

**VOLUNTOWN SELECTMANS REGULAR MEETING
April 28, 2020**

Meeting	The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held via Zoom on Tuesday, April 28, 2020. Ms. Hanson, First Selectman, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.
Selectmen Present	Tracey Hanson, Ronald Millovitsch, Mark Oulton
Town Officials	None
Approval of Minutes	A motion was made by M. Oulton/R. Millovitsch to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 14, 2020. Motion Approved.
Approval of Minutes	A motion was made by M. Oulton/T. Hanson to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on April 21, 2020. Motion Approved with one abstention R. Millovitsch.
Citizens Comments	None
Boards & Committee	
Public Works	The Public Works department started sweeping today.
Correspondence & Announcements	
Comcast	Comcast sent a letter stating there will be no discontinued service or shutoffs through June 30, 2020. Anyone who has been affected by the Coronavirus can apply for free internet.
Old Business	
Budget 20/21	<p>The major changes to this year’s revenue budget include a decrease to the ECS Fund in the amount of \$89,346.00, a loss of the Farmers Market Grant of \$8,231.00 and a decrease in investment income. The Town budget increase is \$52,398 and the school budget increase is \$63,526.00. The mil rate increase is .39 and the Selectmen plan on using the unassigned fund to cover the increase for this year. Other capital projects include tree removal, money for a roof for the library, additional paving and the Fire Department SCBA replacement.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Selectmen discussed a spending freeze on all new expenses to help increase the Unassigned Fund. Only expenses deemed necessary will be approved for all Boards and Commissions. The next fiscal year will be more difficult than this one and the Selectmen will have to investigate what cuts can be made.</p>
Budget Timeline	The Selectmen discussed dates to pass the FY 20/21 Budget. They would like to hold a Town Meeting on June 9, 2020. If a Town Meeting will not be allowed due to the Governor’s orders, then a Selectmen’s Meeting will be held on that date to pass the Budget. Ms. Hanson discussed with the Tax Collector and the Tax Assessor possible dates, and June 9, 2020 was the latest date that a budget could be held for the Tax Bills to go out by July 1, 2020. The bills need to go out on that date for residents to take advantage of the tax deferral program adopted at the last Selectman’s meeting. The tentative date for the Public Hearing will be May 26 th , 2020.
Motion	A motion was made by R. Millovitsch/M. Oulton to approve the FY 20/21 Budget as presented to go to the Public Hearing on May 26, 2020. Motion Approved.
New Business	
Memorial Day Parade	The Selectmen discussed the challenges with holding the Memorial Day Parade. The request for a permit has been sent out as well as a request for The CT National Guard to support the parade. We have heard back from the National Guard and they have declined supporting this year’s Memorial Day Parade.

Motion A motion was made by M. Oulton/R. Millovitsch to cancel, with regrets, the Memorial Day Parade for this year. Motion Approved.

Finn Beach The Selectmen discussed options on what to do for Finn Beach. If we are still under the Stay Home orders by the Governor, then there will be more people who could potentially be using the beach. They discussed limiting capacity at Finn Beach. The plan is to go forward with opening the Beach as of now with security. It was suggested to add it to the next agenda to discuss permits and capacity.

Plan for Reopening Town Hall Town Hall Staff has been discussing at the Monday morning meetings on how to reopen the Town Hall. Some of the challenges is how to limit access to employees' offices for people coming in. Some suggestions are to put gates in the doorways. The library director has heard from some libraries that they are using clear shower curtains to form a barrier between the desk and residents. Plexiglas would be more expensive. This would be the cheapest option. The Town Hall may have to provide masks to residents coming into the Town Hall who do not have a mask on. All workers will be required to wear masks when sharing an office with another worker or in the hallways. If they are in their office by themselves, they will not need to wear a mask.
The Town Hall will follow the State guidelines on how and when the Governor will allow businesses to reopen.
The Selectmen discussed whether a deep clean needed to be done before reopening. It was decided that the current cleaner has already been doing extra to keep the Town Hall cleaned so a deeper clean would not be needed.
The Town Hall will place a Drop Box on the Outside of the Town Hall for residents to leave any paperwork needed when the town Hall is not open.

Covid-19 Response The State has changed how local authorities are being notified on new cases of the virus. They are showing up on the State reports before Ms. Hanson is being notified. The last case that was reported for Voluntown was tested on April 4, 2020 but not listed under a case for Voluntown until this week.

Voluntown Small Business Report Ms. Hanson reached out to the Voluntown Economic Commission to help come up with ideas on how to support small business in Town during this time. They have suggested theme days to help promote local businesses. A page has been set up on the EDC website, www.voluntown.biz, that provides information to small business in town about COVID-19 changes and funding options.

Motion Mr. Oulton asked to add Zoom Town Meeting Security to the agenda. A motion was made by M. Oulton/R. Millovitsch to add this to the Agenda. Motion Approved.

The Selectmen discussed different options on how to make sure Zoom Meetings were secure.

Suggestions for Next Meeting –Finn Beach

Adjournment

Motion A motion was made by R. Millovitsch/M. Oulton to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved for distribution by:

Julie L. Zelinsky, Admin. Asst. to the BOS

Tracey Hanson, First Selectman