

**Town of Woodstock
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
Thursday, November 5, 2020 – 4:00PM**

In accordance with Governor Lamont’s Executive Order and social distancing guidelines recommended by the CDC, members of the Board of Selectmen participated in the meeting via ZOOM online.

MINUTES

PRESENT: John Swan, Gregory Kline and Chandler Paquette.

OTHERS PRESENT: Charlene Cutler, Diane Miller, and Dawn Castiglia-Adiletta

1. Call to Order: First Selectman Jay Swan called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

2. Approve the Minutes of the October 15, 2020 Regular Board of Selectmen’s Meeting: Selectman Greg Kline stated that under **4. Correspondence and Announcements** of the Agenda it should be State Police **Troop D**, not State Police **Barracks D**.

Greg Kline made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 15, 2020 Regular Board of Selectmen’s Meeting as amended. **In Favor:** Jay Swan and Greg Kline. **Opposed:** None. **Abstentions:** Chandler Paquette.

3. Consider the Appointment of Diane Converse and Glenn Converse as Full Members of the Beautification Committee for the Term November 5, 2020 through November 16, 2021:

Selectman Chandler Paquette made a motion to appoint Diane and Glenn Converse as Full Members of the Beautification Committee for the Term November 5, 2020 through November 16, 2021. **Motion passed unanimously.**

4. Consider and Vote on Revising the 2021 Transfer Station Fees and Hours of Operation: Mr. Swan informed the Board members that the Transfer Station permit runs on a calendar year and not on a Fiscal Year. This makes budgeting for the Transfer Station and generating reports difficult due to the calendar year falling within two Fiscal Years. It has been decided to move the Transfer Station Permit from a calendar year to a Fiscal Year. A paper pass will be issued for the period of January 1 through June 30, 2021. A sticker will be issued for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

The price for the six-month pass will be \$95.00 for a Regular Permit and a Business Permit. A Senior Citizen permit will be \$48.00. A Pomfret resident’s pass will be \$120.00. The 2021-2022 permit price will be \$190.00 for a Regular Permit and a Business Permit. A Senior Citizen permit will be \$96.00 and Pomfret residents will be \$240.00.

Mr. Paquette stated that he would prefer something other than a paper pass be issued for the six-month period. He felt that a paper pass, even with the license plate number on it had a chance of

being loaned to people who had not purchased a pass or given to people who did not live in Woodstock. Mr. Paquette felt that the employees of the Transfer Station would not have the time to check every car that entered the Transfer Station to verify that the pass on the dash board had been issued to that vehicle. Mr. Swan stated that he would look at alternatives.

Mr. Kline stated that in the regulations presented tonight that is should be amended so that any sentence referring to the Transfer Station permit price dropping to half price on September 1 be deleted. Mr. Swan and Mr. Paquette agreed with this.

Mr. Swan stated that the fees for the Seasonal Permit that runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day will be \$95.00, up from \$90.00. The One Day Pass will be \$25.00, up from \$20.00. The minimal Bulky Waste charge will be \$15.00, up from \$10.00. A small pick-up or a small trailer load of bulky waste will be \$30.00. A mid-sized pick-up truck load (half ton or ¾ ton) or a medium trailer load will be \$45.00. A 1-ton dump truck or large trailer load will be \$55.00.

Mr. Swan also stated that the hours on Saturday and Sunday will be 10:00am to 3:45pm, and not 9:00am to 3:45pm.

Chandler Paquette made a motion to accept the Revisions of the 2021 Transfer Station Fees and Hours of Operation as amended. **Motion passed unanimously.**

5. Discuss COVID-19 Level in Woodstock: Mr. Swan informed the Board that he was informed last week that Woodstock had been raised to a Code Orange relating to the amount of positive COVID-19 test results in Woodstock, and a week later Woodstock still is at a Code Orange.

Mr. Swan stated that the Department of Health is currently concentrating on how the virus spreads due to asymptomatic contact. In order to trace how the virus is being spread this way the State of Connecticut has urged citizens to have COVID-19 tests regardless of whether they are having symptoms or not. In the Woodstock area these tests are available at the Generation Health Care Offices. There is more information regarding hours and sites of testing and other COVID-19 related matters on the Town's website and Facebook page.

Mr. Swan stated that he has been training with the Department of Health in order to be a liaison between the State and the different business and organizations in Town to help them remain in compliance with the ever changing guidelines being issued by the State of Connecticut.

He also informed the Board that if a citizen hosts a gathering larger than the current guidelines the Town can issue a written warning. If the citizen has another gathering larger than the current guidelines the homeowner will be fined \$500.00 and each guest \$100.00. While the Town issues the warnings and levies the fines the State of Connecticut receives the fines.

6. Tax Rebates: Mr. Paquette made a motion to approve the 13 Tax Rebates as presented in the Agenda. **Motion passed unanimously.**

7. Correspondence and Announcements:

A report was received from the Woodstock Safety Patrol. The group now has 14 members. They remain in close contact with State Trooper Eric Haglund and the State Police Troop D. At the recent Trunk or Treat held at Roseland Park the group distributed refrigerator magnets with the logo: "If You See Something say Something" and Together we can keep our community safe! along with Troop D contact information on it.

A thank you was received from Jeffrey Gordon, Chair of the Planning & Zoning Commission thanking the Board of Selectmen for the support given to the commission during the Pandemic. Dr. Gordon also announced that the Commission has approved the location for a new business Rusty Relic that will be located on Woodstock Hill, at the intersection of Child Hill Road and Route 169.

An Annual Report from the Crystal Pond Park Commission has been received.

Other correspondence has been received from the Crystal Pond Park Commission regarding the Trout Pond dam. The Commission has decided to breach the dam and let the Hall River return to its natural condition. The Commission knows that it still needs an engineered plan to accomplish this and will now research ways to fund this project.

The October Report from the State Police Troop D Barracks was received.

Mr. Swan is trying to contact the Town's liaison with the Department of Transportation regarding the status of the traffic light at the intersection of Route 169 and Route 171, near Coco's Cottage. Mr. Swan did point out that the traffic situation at this intersection is not as congested now since Woodstock Academy is not having in person instruction.

8. Public Comment:

Dawn Castiglia-Adiletta asked when the Town Meeting would be held to vote on the purchase of the development rights of Maple Crest Farm. This needs to be accomplished by December 31, 2020. There was discussion as to whether this could be approved using the Governor's Executive Order that allows the Board of Selectmen to approve issues that normally are presented at Town Meetings. The meeting would be held on Zoom so that people who are eligible to vote in Town Meetings can ask questions and voice their opinions on the subject. If not, can a Town Meeting be held in the Woodstock Middle School with the rates of COVID-19 increasing in the Town of Woodstock. While Ms. Castiglia-Adiletta would prefer a Town Meeting she will support any decision that the Selectmen make on how to proceed.

Mr. Swan stated that he would contact the Town Attorney to determine if the purchase of the Maple Crest development rights can be decided by the Board of Selectmen under the Governor's Executive Orders or if it can safely be held at an in person Town Meeting.

9. Other from Committee: Mr. Kline stated that he thinks it would be a good idea to have a newsletter for the Town of Woodstock like the one that is printed in Pomfret. This would allow town residents who do not use computers or not on social media platforms to keep informed on

what is going on in Woodstock. The newsletter would also allow a place for local businesses to advertise. The other Selectmen agreed to consider this.

10. Adjournment: Mr. Swan made a motion to adjourn at 5:15pm. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,
Christine G. French, Clerk

To view the meeting click on the following link: https://youtu.be/kAvus3_e2po