

Saugus Board of Selectmen
May 11, 2020

MEETING MINUTES

AGENDA

Saugus Board of Selectmen

May 11, 2020 at 7:30 PM

Meeting held through Zoom Video Conference

Meeting ID: 875 6467 1324 Password: 052990

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83613529151?pwd=c2lyczlhSXczUzNtOW5PRW9CQlpjQT09>

7:30 PM call to order

-Updates including: COVID-19 response
 Stimulus discussion
 Positions filled
 Article for compensation study
 Police Chief
 High School / Middle School Project

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The Saugus Board of Selectmen met by Zoom Video Conference on May 11, 2020 at 7:30 PM. Present were: Selectmen Jeffrey Cicolini, Debra Panetta, Corinne Riley, Michael Serino and the Chairman Anthony Cogliano. The Town Manager Scott Crabtree was also present.

The Chairman called the meeting to order and announced the meeting was scheduled to hear updates and there will be no citizen comments.

Selectman Serino questioned the numbers to the Zoom Meeting posted on the agenda. The Chair said the link takes you right to the meeting and the meeting is being recorded. Board Members agreed.

The Manager reported update on number of COVID 19 cases in the Town and number of deaths and sent hearts & prayers to families effected; and updated the Board on State numbers.

The Manager said the Board of Health did issue orders and there are some places that are not in compliance they will be following up on. The Chair asked if the Governor put out guidelines on occupancy. The Manager said there are guidelines from the State. Selectman Serino noted the difference in numbers allowed in each type establishment. Selectman Panetta agreed noting that it could be why there are long lines and hopes the Board of Health looks at the limits.

The Manager reported hotels as hot-beds and said the State is assisting.

The Manager said Police Chief selection process has gone through the assessment process and received certified list from Civil Service, and said Civil Service will notify on the list and recipients will need to respond and the interviews will be set up. Selectman Cicolini asked if they are in interview process now. The Manager said no, first said Civil Service will notify on the list and recipients will need to respond and the interviews will be set up. Selectman Cicolini asked if all are in-house. The Manager said yes and 4 applied and 3 completed the process.

The Manager said he was notified a few weeks back the contractor at the middle / high school project was struggling with receiving supplies and was dealing with reduced manpower and notified the Town they would not meet the substantial completion date and the Town sent notice of breach and said they are still working and the Town will be turning over the old building for demo in a week or so after the School Committee turns it over to the Town.

Selectman Riley said she did receive a call from the Superintendent and sent condolences on the loss of his father, and said he met with the union regarding making counselors available to those in need and will be putting a plan in place.

Selectman Riley said she was gathering information on a COVID 19 Emergency Fund with money donated to help fund people in need in Town and did speak with Wakefield and they did it by vote of the Selectmen and described their process.

Selectman Riley moved the Board vote to establish a COVID 19 Emergency Fund.

Selectman Cicolini speaking on the motion said the account would need to be backed up by a non-profit and not by authorization of the Board and is not opposed but would like to see how money would be solicited, how money would be overseen and how money is dispersed. Selectman Panetta suggested it be placed on next agenda. The Chair asked the Manager if he knew how it worked. The Manager suggested it be referred to Town Counsel. Selectman Serino agreed with the concept but would like to see how it's structured and have Town Counsel look at it.

Selectman Riley withdrew her motion without any objection.

Selectman Riley moved to refer to Town Counsel. Chair seconds 5-0.

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Selectman Riley asked if a facilitator (Facilities director) has been hired yet. The Manager said no and said he does have applications and it's a difficult time to interview and has reached out to some technical schools and said they do have a preventative maintenance plan in place.

Selectman Riley asked about Economic Developer. The Manager said it is posted.

Selectman Riley said she has noticed on social media the animal control voice mail is full. The Manager said he looked into that and found some kids were calling at night filling up the mail box and said the Town needs to start peering down to conserve money and said we are in a good financial condition.

Selectman Riley said the State has offered help by allowing deferred payments and asked if anything is offered to municipalities. The Manager said no.

The Manager said they don't have an abundance of masks other than for public safety and has the Fire Chief looking into it. Selectman Cicolini said there's a clear shortage and we are not in a position to distribute to all houses. Selectman Panetta said she talked to the Manager about giving out masks and announced the Garden Club is making masks and people may get them through the Senior Center. The Manager said we will be purchasing cloth masks for employees. Selectman Riley said she thinks he should keep on it. The Manager said they had stuff that expired and is now looking for 90 day supplies.

The Manager reported the cemetery dumpsters are now locked and cameras are being installed.

The Manager reported the street light LED project has started.

The Chair said Article for Compensation study is on the agenda.

Selectman Panetta moved to insert the Article into the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Chair seconds 5-0.

Selectman Panetta said she appreciates the robo-calls and announced for the public how to sign up for calls through the Town website.

The Manager announced the compost site is open. Selectman Cicolini asked if just the compost or is the CHARM Center open also. The Manager said they're in talks but only the compost at this time.

Selectman Riley asked for update on COVID tracking. The Manager explained the MAVIN System being used. Selectman Riley asked for those under quarantine if there's any place they can go for assistance. The Manager said the Senior Center etc.

The Chair said he received calls about other Boards not meeting. The Manager said he's trying to get them support and encourage that.

The Manager said APEX has not reached out to the Planning Dept. yet.

The Chair said the Town has received compliments on the HS banners and some have asked about seniors attending other schools and said they can discuss it. The Manager said you would need brackets too. Selectman Cicolini suggested a banner across the roadway.

Selectman Panetta moved to adjourn. Chair seconds 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:41 PM

Wendy Reed, Clerk