



**Office of the Board of Selectmen  
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[www.newton-nh.gov](http://www.newton-nh.gov)

NEWTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
DATE: **WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2020**  
TIME: **6:00PM**  
CONFERENCE CALL

**PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

I. Call to Order

Chairman Burrill called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

As Chairman of the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Newton NH, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe or listen contemporaneously to this meeting which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are:

Utilizing Zoom Conference Call for this electronic meeting. All members of the Board have the ability to communicate during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone #646 876 9923. Meeting ID number is 9040457732. Or using the link provided here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9040457732>

We previously gave the notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, including how to access the conference call via phone.

If anyone has a problem, please email [BOSSecretary@newtonnh.net](mailto:BOSSecretary@newtonnh.net). In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled.

Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote.

Utilizing Zoom Video Conferencing was Chairman Matthew A. Burrill, Selectmen Lisa L. Gonyer, Kathryn Michaels, Town Administrator Nancy Wrigley, and Secretary Diane Morin. Utilizing Zoom Phone Conferencing was Selectmen Lawrence B. Foote, Charles R. Melvin Sr. The public session was videotaped. The public meeting minutes were transcribed and typed by Secretary Morin.

Other conference call attendees were Tina O'Rourke, Chief Alcaidinho, Trisha McCarthy, Terry Caswell, Pete Gagnon, Chief Jewett, and members of the public.

II. Scheduled Business

**A. Update – COVID-19 virus**

Chairman Burrill explained the reason for the meeting was to bring the Board and public up to date on guidelines to combat the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Mrs. McCarthy briefed the Board with new updates from the State conference calls that she attended.

Mrs. McCarthy reviewed the Statewide statistics for COVID-19 which included First Responders. The number of positive cases is up due to the increase in testing. The State is on a downward trend percentage wide.

She has emailed some flyers to Department Heads with information on the COVID-19 virus.

A new shipment of PPE's arrived in the State and they are working on distributing them to where they are needed.

The State is working on a plan for Lifeguards at the State Beaches so they can maintain social distancing.

There was an issue with a local establishment in Town that was not compiling with the Governor's Emergency Order. Our Emergency Management Director and Health Officer were involved in requiring the local establishment to compile with the guidelines.

The State recommends a log be kept that includes the COVID-19 questionnaire that employees fill out at the beginning of their shift. This will help protect the Town/City should a member of the public claim that they were exposed to the virus while interacting with a Town/City employee. The logs should be filed in a safe location.

Overtime rate for First Responders must be factored in when calculating the stipend amount.

Permits should be issued by Towns and Cities for outside dining in an area that was not previously designated as a seating area with reasonable conditions in place.

She reminded the public to not gather on the side of the streets/roads to watch the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 25, 2020.

Two new testing sites were established in Londonderry and Keene.

Private pools and beaches owned by associations can open but must adhere to the guidelines for gatherings and social distancing.

Restaurants are allowed to have a solo entertainer but no bands.

Town run summer programs and use of athletic fields should not open until the Re-Opening Task Force addresses this.

The State is working on allowing Boat Clubs to open. The concern is the proximity of docks to one another.

Opening of the State day beaches will be addressed by the Re-Opening Task Force. Town beaches can open if the local governing body believes it is safe to do.

Task forces should post meeting notifications and take minutes per RSA 91.

Primex has a document available to help with re-opening Town buildings. The State will issue guidelines that municipalities can follow for re-opening Town buildings.

Selectman Melvin stated that the number of positive cases in one long term care facilities was 50.

Selectman Melvin stated that Real Estate agents do not have to do their credits or have their paperwork notarized by Justice of the Peace. They can file and pay online.

Chairman Burrill thanked all the volunteers that have put the Memorial Day Parade together. And a special thank you to those who are taking time out of their day to be in the parade. The parade will travel through some of the main roads in Town on Memorial Day beginning at 10:am.

Monday, May 25, 2020, COVID-19 meeting is cancelled.

III. Adjourn

**Selectman Melvin moved to adjourn at 6:33pm. Seconded by Selectman Gonyer.**

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Morin  
Board of Selectmen Secretary