MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2020

Attending via teleconference due to Coronavirus Restrictions/Guidelines:

Magi Winslow, Scott Levan, Greg Sottile, Karen Eseppi (Treasurer)
The meeting was called to order at 7:30p.m. by First Selectman Magi Winslow.

Motion: Scott Levan/Greg Sottile – Unanimous
To approve minutes from previous meetings.

Motion: Magi Winslow/Greg Sottile – Unanimous
To approve Expense Report for May.

Expense reports from the Town Treasurer are available and will be mailed out.

Coronavirus Update – Town Offices
The remainder of our Town Hall employees are being tested and will return on June 15, 2020. Town buildings remain closed to the public. Town Hall continues to conduct business by appointment only. We are implementing safety/protection measures for our employees so that we can safely allow people in to conduct their business. Barriers will be in place and we will use the large conference room so that people can safely wait for documents needed. Areas will be sanitized regularly as well as a bathroom available for the general public. We will continue to provide information as we prepare for a “soft” opening towards the end of June. We will continue to schedule appointments and meet outside when possible.

Communications Tower
The final contract has been signed by the Town. The final contract with the State is almost complete. Once this paperwork is completed, Mariner estimates construction will begin late Fall, early Winter – hopefully completed in the Spring.

A letter was received from Fire Marshal Peter Sevetz, requesting the Town present coronavirus protocol in reference to a request made by the EHVFD to hold their fireworks display (viewed in their vehicles) at the end of July at Berg Field, East Hartland. Magi Winslow spoke with FVHD, CIRMA (Town Insurance) and the Governors Administration to determine what should/could be allowed. The information received was not favorable. It was further thought, since most firework displays have been cancelled, we might be overrun with people in addition to Town Residents. Because Berg Field area is quite small, we would not be able to handle the amount of people coming to watch. If people were to exit their vehicles, we would have no means to enforce our policy of – watch from your vehicle, and our Fire Department personal could be put in harms way. With this amount of people coming to an event, we would need to provide portable bathrooms and possible a police presence – another expense.
If people were to line the state road, we would need a state permit and since it would be a Town event, we would be responsible for any damage to residents lawns, etc. The State waives a bit on protocol, and since this is a month away, we could not be assured we would be in compliance with rules/regulations issued by the State. Since times are so uncertain at this point, perhaps we might be better served to wait and find a better time to hold this event so that the safety of our firefighters and Town residents can be assured.

Motion: Magi Winslow/Scott Levan - unanimous
To deny the request by the EHVFD to hold a fireworks display at Berg Field at the end of July, 2020.

Appointments:
2 Year Term – beginning July 1, 2020
Susan B Reinhard, West Hartland
James G Holcomb, East Hartland
Harlan Brose, East Hartland

Motion: Magi Winslow/Greg Sottile – Unanimous
As requested by Commission on Aging Chairman Beatrice Isabelle to re-appoint 3 members to the Commission on Aging:

New Business:
The gate is now open at the Town Right of Way at Hartland Pond in West Hartland. There have been continuing reports of trespassing, vandalism and verbal abuse reported by the residents at the Pond. In an attempt to control the flow of people going to the Pond and because the Town Right of Way is so small we will allow only our residents with Town Use Stickers to visit from the hours of 10am to 4pm. The gate will be locked promptly at 4pm. Since a sign is posted at that area with times and rules, anyone that has not exited by 4pm may be locked in. The State Police has advised us this would be the best way to handle this situation. Magi Winslow has spoken to the President of the Pond Association and the State Police concerning this matter. DEEP rules for swimming areas during the coronavirus will be followed, i.e., 6ft distancing with a clear walkway, no more than groups of 5(family) and masks when moving around. We will continue to revisit this situation, as tensions are very high.

The double primary scheduled for August and the Presidential Election scheduled for November will be held at the Hartland School Multi-Purpose Room. The usual polling place at Town Hall is not large enough to hold such an event with proper social distancing.

Motion: Magi Winslow/Greg Sottile – Unanimous
To adjourn the Meeting at 9:015p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Magi Winslow
Selectman