

TOWN OF GUILFORD SELECTPERSON'S MEETING

May 19, 2020

The meeting was conducted via conference call due to the current COVID-19

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Bill Thompson. The manager stated that due to the current COVID-19 the meeting was open to the public via conference call. Present in addition to Chair Bill Thompson and Manager Johanna Turner were selectmen Mike Dexter, Kent Burdin, Peter Martell, and Paul Zimmerman, Road Commissioner Jeff Libby. Guests attending via conference call was Martha Ward.**
- 2. Motion was made and seconded to approve minutes of March and April 2020 minutes. Unanimous**
- 3. Balance Sheets were distributed and reviewed.**
- 4. Guests Scheduled: Jeff Libby; Public Works Director**
- 5. Correspondence: The manager had none to present.**
- 6. Old Business: There was none.**
- 7. Manager Report – Town manager provided the board a brief update relating to some efficiencies being created which will improve the function of the town's administrative operations. The hiring process for a part time clerk is underway and should be completed by June 1st. Discussions were held with the Piscataquis County Sheriff's Office as related to the Guilford Patrol and options for collaboration/coverage. No decisions or actions were sought at this time.**
- 8. The Manager provided an update on the current COVID-19 and the municipalities response. All town employees returned to working their regular schedule on May 4th. While all public buildings are still closed to the public, work is still being done. Public Works is busy working through their spring projects list, Town Office staff have been assisting taxpayers via phone, online and the drop box outside the town office. Both the town office and the library are waiting for barriers to be installed which will make for a safer re-opening. Plans for re-opening are under way but are being modified daily in response to the Governor's orders and the CDC recommendations. This work is expected to be completed in early June. The manager mentioned that the town has forgiven May's rent to the individuals leasing space in the C.H. Lightbody Building in effort to help those small businesses that are dealing with the virus.**
- 9. Town Meeting –the Manager discussed the implications of holding vs. not holding the annual town meeting, and reviewed MMA's guidance with the board. A discussion was held regarding the best way to safely conduct the meeting. A**

motion was made and seconded to hold the town meeting at the high school on June 22nd. Unanimous.

- 10. Paul Zimmerman, Chair of Piscataquis River Festival informed the board that the River Festival has been canceled for 2020. The fireworks company was contacted and generously agreed to refund the town's deposit. In addition, they would continue their 3-year contract/price starting in 2021. All vendor fees will be returned to the vendors with a letter of explanation. Sponsors of the River Festival will be contacted to see if they wish to receive a refund of the sponsorship or to have their sponsorship extended to next year's event. The cancellation has been posted to the festival's Facebook page and the town's Facebook page as well.**
- 11. Summer Rec. - The manager updated the board regarding Summer Rec programming. Due to COVID-19, Summer Rec has been cancelled.**
- 12. Abatement and Supplemental – An abatement and Supplemental bill was presented in writing from the Assessor for approval by the board. Property located at 306 Wharff Road was billed incorrectly due to a deed that was not processed accurately by the previous assessor. A motion was made and seconded to grant the abatement and issue the supplemental bill. Unanimous**
- 13. Approved liquor license renewal for the Red Maple with Zimmerman recusing himself from the vote with a stated conflict of interest.**
- 14. Road Study – Road Commissioner/Public Works Director Jeff Libby handed out the Road Study recently completed by Al Hodgdon. Jeff provided a brief introduction to the study and informed the board that he would be back to discuss the study further once the board had a chance to review it. This study will be a helpful tool as we consider future road/paving projects.**
- 15. Paving Projects for 2020 – Road Commissioner/Public Works Director Jeff Libby presented the board with a proposal for the paving projects that he along with the Town Manager are recommending for 2020. After discussion and a review of the paving budget a motion was made and seconded to have the Town Manager move forward with the paving projects as recommended. Unanimous**
- 16. Having no further business, it was moved and seconded to adjourn at 8:15- p.m.**

Clerk

Select Board of Guilford