

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTPERSON'S MEETING

November 3, 2020
7:00 P.M.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Bill Thompson. Present in addition to Chair Bill Thompson and Manager Johanna Turner were selectmen Mike Dexter, Kent Burdin, Peter Martell, and Paul Zimmerman. Road Commissioner/Public Works Director/Fire Chief Jeff Libby was also present.
2. An advertised public hearing to elicit comment and questions on adoption of an updated General Assistance Ordinance and the related appendices was held. No one appeared to speak. It was moved and seconded to adopt the 2020 ordinance and the 2021 appendices A through D; Unanimous vote.
3. Motion was made and seconded to approve minutes of September 2020 minutes. Unanimous
4. Guests: Brad Deane and Gayle Worden from Community Fitness

Gayle Worden addressed the board and the manager regarding Community Fitness' request for a tax abatement. Gayle explained that she was told by the assessor that she needed to fill out a form in order to request tax-exempt status but she has yet to receive the form. The manager explained that there had been some difficulty finding the form necessary and that the assessor had been working on it. The complexities of achieving tax exempt status were discussed such as use of the property (income derived from rental activity) which exists outside of the mission of the non-profit, and the classification of the organization as not all non-profits are eligible to be exempt from property tax. Gayle understood these complexities. Board Chair Bill Thompson and Manager Turner informed Gayle that they would be speaking with the assessor the next day and would get back to her on next steps.

5. Manager Report – Town Manager reviewed with the board the latest financials noting that the anticipated revenues have been coming in and they town has not yet experienced a decrease due to the pandemic. In addition, expenditures remain as they should be at this point in time in the budget year. Next month the board will be presented with an updated draft budget to review and discuss. An update was given on the Keep ME Healthy grant extension – the grant has been extended until 12/11/2020; the manager has submitted and received a contract revision re-allocating some of the previously unused grant award so that the money can be spent. Manager informed that she is working along with the town's consultant, Angela Arno, to develop a pandemic response plan which will be helpful as we navigate the next few months and potentially see an increase in Covid-19 cases. An update was given regarding the Burgess Road – the road has been discontinued past the house but is a town road up until that point.

Streetlights – Town Manager updated the board as to communications between the manager and Natasha Raymond of CMP regarding converting the town's lights over to LED lights. If contracted through CMP this will be an no additional cost to the town and

will provide and significant decrease in the streetlight costs. This would require a 15-year agreement on the part of the town. The board would like more information about this. Manager Turner will reach out to Natasha to arrange a time to meet with her and will report back to the board at a future meeting.

6. Other Business

7. Having no further business, it was moved and seconded to adjourn at 7:56 p.m.

Select Board of Guilford

Clerk