

TOWN OF NEWTON, NH

*Recreation Commission*

*2 Town Hall Road*

*Newton, NH 03858*

Date: April 20, 2020

Call to Order - 7:00 pm – this Meeting was a Conference Call.

In attendance – Chairman Rick Faulconer, Selectman Matt Burrill, Peggy Connors, Vanessa Burrill (Alternate), Scott Dole (guest)and Patricia Masterson (recording minutes). Chairman Faulconer appointed Ms. Burrill a Voting Member for this Meeting.

Approval of Minutes

**Ms. Burrill made a Motion to approve the Minutes for March 2, 2020, and Selectman Burrill seconded the Motion, which was unanimously approved. (Ms. Connors – aye; Ms. Burrill – aye; Selectman Burrill – aye; Chairman Faulconer – aye)**

Beach Sand

Selectman Burrill reported that the Governor has not yet determined guidelines for re-opening campgrounds or parks. The Recreation Commission will not have the sand delivered until the Governor authorizes re-opening.

Country Pond Beach Cleanup

Terex has contacted the Recreation Commission to see if help is still needed with the cleanup and spreading of sand at Country Pond Beach. We will contact them once we know about the re-opening. Ms. Burrill suggested closing the beach for a morning to do cleanup.

Lifeguards

Mr. Dole suggested that four lifeguards will be ideal for the beach schedule – two per shift (one lifeguard for a full day and two for half days). Two lifeguards indicated that they would like to return to the positions.

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Ms. Masterson will contact them and post Help Wanted ads on the Town website, Facebook, and the Eagle Tribune. She will also see if there is a possibility to post the ad in the high school newsletter. Mr. Dole, Mr. Faulconer and Selectman Burrill will review the ad before posting. A line will be added about adhering with the Governor’s guidelines on COVID19.

**Selectman Burrill made a Motion to buy advertising space not to exceed $200. Ms. Burrill seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously with no discussion. (Ms. Connors – aye; Ms. Burrill – aye; Selectman Burrill – aye; Chairman Faulconer – aye)**

Mr. Dole said that the lifeguards will need current certifications and training. They may also need new bathing suits and shorts. Most of the largest equipment was purchased last year, but Mr. Dole will check the lock box and the lifeguard shed to see if all equipment is in order. A new AED may be needed. Mr. Dole will check on the expiration date. The Town Safety Committee periodically checks all Town AEDs. A light pack CR is ideal at a cost of $1700.

Selectman Burrill said the Governor is considering a phased approach for re-opening. Lifeguards could be given a contingent offer and would probably have a two-week notice. He said he thinks it will be three to four weeks. Mr. Dole said that once we know when the beach can open, he can begin training.

Lifeguards were paid $13.53 per hour last year. The Recreation Commission discussed raising the hourly rate to $14.00 per hour if there is enough money in the budget. Perhaps new lifeguards will receive $13.53 per hour and returning lifeguards would receive $14.00 per hour. If the pay is raised to $14.00 per hour, the Board of Selectmen need to be notified. Mr. Dole will create potential budgets based on three lifeguards and four lifeguards. The Town Warrant Article was approved for $15,750.

**Ms. Burrill made a Motion to raise the rate for returning lifeguards to $14.00 per hour. Ms. Connors seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously with no discussion****. (Ms. Connors – aye; Ms. Burrill – aye; Selectman Burrill – aye; Chairman Faulconer – aye)**

Memorial Day

A discussion was held about how to commemorate Memorial Day if stay-at-home stipulations are still warranted. We may be able to hold a virtual commemoration with video of speakers saying the Pledge of Allegiance and sentiments. The Fire Department may be able to acknowledge the day with fire trucks throughout the main areas of Town. Chairman Faulconer suggested people sharing their photos of veterans on the Newton NH Friends group. The Recreation Commission will discuss this further at their next meeting.

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Adjournment

**Ms. Connors made a Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 8:00 p.m. Ms. Burrill seconded the Motion, which was approved unanimously with no discussion. (Ms. Connors – aye; Ms. Burrill – aye; Selectman Burrill – aye; Chairman Faulconer – aye)**

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE A CONFERENCE CALL HELD ON May 4, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Masterson, Secretary, Recreation Commission

Posted on 5/05/2020 Newton Town Hall and Official Town website www.newton-nh.gov.