

TOWN OF SEABROOK

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

Present: Ella M. Brown
Aboul B. Khan
Theresa A. Kyle
William Manzi

6:00PM

Mrs. Brown opened the meeting at 6:02PM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jim Deshaies retired from the police department having served the town for 3 decades. Jim also coached the youth in our town. Mrs. Brown read the certification into the record. Jim Deshaies gave a speech on his service to the town and feels a great deal of gratitude to the town for giving him the opportunity to serve the town.

Certificates were given to the 250TH Anniversary Committee for their service. Mr. Khan spoke a little about the committee and how hard they worked for the past 2-1/2 years.

Russell Prescott, Executive Councilor read a proclamation from the Governor to the Town of Seabrook on its 250TH Anniversary.

Mrs. Brown said she would also like to the people who are not present but that helped in the background to get this event completed.

Special commendations were given to the individuals who helped with the beach incident. Mrs. Kyle read the commendations that were given.

MONTHLY MEETING - WATER SUPERINTENDENT

Curtis Slayton was present for his monthly report (see attached).

Curtis Slayton is recommending the board lift the voluntary water restriction.

MOTION: Ella M. Brown
Second: Aboul B. Khan
Unanimous

To lift the voluntary water ban as recommended by the water superintendent.

Mr. Khan asked about the land acquisition of Pineo Farms. Curtis Slayton said the town manager has been in conversation

with the land owner but he has not asked for any updates at this time.

MEETING - BEACH CONCERNS

Mr. Manzi said the selectmen are here to take input. They will facilitate an orderly meeting by taking input after identifying yourself. There will be no interaction with each individual as time will not allow. The board will give any comments they have at the conclusion of the public input.

Debbie Tomaszewski asked if the board could read the memo that they received from the town manager. She said a group of people came together to offer a proposal so this never happens again. The group met with the lifeguards at Hampton Beach who would be willing to staff our beach with trained lifeguards. She said we don't even have a flag system in place to give anyone warnings as to what dangers they are facing with the water on any given day.

Matt Tomaszewski who went into the water that day to help with the rescue said he is not a professional and could have used some help that day. He hopes that the board looks seriously into this as it should never have happened and should never happen again.

Mr. Tomaszewski said his son is a hero! He said his wife was the first female lifeguard at Salisbury beach and earned an award for saving 13 people so she knows what she is talking about and should be listened to. The first responders were the people on the beach who helped with the rescue not the officers who had not made their way to the beach at this time.

Mr. Tirone spoke and said he lost his two best friends that day and thanked everyone that assisted in the rescue. He hopes that the selectmen take this seriously as it has happened here and it can happen again. For someone who has been on the beach every summer for over 20-years he was not aware of the dangers of rip tides. He now understands a lot more about it today.

Vikki Sawyer stated that the only reason for lifeguards at Seabrook beach is for safety.

Ann Ripkin who is the aunt of Matt Tomaszewski, and also a lifeguard at Salisbury beach, said for someone who is trained to do the rescues do just that but for others they freeze. She also recommends they seriously consider lifeguards.

Stanley Saber has seen many incidents at the beach and selectmen have always made false solutions to make the beach safer.

Sue Manzi said the emergency telephone calls were made too late. She said the system should be used beforehand to notify people of the dangers of the water any particular day. The flag system would be better than the signs entering the beach. She said the police and fire first responders should be available at the beach during the summer season especially on holidays and weekends.

Bridgett Shaheen said she has witnessed five fatal drowning's at Seabrook beach. The ocean is getting worse as time goes on and this will happen more often. She supports the request for lifeguards on the beach as well as the flag system.

Patrick Knott has pulled people from the water and said this is one of the worst years for riptides that he has seen. It is not the responsibility of the people on the beach to watch out for other users and fully supports having lifeguards on the beach.

Mr. Khan said the last time it was approved to have lifeguards on the beach was in 1986 and rescinded in 1987 as there was no funding. Since he has been on the board no one has come before them requesting lifeguards that the board has said no to. He said the main concern of the governing body is the funding but it has to go before the voters who have the final say. Mr. Khan asked what the plan was if it didn't get approved as nothing would be able to be done until the next election. He said it is very painful knowing that two deaths occurred on our beach. It is not an easy road but the town manager will bring a recommendation to the board.

Mrs. Kyle said she feels pain for the family and thanks everyone for being here tonight to discuss the issue. She can assure them that this board will work to address the concerns. Mrs. Kyle said they need to remember this is a private beach so they do not get funding from the state as other towns do, so they really need to look into this to see what can be done.

Mrs. Brown said she agrees with Mrs. Kyle and this will not be let go by this board as they will work to come up with a solution.

Mrs. Kyle said they have excellent first responders and they do their jobs very well so she would ask that they not insult our departments as they are doing the best they can with what they

have. Mrs. Kyle said she is also for the substations for police and fire at the beach.

Bridgett Shaheen commented on the private beach status and hiring of lifeguards. Mr. Manzi said there is no prohibition on hiring of lifeguards but the funding would be local only there would no state funds.

Acting Chief Brett Walker said he prepared a memo to the board with his recommendation which is to hire lifeguards. The best resolution would be to outsource the hiring and training of the lifeguards and it comes down to the matter of funding.

Fire Chief Bill Edwards agrees there should be lifeguards which would make the beach safer. He agrees with Mrs. Kyle that the departments cannot handle the situations they are faced with the current staffing and equipment the departments have. He said the departments need their help with voting in March.

Mr. Khan said they are exploring two different options of how to bring the first responders some help with water rescues or the hiring of lifeguards. He would like to request the town manager bring a recommendation to the board at the second meeting in October. His only request is that if the funding does not pass they have an alternate program for volunteers. Mrs. Kyle feels he needs more time to put this together as it is a very serious issue. Mr. Manzi said working with the chief's and departments, and knowing the severity of the issue, they could have something to the board in October.

Frank Leone said this is the only town that does not have paid parking and if we did it would bring in additional revenue. Mrs. Kyle said she believes that money goes to the state and once you start taking money from the state they will come in and start telling you what to do with your beach. The question is how much do they want to give up on their beach.

Mr. Manzi said there are currently two boats in police control that he would recommend they turn over to the fire department. The fire chief has requested a mooring and he is recommending they approve that request. Chief Edwards said he requested the mooring as a start to having a water rescue program not knowing that the police department had two small boats. He feels this is a start for them in this area. He feels it is more of a fire department rescue then police but feels they should be cross-trained in case they are low on manpower. Mr. Khan asked if the two boats are in working order. Chief Edwards said once they

are under his department he can look into what type of condition they are in.

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To transfer the boats to
Second: Aboul B. Khan the fire department per
Unanimous the town manager's
recommendation.

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To grant the request to
Second: Aboul B. Khan the fire department for
Unanimous the mooring.

Board took a 5-minute break at 7:29PM. Board reconvened at
7:48PM.

PREVIOUS MINUTES - JULY 27 PUBLIC

MOTION: Ella M. Brown To adopt the minutes of
Second: Theresa A. Kyle 7/27 public.
Unanimous

PREVIOUSLY SIGNED PERMITS

Board tabled and will take up at the next meeting.

DISCHARGE OF TAX SALES - 270 PORTSMOUTH AVENUE

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To approve and sign the
Second: Ella M. Brown discharge of tax sales.
Unanimous

MS-232

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To approve and sign the
Second: Theresa A. Kyle MS-232.
Unanimous

MS-535

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To approve and sign the
Second: Aboul B. Khan MS-535.
Unanimous

WATER SERVICE APPLICATIONS

- Robert Johnson - 25 River Street - \$100
- Dale Tuccelli - 142 Garden Street
- Joseph Balsamo - 35 Atlantic Avenue - \$100
- Jon & Lisa Rosato - 7 Virginia Lane - \$100
- Bruce Brown - Brown Avenue Lot 30 - \$50

Furmer Souther - 79 Fogg's Lane - \$800

Furmer Souther - 81 Fogg's Lane - \$800

MOTION: Ella M. Brown To approve and sign all
Second: Theresa A. Kyle water applications with
Unanimous exception of 142 Garden
Street unless the water
superintendent comes in
and signs off.

SEWER SERVICE APPLICATIONS

Dale Tuccelli - 142 Garden Street - \$150

Jon & Lisa Rosato - 7 Virginia Lane - \$150

Bruce Brown - Brown Avenue Lot 30 - \$150

George Filippone - 16 Janvrin Drive - \$150

Furmer Souther - 79 Fogg's Lane - \$150

Furmer Souther - 81 Fogg's Lane - \$150

F.W. Webb - 115 Lafayette Road

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To approve and sign all
Second: Ella M. Brown sewer applications.
Unanimous

RELEASE OF CAPITAL ASSETS - POLICE DEPARTMENT

Acting Chief Brett Walker said there is 4 pieces of military equipment be released as it is in disrepair and they can no longer maintain it. These would either go back to the military or to another government agency but not to a civilian.

MOTION: Ella M. Brown To approve the request
Second: Aboul B. Khan to release the capital
Unanimous assets.

Kevin Gelineau attended the FBI academy in Quantico for 10 weeks and thanked the board for recognizing it.

PROCLAMATION - SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

MOTION: Ella M. Brown To approve and sign the
Second: Aboul B. Khan proclamation.
Unanimous

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Mr. Khan said they all received a memo from the State DOT to remove a yellow light at Collins Street. Mrs. Kyle said she has not seen the memo and does not feel comfortable discussing something she is not familiar with. Mr. Khan explained that when the DOT looked at the light they decided to take it out

completely unless they hear from the town. He feels it is appropriate for the town manager, board of selectmen and the police and fire chief's to send a letter hold onto the light.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To have the town manager
Second: Theresa A. Kyle send a letter to not act
Unanimous on the light until the
board can look into it
further.

Mr. Manzi said they had a meeting with the dredging project from the Army Corp. and is pressing for Seabrook & Hampton to come up with some sites for the sand. There are some concerns where it will go and Hampton has some valid points. He believes the smaller dredge task force has been assigned to Friday but he will confirm tomorrow and can then distribute the information to the board. Mr. Manzi believes they need the memo first and hopes they will have it tomorrow which will give them options to consider. Mrs. Kyle thought they would have it at the beach as those are the people who have to deal with it.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To adjourn the meeting
Second: Theresa A. Kyle at 8:09PM.
Unanimous

Approved and endorsed

Theresa A. Kyle, Clerk

Date: _____