TOWN OF EAST KINGSTON
EMERGENCY BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES

Wednesday, March 18, 2020 5:00 PM

Physically Present: Joseph Cacciatare, Selectman; Becky Merrow, Town Administrator; Ed Warren, Fire Chief; Michelle Cotton-Miller, Emergency Management Director; Laurie McCarter, Deputy Emergency Management Director;

Selectmen present via conference calling on “go to meeting:” Justin Lyons Selectman and Robert Nigrello Selectman.

Other’s present via conference calling: Paul Deschaine, Community Partner; Barbara Smith, Town Treasurer.

Joe Cacciatare called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM. There was a great deal of confusion at the start of the meeting over who was planning to report to the 24 Depot Road physical location and who would be calling in by telephone or video conference.

Chief Warren and EMD Cotton-Miller explained that the first Covid-19 case was positively diagnosed in the United States on January 20, 2020. New Hampshire is in a state of emergency and group gathers should be limited to under 50 people in NH. Restaurants and bars are closed to slow the spread of the virus. The Town of East Kingston Town Clerk/Tax Collector Office would like to follow the protocol of other State and Local agencies. They would like to close to “walk-in” or “foot traffic.” Necessary items which cannot be accomplished by the website would require an appointment. In drafting a “Unified Town Services Press Release,” the Town Administrator provided stock language to inform the public of East Kingston’s current approach.

As the discussion progressed on the draft, Selectman Lyons said that he would give the final copy to Becky Merrow, Town Administrator to disseminate. That would take place first thing in the morning.

The present “chain of command” was discussed. In times of an emergency, to whom and where should employees report? For example, the Town Administrator said that she normally reports to the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen but understands in a case where the Emergency Operations Center is open, she reports to the Fire Chief and EMD team.

Chief Warren said that CERT teams are not being deployed at this time.

The Town Administrator needed language for the library on the draft. Also seeking guidance on general assistance or welfare requests. Would the Town be relaxing any local welfare requirements during this crisis? Additional resources are available by calling 211.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Merrow

Justin B. Lyons       Robert L. Nigrello       Joseph M. Cacciatare
TOWN OF EAST KINGSTON SELECTBOARD AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, March 18, 2020
5:00 PM
NON-PUBLIC MEETING

EMERGENCY SELECTBOARD’S MEETING
TO DISCUSS AND ACT UPON ANY ISSUES RELATING TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

To discuss and act upon:

1) Closing East Kingston Town Office to the public
2) Closing other municipal facilities to the public
2) Any other Covid 19 issues

A motion to enter into Nonpublic Session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 may occur at any time during this meeting.

"Social Distancing" concerns:
For the 5pm meeting, please use this call in number and access code for this afternoon.

Justin's Go-To Meeting
Wed, Mar 18, 2020 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM (EDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/208071229

You can also dial in using your phone.
United States: +1 (646) 749-3117

Access Code: 208-071-229