



Office of
SELECTMEN
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***EMERGENCY STAFF MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2020
MEETING MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM, TOWN HALL***

Present: Selectman Frederick "Skip" Vadnais; Selectman Gerry Schwall, Selectman James Muri, Selectmen Michael Costello and Deborah Arruda, Interim Town Administrator

Also Present: Fire Chief Frank Barresi, COA Director Linda Sherman, COA Board Members, Deputy Police Chief Rossi, FB Insure Agent Mark Cuddy

Absent: Selectman Dave Perry

Roll Call Vote: Vadnais, aye; Muri, aye; Schwall, aye; Costello, aye. Vote 4-0

Call to Order at 9:30 AM.: The Board and the public participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

1.0) Consent Agenda

NEW BUSINESS:

Action Item #1:

Selectman Vadnais addressed the Board and the public with a three-step process to move forward in the wake of the fire at the Senior Center on Saturday September 12. We've gathered here today to exchange information.

- First, restore emergency support to Seniors (medical, health, heat/electric support, etc., set up Meal on wheels.)
- Second, actively look for a temporary location as it will take 2-3 years to rebuild.
- Third, rebuild senior center.

J. Muri, liaison to COA, asked Chief Barresi for update.

Chief Barresi reported that it is currently still considered a crime scene, and is being guarded. He is waiting for state Fire Marshall office to report back. Need excavator at site, and a dog. Building is off limits for now. Need original building plans. Coordinating with Police keeping site secure.

Linda (Linna) Sherman, COA Director, spoke of the most urgent needs for the Council on Aging:

- Meals on Wheels is most important
 - already spoken with Bristol Elders (Meals on Wheels) set up by weeks end
 - Perhaps use FD with table for food pick up
 - Will need refrigerator with freezer

- Open enrollment for Medicare Insurance is going on now, will need computer/desk space for Kim, Brad, and I to work from to help Seniors with this.
- S. Vadnais assigns duties to BOS members to execute.

J. Muri suggested temporary trailer- short term fix, which will perhaps take 2 weeks to set-up.

#1: Immediate Situation

S. Vadnais assigned G. Schwall to help set-up COA with a trailer and to choose a site for location.

- Will ask Mr. Cuddy, our insurance agent, for advice
- Possible sites were discussed for trailer (maybe use PB modular 2 rooms) for temp long-term set-up
- Need IT/Media director input as well for wi-fi connection
- best place that is assessable to residents
- Needs to be handicap accessible

J. Muri will work with Linna for immediate needs.

#2 Intermediate situation

S. Vadnais will work on intermediate solution for where the COA will operate out of in the interim.

#3 Permanent Solution

S. Vadnais assigned M. Costello to work on long term fix and demo

- Will need to go through State bid spec process so we would need to hire an engineer/architect, a clerk of works, and a Contractor. Use existing Municipal Building Committee to review this.
- M. Costello asked G. Schwall to work with him on bid process. G. Schwall agreed.

M. Costello should work with Building Committee and Interim Town Administrator.

M. Costello would like G. Schwall to help with paper work as time nears.

S. Vadnais specified that the trailer set-up does not need to come back before the Board as it is an emergency situation. Everything else going forward should be a decision of the Board. The Board agreed.

J. Muri asked for a review of losses.

Derek Rousseau, IT/Media Director.

- Had just deployed new computers last Wednesday, but not set-up yet, total loss.
- All data is saved at TH main drivee and iCloud. And 3rd party locations
- can set up quickly once temp building is found.
- need inventory of current situation will report back.

J. Muri tasked Derek to work on IT set-ups. J. Muri will work with Derek to restore files.

M. Costello-questioned Linna regarding hard files; maybe file cabinets can be retrieved for paperwork, Chief Barresi will follow up when area is safe.

Mark Cuddy supplied BOS with insurance coverage paperwork:

- blanket coverage \$16 M (subject to a \$2500 deductible), Fire is a covered claim.
- COA \$1.5 M building replacement cost
- \$500K personal property loss

Concern? Ordinance of law

Any upgrades needed to be compliant with building codes, covered, increase of costs, since coverage is covered. Any area that was not burnt is covered due to damage to building. Demo is covered.

-extra business expense \$500K to get set-up temp location "trailer?" etc.

Interim Town Administrator to look for plans in office. Fire Chief needs a copy.
G. Schwall suggested Chairman assign someone to work with insurance carrier.

M. Costello & S. Vadnais suggested Debbie to work with insurance adjusters.

Ron Whittemore, Council on Aging Board Member, of 21 Pond Street, asked can we salvage and reuse the sign on the front of the building?

Chief Barresi & M. Costello will try once they are allowed on site and store it to be used on new building, if possible.

G. Schwall all voting equipment was saved, it was stored at Town Hall after last election. Voting location for now is Palmer River Elementary.

J. Muri addressed need to relocate other activities hosted by COA building, including voting, BOS meetings.

G. Schwall will figure out where they will be held moving forward, but most likely the Town Hall Selectmen's Meeting Room.

Chief Barresi reported on the fire.

- Dispatched within 4 minutes at COA. Set-up immediately, thought it was covered but kept going
- Within minutes the building was gone- no fire stops, all open structure, no sprinklers.
- Out of water only 3-4 minutes, even with dry conditions
- Thank you to our mutual aid partners for their help
- No injuries, very thankful!
- Ladder truck did its job

J. Muri addressed need to post something on website to let people know the situation at hand.

Deputy Chief Rossi reported.

- Police have been securing site, detectives working with Fire Marshall
- Verizon had enormous damage to lines. Still need 2-4 days to fix.

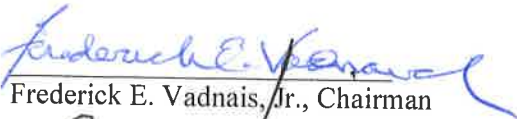
G. Schwall asked Debbie to have Town Accountant adjust October Spending Plan before Board votes on it tonight (include \$2500) per M. Deignan, Finance Committee.

S. Vadnais passed along that some groups in town who have reached out to offer help. American Legion has offered to help by offering their kitchen and the Baptist Church with their kitchen and meeting area too.

G. Schwall mentioned that Dr. Azar has sent email to S. Vadnais & G. Schwall in support of schools helping with kitchen.

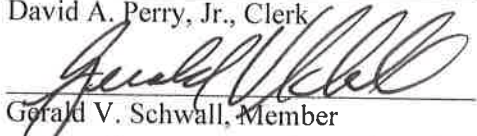
S. Vadnais this community always comes through. Thank you. There will be a Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen tonight at 7:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT: Selectmen J. Muri made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session Meeting at 10:15 AM., Second by Selectman M. Costello. Costello – aye; Muri – aye, and Schwall – aye, Vadnais – aye.


Frederick E. Vadnais, Jr., Chairman


James Muri, Vice Chairman

absent
David A. Perry, Jr., Clerk


Gerald V. Schwall, Member


Michael Costello, Member



Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy McDonough

Assistant to the Town Administrator

Approved:3/15/2020