinance 2020-04, the budget for FY2021, seconded by Commissioner Kronner. Approved 5-0.**

Modifications to Grass Cutting Contract & Proposed Equipment – Commissioner Fields stated since we don't have a contract it can't be modified. He further stated that there are times when the grass should not have been cut. Commissioner Fockler stated that we would give Mr. Webb notice to not come when the grass does not need to be cut. Commissioner Fields feels that we are being taken advantage of and in some instances he is charging above the bid price. Commissioner Wood stated that we do have some discrepancies in prices. Commissioner Fockler asked Mr. Pumpaly to verify the RFP prices and number of times per month to cut. Commissioner Fockler stated that Mr. Webb does a nice job, and the town looks nice, but we do need to hold him accountable.

Dog Complaints – **Commissioner Kronner & Daniel Puhalski** Commissioner Kronner stated that the dogs in question were barking all night long. Officer Lambert from Animal Control stated that complaints have been up-ticking in the last couple of weeks and those complainants were advised of the procedure. Mr. Puhalski stated that we (Animal Control) would need a certified letter with an affidavit to formally lodge a complaint. Mr. Mahan stated that given the information he would send a certified letter. Ms. Gell through Facebook Live stated that she

lives next door and is in fear for her safety due to the dogs. She has been injured by the dogs. Commissioner Wood stated that a number of years ago she accompanied Animal Control and removed dangerous animals. Mr. Puhalski stated that they have not heard of any injuries and he needs that sworn statement to move forward and they will move forward with the court system. Commissioner Fockler thanked the Animal Control people for their attendance tonight.

Yoga Classes @ Avalon Park – We have had a request from Lil Lack to continue her Yoga classes at Avalon Park. The classes would be held on Saturday mornings. She gives 10% of the fees that she collects to the town. **Commissioner Wood moved to allow these classes by Lil Lack, seconded by Commissioner Kronner. Approved 5-0.**

ParkMobile Implementation – **President Fockler** The signs are in and will be placed this week. That means that we will be going live with the program. We have cards to hand out to help educate the public. Commissioner Kronner, Commissioner Fockler and Commissioner Wood volunteered to hand out cards this coming weekend.

Final Disposition of Avalon Building – **Commissioner Wood** Commissioner Wood would like to know what we are going to do with this building. Commissioner Letts stated that he is not against using the building, but does not feel it would be a good place for Town Hall. Commissioner Wood wants to know what we want to do with it. Commissioner Kronner stated that he would be in favor of bulldozing the building. Then you could put something else up. Commissioner Wood stated that she does not want to throw good money after bad, but she is not sure what we could put up there is we take it completely down. Mr. Mahan stated that he thinks that the grant money that might come in should be used for a new Town Hall. Commissioner Fockler stated that he could think of a number of uses for the building. Mr. Mahan asked if the land could be sold? Commissioner Fockler stated that we probably will not sell it as we use it for overflow parking and might move the boat launch there.

Karla Bliss Waterfront Vegetation Issues – **Commissioner Wood** – Commissioner Wood was not in favor of asking Ms. Bliss to replant by June 5th. She stated that this is a homeowner who had just lost her mother and was trying to clean up the property. It was not done with malice. Commissioner Kronner agrees with Commissioner Wood. It is his assumption that the homeowners are responsible for maintaining the beach area. It looks as if it has grown back. Commissioner Kronner thinks we need to draw a line in the sand and make a stand. Commissioner Fockler stated that whether it was done by others in the past, does not make this right. Bryan Lightner stated that Critical Area laws are pretty clear. As soon as you cut something down to the ground it is considered disturbance and a violation. He responded to the complaint and measured the area and remeasured and reduced the amount of mitigation required. He feels that Ms. Bliss is OK with planting natives further up into her yard. She wants to place riprap there up to her retaining wall. Commissioner Fockler asked Mr. Lightner if he would be amenable to planting in the fall. Commissioner Kronner is absolutely appalled and thinks that Mr. Lightner overstepped bounds. Can the State just come in and say you can be fined. Mr. Lightner stated we are not fining, we are asking for mitigation. Commissioner Wood asked if you cut to the ground is that considered removal. Mr. Lightner stated that does not promote the health of the plantings. Commissioner Fockler suggested that a letter to Ms. Bliss plant by next fall, October 15th.

Town Administrator's Report

Old Business

Scott Gardens Resident Clean-up of the SWM Pond –Scott Gardens residents are making significant progress on the pond. At this point we will wait to see how this progresses.

New Business

Resume Bulk Trash Collection We have not done Bulk Trash collection since Covid-19 has shut down the activity. Mr. Pumpaly suggests restarting on June 10 and another one on June 24. **Commissioner Kronner moved to reinstate the bulk trash collection on June 10 and then again on June 24 and thereafter the last Wednesday on the month, seconded by Commissioner Wood. Approved 5-0.**

Town DMP Site The testing is back and the fill can be used as fill or residents or landscaping companies, by the town to build up the berm of the DMP site. We need to determine how much the site would hold for a future dredging.

Commissioner Fockler had emailed renderings of Town Hall. Mr. Mahan had expanded on his former thoughts for the expansion of Town Hall. The town staff will get these out to the public for comment.

Commissioner Fockler stated that at some of our parks people are wandering onto private property. He thinks that we might utilize fencing to delineate park areas as opposed to private lands.

Period of Public Comment

Dustin Delp – Scott Gardens resident was interested as to whether or not the residents would be charged for the landfill fees.

There being no further business, Commissioner Kronner moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Letts at 8:40PM. Approved 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Myers, Town Clerk.