



## ***Town of Panton Chartered 1761***

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Selectboard Zoom Meeting

April 14, 2020

Selectboard Member's present: Howard Hall, Teresa Smith, and Zachary Weaver. Also present was Town Clerk/Treasurer Pam Correia, Dave Sullivan, and Sharon Ashcraft.

At 6:34pm, Howard Hall called the meeting to order.

2. Additions, removals, or adjustments to the agenda - Teresa Smith noted that she would like to have an initial conversation about how the November election will potentially look. Howard Hall suggested discussing the upcoming November elections under the communications section of the meeting.

3. Teresa Smith moved to accept the March 2, 2020 Town Meeting minutes as written, Zachary Weaver seconded. All in favor, the motion passed. Teresa Smith moved to accept the March 10, 2020 minutes as written, Howard Hall seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

4. Public Comment - There were no public comments.

5. Appointment of Elected/Appointed Town Officers - Howard Hall noted that the Board would begin with the appointment of the appointed Town officers. He stated that Kirsten De La Cruz, Bob Hartenstein, and Annie Hopper are all interested in reappointment to the Development Review Board. Teresa Smith moved to reinstate Kirsten De La Cruz, Bob Hartenstein, and Anna Hopper all back on to the Development Review Board, Howard Hall seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

The Board continued with the appointment of all the candidates interested in being reappointed as the Emergency Management Coordinator, E911 Coordinator, Green Up Day Chair and Co-Chair, and the Town Health Officer.

Emergency Management Coordinator - Howard Hall moved to put Bob Groff back on as the Emergency Management Coordinator, Zachary Weaver seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

E911 Coordinator - Howard Hall moved to accept Paul Sokal as a reappoint to that position, Teresa Smith seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Green Up Day Chair - Howard Hall moved to reappoint Louise Giovanella as the Green Up Day Chair, Teresa Smith seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Green Up Day Co-Chair - Howard Hall moved to reappoint Paula Moore as the Green Up Day Co-Chair, Zachary Weaver seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Dave Sullivan joined the meeting.

Town Health Officer - Howard Hall moved to make Geoffrey Nelson again our Town Health Officer, Zachary Weaver seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

The Board followed with all of the candidates interested in being appointed to the unfilled elected Town Officer positions which include Lister, remaining one year of 3-year term; Lister, 3-year term; Town Agent, 1-year term; and Justice of the Peace. There were no interested candidates in the 3-year and 1-year Auditor position or the Town Grand Juror positions.

Zachary Weaver moved to make Sharon Ashcraft a Lister for the one-year, Teresa Smith seconded. All in favor, the motion passed. Teresa Smith moved for Kareena Vorsteveld to get a three-year term as Lister, Zachary Weaver seconded. All in favor, the motion passed. Howard Hall confirmed that although the Town now has three Listers, Assessor Lisa Truchon will remain on.

Howard Hall moved to nominate Alexandra Fogg for Town Agent, Teresa Smith seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Pam Correia explained that Janet Gibbs resigned from the Justice of the Peace position when she moved from Panton which created a vacant JP position. She added that the position will need to be appointed to fill the remainder of the 2-year term and will then need to be petitioned to be on the November 2020 ballot as the new term will begin on February 1, 2021. Teresa Smith moved to make Gary DiBlasio our Justice of the Peace, Zachary Weaver seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

6. 2020 Homeward Bound Contract Renewal - Pam Correia confirmed that Meghan Vorsteveld was elected at Town Meeting as the Dog Warden. The Board discussed Option 2 of the Homeward Bound contract which was the same option the Board chose last year. Option 2 offers a flat rate of \$600 with no charge per stray dog and no limit as to the number of stray dogs the Town may bring to Homeward Bound. Zachary Weaver moved to reinstate Option 2 for this year, Howard Hall seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

7. Extension of 2020 Dog License Renewals - Pam Correia explained that by State statute all dogs must be licensed by April 1st of each year but given the current situation not everyone is able to get into the Town office to register their dogs. With many concerned about late fees, Pam noted that she has been advising those dog owners that were not able to get their dogs registered by April 1st to just get their dogs registered at this point and don't worry about the late fees for now. The Board discussed extending or waiving the late fees altogether for dog registrations this year as the late fees are insignificant for the less than 100 registered dogs in Town. The Board understands that under the circumstances, it is much harder right now to get things done and believes it is feasible to push back the dog licenses and see how it goes. Zachary Weaver moved that because of the stay at home guidance, we will push dog licenses back to July 1st without penalty this year, Teresa Smith seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

8. Review/Approval of Accounts Payable Warrant & Timesheets - The accounts payable warrant, timesheets, and February financials were reviewed.

Discussion followed about how to handle Selectboard approval of timesheets while holding meetings through teleconferencing. The Board concluded that any Selectboard member can look at the timesheets later and are under the assumption that they are probably correct; therefore, briefly discussed authorizing Pam Correia to sign them on behalf of the Board. Zachary Weaver moved to say with the Board's authorization Pam will be signing the current timesheets, Howard Hall seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

The Town's bank account balances, current outstanding Tax Anticipation Note, and the upcoming payment of school education taxes was discussed due to the current pandemic situation. Howard Hall moved to accept the February financials as written, Zachary Weaver seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Pam Correia advised the Board that the accounts payable warrant included a payment of \$520.68 to Rouse Tire Sales for tires on the 2019 truck and would like permission to use funds from the Tire Fund to cover the expense. Howard Hall moved to move the money from the Tire Fund to the General Fund to pay Rouse's Tire, Zachary Weaver seconded. All in favor, the motion passed. Pam asked the Board for a voice vote as well as an email from the Board to approve the March 24, 2020 accounts payable warrant in the amount of \$29,404.73 and the April 14, 2020 accounts payable warrant in the amount of \$13,620.20. The voice vote was Teresa Smith-yes; Zachary Weaver-yes; and Howard Hall-yes. Zachary Weaver stated that he will send an email stating that both sets of accounts payable warrants are approved by the entire Board via the Zoom 4/14/2020 meeting.

9. Communications - The Board briefly discussed the status of zoning permits. The Board briefly discussed the upcoming November election in relation to how to make the voters comfortable when voting. A few of the ideas were social distancing, providing pens for each voter, and encouraging absentee voting. In response to the current situation, Howard Hall advised that the Town is on a waiting list for the Town parking lot to become a hot spot for WiFi. Howard updated the Board on how the Town employees are working. The Board briefly discussed the proper way for notification of meetings and noted that the three posting places in Town along with on the Town website are sufficient. The Board noted that the Town often goes above and beyond and posts meetings on Front Porch Forum as a courtesy and is a good way to keep in touch, but the Town is also doing a lot to keep the public informed; therefore, the public should make an effort to reach out to get information on their own as well.

At 7:38pm, Teresa Smith moved to adjourn the meeting, Zachary Weaver seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Correia  
Town Clerk/Treasurer