

KITTERY TOWN COUNCIL Approved Minutes

August 24, 2020

Remote Meeting

6:00PM

1. Call to Order

2. Introductory

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Roll Call

Councilors present: Charles Denault, Jeffrey Pelletier, Jeffrey Thomson, Kenneth Lemont, Cyrus Clark, Vice Chair Matt Brock, and Chair Judith Spiller.

5. Agenda Amendment and Adoption - None

6. Town Manager's Report

The Town Manager reported on: November Election, out of state registrations, annual goals update, and Keep Maine Healthy Grant round 2.

Upcoming Dates: Town Offices Closed for Labor Day – September 7, 2020

7. Acceptance of Previous Minutes

February 10, 2020 - Approved as amended, with the spelling of Jeffery Thomson corrected to Jeffrey Thomson.

March 2, 2020 - Approved as written.

March 9, 2020 - Postponed approval.

April 2, 2020 - Approved as written.

8. All items involving the town attorney, town engineers, town employees or other town consultants or requested offices.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. (080220-1) The Kittery Town Council moves to hold a public hearing on the TIF District Program.

The Town Manager gave an overview of the TIF District Program.

George Dow, 1 Bartlett Road Kittery Point, ME, Chair of the Economic Development Committee - Mr. Dow spoke in favor of the proposed amendment.

Bob Gray, 14 Manson Road, Kittery, ME - Mr. Gray had questions about the proposed amendment and asked the Town to hold off on the amendment until some sort of review is done to determine whether it is a good deal for the Town.

Will Pierce, 77 Crockett Neck Road, Kittery Point, ME - Mr. Peirce was not in support of the TIF Program.

The Town Manager and the Adam Causey, Director of Planning and Development addressed the concerns and questions of Mr. Gray and Mr. Pierce.

Moved by Councilor Thomson, seconded by Councilor Denault.

Motion Carried 7-0-0

10. DISCUSSION

a. The public may submit public comments in writing or via the Q&A feature of the webinar for the DISCUSSION agenda

George Dow, 1 Bartlett Road, Kittery Point, ME - Mr. Dow stated he was opposed to the proposed changes in the dog ordinance. Mr. Dow gave some examples of solutions he thought would help.

Christine Kelly, Kittery, ME - Ms. Kelly expressed her concerns to the proposed changes in the dog ordinance and wondered what suddenly prompted the changes. Ms. Kelly also inquired about the dog workshop and where to find it on the Town website.

Tamara Corcoran, 16 Norton Road, Kittery, ME - Ms. Corcoran stated she was opposed to the changes of the dog ordinance.

b. Chairperson will read written comments into the record.

The Council decided to save all of the letters and emails referring to the dog ordinance for the public hearing. Chair Spiller read the names of residents that sent comments. All of the letters and emails are posted online and are a part of public record.

Jason Canty, 49 Love Lane, Kittery ME - Mr. Canty expressed his concerns about traffic flow and parking in the Foreside and suggested the Dineen building would be a perfect opportunity to expand the existing municipal parking lot.

Heather Guptill, 4 High Pasture Road, Kittery Point, ME - Ms. Guptill wanted to know why the EOTW (eyes of the world). program was discontinued.

Anne Gilbert, 17 Park Avenue, Kittery, ME - Ms. Gilbert requested the Council begin work to develop a Code of Ethics and a Social Media Use Policy for its elected officials.

Gary Beers, 54 Lewis Road, Kittery, ME - Mr. Beers expressed his disappointment in the reading of Anne Gilbert's letter at the last meeting.

c. Chairperson's response to public comments

Chair Spiller stated that what prompted changes in the animal control ordinance is that over the years there have been reports of unruly dogs running across blankets, stealing food, disrupting picnics, along with dogs being bitten, people being knocked over and a child that has been injured.

Chair Spiller responded to Mr. Canty and stated that the Town Manager is working on some options for the Dineen properties and to stay tuned.

Chair Spiller responded to Ms. Guptill and said there is a gap childcare program for Kittery School students.

Chair Spiller responded by stating there was already a request for the Town Manager to put together a Code of Ethics and a Social Media Use Policy.

Chair Spiller responded to Mr. Beers and stated she did read all of Ms. Gilbert's letter, as well as gave Councilor Denault time to respond. Chair Spiller also stated that she did not tell the Council not to talk about the SRO decision.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

a. (080220-2) The Kittery Town Council moves to hold a Special Meeting Public Hearing on August 31, 2020 at 5:00pm at the KCC Star Theatre to discuss Title 6 - Animal Control.

Councilor Clark requested the date of the Public Hearing be changed since he will be unable to attend the August 31, 2020 Public Hearing.

Councilor Thomson moved to change the Public Hearing date to Wednesday September 9, 2020, seconded by Councilor Denault.

Motion Carried 7-0-0

12. NEW BUSINESS

a. Donations/gifts received for Council disposition

b. (080220-3) The Kittery Town Council moves to approve a renewal Liquor License application for Navy Yard Bar & Billiard, 182 State Road, Kittery.

Moved by Councilor Thomson, seconded by Councilor Pelletier.

Motion Carried 7-0-0

c. (080220-4) The Kittery Town Council moves to approve a Special Activity Amusement Permit for Navy Yard Bar & Billiard, 182 State Road, Kittery.

Moved by Councilor Thomson, seconded by Councilor Denault.

Motion Carried 7-0-0

d. (080220-5) The Kittery Town Council moves to appoint Councilor Clark along with Robert Guay Chair of the KCC Board of Directors to interview Maribeth Girard for appointment to the KCC Board of Directors, for a 3-year term to expire 12/31/2023.

Moved by Councilor Thomson, seconded by Councilor Pelletier.

Motion Carried 7-0-0

e. (080220-6) The Kittery Town Council moves to re-appoint Bryan Bush of the Kittery Port Authority for a 5-year term to expire 12/31/2025.

Moved by Councilor Thomson, seconded by Councilor Pelletier.

Motion Carried 7-0-0

13. COUNCILOR ISSUES OR COMMENTS

Councilor Clark – Councilor Clark asked for the public to more specific on the items they like or dislike regarding the dog ordinance.

Councilor Denault wanted to recognize the Police Chief and stated it was nice to see him in the field making traffic stops.

Councilor Lemont stated that he has had numerous complaints of vehicles speeding in town and said it was refreshing to see the presence of the Police with their radar equipment.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

15. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councilor Thomson to adjourn at 7:19 p.m., seconded by Councilor Pelletier.

Motion Carried 7-0-0

Submitted by Kim Tackett

Disclaimer: The following minutes constitute the author's understanding of the meeting. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information, the minutes are not intended as a verbatim transcript of comments at the meeting, but a summary of the discussion and actions that took place. For complete details, please refer to the video of the meeting on the Town of Kittery website.