

**TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN – SELECT BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 26, 2020, 6:00 PM  
VIRTUAL MEETING**

Chair Abramson convened the open meeting at 6:00 pm noting the following:

Select Board attending: Chair David Abramson, Vice Chair Robert Anthony, Members John Golden, Lise King and Louise Venden

Excused:

Other attendees: Town Manager Robin L Craver, and Select Board Secretary Elizabeth Paine

Recorder: Elizabeth Paine

**NOTE: THIS IS A REMOTE PARTICIPATION MEETING**

**The Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Provincetown Select Board will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the Provincetown website, at <https://www.provincetown-ma.gov/>. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to watch/listen and participate in the meeting may do so in the following manner:**

1. Watch on PTV GOV Channel 18, as well as an online livestream of PTV GOV at <http://www.provincetowntv.org/watch.html>
2. To listen and participate in this meeting, dial **(833) 579-7589**. When prompted, enter the following Conference ID number: **642 713 019** When prompted, state your name, then press #.
  - Keep your phone muted at all times when not talking
  - Do not use speakerphone
  - Do not use Bluetooth devices
  - Mute all background noises
  - Mute PTV on the television or computer and use only the phone audio
  - Please do not speak until the chair or the meeting moderator asks for public comments or questions.

**No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted**, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the Provincetown website an audio or video recording or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

The May 26, 2020, meeting of the Provincetown Select Board is about to be convened. As a precautionary measure to reduce the spread of coronavirus, all Town buildings are closed to the public; therefore, this meeting will be held by remote participation. My name is Robin Craver, Town Manager I will begin by taking a roll call for quorum.

Chairman David Abramson: Here

Vice Chair Robert Anthony: Here

John Golden: Here

Lise King: Here

Louise Venden: Here

*Consent Agenda – Approval without objection required for the following items:*

*A. Declaration of School Surplus Equipment*

*B. Appoint Monica Stubner as a regular member to the Planning Board with a term to expire on December 31, 2022*

C. *Issue Bond Anticipation Notes in the amount of \$3,682,675.00 with a net interest cost of 1.1506% dated June 5, 2020 and due June 4, 2021.*

**Member Venden requested 00C be pulled from the consent agenda. Without objection Chair Abramson waived the reading of the consent items 00A and 00B and without further objection declared the consent agenda approved.**

00C - Issue Bond Anticipation Notes in the amount of \$3,682,675.00 with a net interest cost of 1.1506% dated June 5, 2020 and due June 4, 2021.

Member Venden – there is no delineation of the funds. Were they approved for FY20 or FY21?

Robin Craver – these are bands that have been approved from 2013 – 2018 at Annual Town Meetings. I can send the report to the Board with the breakdown.

**MOVE that the Select Board vote in the manner described on the succeeding page to issue Bond Anticipation Notes in the amount of \$3,682,675.00 with a net interest cost of 1.1506% dated June 5, 2020 and due June 4, 2021.**

**Motion: David Abramson**

**Second: Louise Venden**

#### **Roll Call Vote**

**David Abramson – Aye**

**Robert Anthony – Aye**

**John Golden – Aye**

**Lise King – Aye**

**Louise Venden - Aye**

#### **1. Public Statements – Three (3) minutes maximum. Select Board Members do not respond during public statements**

- **Mary Jo-Avellar** – understand that there's controversy among members of the board of health and the health department about the public continuing to wear masks. Masks are essential. I think that it's up to you as, as the elected officials of our town, to make sure that masking continues until we know it's safe to not do so.
- **Allison Dwyer** – I'm a resident. I'm the coordinator of the province town, uh, covert 19 taskforce and I'm speaking on behalf of them tonight. We are obviously in supportive math since we've had our mass campaign and handed out over 4,000 masks to date.
- **Maureen Travis** – I would be, I am very uncomfortable when I pass people on commercial street not wearing masks. It scares me frankly, and I think that people my age and people who are older than I am would be reluctant to come to P town simply because people are doing things that we, most of us consider to be dangerous.
- **Pat Miller** – president of PPRTA. I want to thank the select board members and the town manager on behalf of myself and for making efforts to have part-timers feel welcome and safe and Provincetown, uh, and to hit a restart button as was voiced by the town manager at a recent meeting. it pains me to say what I'm about to say. Which is in the middle of a pandemic while this is happening, and I'm glad the town moderator was just, uh, just on the phone there. We see David Panagore application once again for an alternate on FINCOM. As you may recall, there are two part time or applications pending, and I say this because there's been overtures. Saying that port tremors can have a voice in common is a great place for a voice. Two applications of impending cause they can see has been there for over for over a year. Mr. Panagore was appointed. It took a part timer to say he was not eligible and now all of a sudden, while we're all dealing with a pandemic and the economy and where to part-timers fit in here, we have this application again. Two part-timers, one changed her residency so that she could vote here. Why? Because the town moderator said that despite what the people voted for to allow part-timers to sit as all to this, she only wanted voters, so I part time or changed. Did she get an interview? No, neither one of the part-timers got an interview. The only applications pending did not get an interview. Great big middle finger to that applicant.

- **David Panagore** – I was actually calling in. To compliment the town manager and the recovery, uh, advisor group on their solid work. And my hope that the board of selectmen and the town can find a way to endorse, um, what they've put forward. I think it's comprehensive. I think it's a good plan. Um. I do not believe that public comment to be a place where personal attacks should be allowed by the chairman of the board of selectmen or character assassination. If there are questions regarding appointments, they should speak about the appointing authority rather than cast dispersions on any individual who is a voter and a member of the community who's willing to serve
- **Cynthia** – I'm a year-round resident who's over 70 healthy for now and I'm concerned about the question of whether masks are going to be required in town. I agree with the task force wholeheartedly that a nine to nine. Uh, requirements are not making that much sense. And I also think that not having but having geographic parameters doesn't make sense. I've been following what's going on. And other communities in the city of Somerville has placed a requirement that people indoors and outdoors in public spaces wear masks at all times. One of the things that I really found. Heartening was that they said they're picketing. So, this is our last resort, but we do have public health, public health first.
- **Laura Logan** – Yes, this is the third time I've spoken about the ambiguity of the mask wearing. Um, when you say that's nine to nine on commercial street, it gives people a very full, um, opinion about when you should wear a mask. If you wear a mask, you need to wear them on Bradford street. You need to wear my Shang painter road. You need to wear them on commercial street. People do not do well with ambiguity. Nine to nine, and I think it's been shown, uh, again and again, people don't know where to when to wear masks. If 85% of the population wore mask, we would be able to STEM the pandemic.
- **Francie Randolph** – I am the founding director of sustainable Cape based in Truro, and we've worked diligently for the past two months with a mass department of agricultural resources, um, to support the development of guidance for farmers markets as well as from the office of health and human services. I just wanted to talk briefly about the community benefit of farmer's markets. We've done a tremendous amount of work, and what we're really focused on, the reason that we bid for this market, we do run the market in Truro, as well as children's gardens and gardening programs and in the Provincetown schools, as well as for 1200 kids across. The Cape, but we want to, increase local food access for all socioeconomic levels. We want to offer a nutrition incentive programs for those on snap WIC, seniors and veterans, which are programs that we already run. We are very interested in supporting small farmers and fishermen and strengthening our local economy. We would like to create a more resilient and diversified food system. We want to educate about preventative health and wellness. And we want to provide an Avenue to develop relationships directly with food suppliers. So, um, in order to offer this to strong local food supply and enable farmers to continue to grow, harvest and market. Safe and healthy local fruits and vegetables, fish and meats, and more.
- **Jess Drake Cook** – Running the Market this summer. I just wanted to say like a little bit about, um, how we're going to end up doing the market this summer and, um, we are implementing that preorder system that Frankie was just talking about. We're going to be blocking off the entire market space. With one entrance and one exit. It's all one directional traffic flow, like so many places are doing. There's going to be a limit to the number of customers within the space, and we've created a snaking queue line with posts and rope for customers to wait in while they're. Picking up their orders. So, a lot of work's been done to pull this off and um, we're just excited to keep it going, keep the market going during the critical time we're in, especially around food security and bringing the, bringing it all to the market.
- **Don Murphy** – I only have a couple of weeks comments to share. First, I'd like to congratulate the town manager and the fine job she's doing and its difficult leadership situation. It's not easy, and she seems to be. Doing the best anyone could possibly do. I'd like to address the mask issue. I think, too, to back away from the policies that have been established and the need for mass would be a very serious mistake to this community and should not even be considered with regard to commercial street. I hear some indications that, yeah. People are thinking about turning commercial streets into a mall. I hope there's a four minute or a situation like this doesn't resolve in a consideration or any action that does any such thing. Thank you for your time.
- **Shira Kavon** – I wanted to echo all the comments that have come before about masking, um, and about keeping the mask mandate in place. I think that we got wonderful buy-in over this past weekend with people who were day tripping to town, et cetera.

- **Jennifer Cabral** – I just wanted to chime in with what everyone is saying. I guess the rumors are flying and I probably helped them fly along there. There's a lot of concern that the masking situation is that you might go to revert to the governor's order. I just wanted to put in my 2 cents that I think that we had such great compliance this weekend, and last week that so many people are wearing masks. It feels like people are really taking it seriously. And I hope that that is part of our, our real thing strategy. I'm sure it will be. I would be for extending it if he felt the need to, but I would like to keep it as it is or stricter rather than revert to the governor's order. I not, especially for the idea of blocking parking on commercial street in the East end, I've a few local people have said that that would be, not great for them. So, I would prefer not to do the park, not to block the parking. I'm sorry, I'm in the car right now, so I'm having a hard time concentrating. I believe that, blocking off commercial street would be probably some, a good plan for the nighttime. I'm sure that's all in your coalition presentation tonight.
- **Donna Walker** – I wanted to call and say, thank you for all the work that a Select Board is doing and the Town Manager and also town employees who have worked, I think diligently to try and keep us safe. A question about the masks and, I don't want to go over what other people have said because I think I'm certainly in agreement, but I do want to ask if the select board, does have an opportunity to clarify, the wearing of masks.
- **Myra Slotnick** – I really believe mass should be worn on. This is a deadly virus. And people are carrying it. The more people that come here, the more dangerous it's going to get for the people who live here.
- **Bernice Steisel** – I want to thank you for all the wonderful work you're doing, and I want to, secondary thing that Myra said so eloquently, so I hope we get less ambiguity and be less ambiguous about mass.
- **Kathy "Reno" Brouillet** – I agree with previous speakers that we should have masked 24 hours, seven days a week.
- **Mike Cerruti** – I also agree that the mask messaging is a bit confusing for people, especially for tourists, and would really ask you to consider expanding math throughout the town.
- **Christy Shaw** – You hear a lot of comments from a lot of different people, you're not going to make everybody happy. But you know, it does show that right now. I agree with the comments that by wearing masks, it's really what it's come down to be.
- **Jeannette de Beauvoir** – I'm also concerned about masks, but I also wanted to bring up the proposal to close or to remove parking a commercial street on Friday nights from six to 10 during the summer, so that there's more space apparently for a gallery stroll. It seems to me this is an invitation to get people to not do social distancing. Many of the galleries served wine during that time, which doesn't help with people taking precautions. And I just hope that you've thought this through completely because it sounds dangerous to me.
- **Nathan Harkins** – I think that the States face mask rule is sufficient.

## 2. Select Board Member's Opening Statements – (Votes may be taken)

- **Robert Anthony** – I just want to reach out to our fellow board members as we go to tonight's meeting and also one Thursday's meeting. We have a lot on our plate, and I know we're going to, try to do the right thing in regard to the decision making. We have to be prepared and make allowances for this community to come alive again, but we have to do it safely. And that's what water health is all about. To make sure that we do it safely, safely for the business, safely for their employees, safety for any, any tourist that comes to town. We really must think about that and actually do something about it in regard to the public safety aspect of it. I agree with most of the callers that the nine to nine is very ambiguous.
- **Lise King** – I would like us to all take a step back and take a look at the way we're visioning our future here in Provincetown. Much of the discourse has been framed in the country and trickling down to us here into an either-or proposition, a choice between health and economy. I would like to have us look at this as a reframing that we can do both and we need to do both. I would argue then many other places, our residents, year-round and part timers and our small business owners are our neighbors. We all together form the unique and wonderful tapestry and texture of this town and we all together form the culture and what makes it a wondrous place for us generation after generation. I think everybody, we can all agree that we hold these values together, that to keep our town live both physically and economically, we need to see ourselves as the interconnected ecosystem that we are and the decisions we all make tonight and in the coming days and weeks, we'll set the stage for us and the resilience of our community will depend on all of us working together for the good of the collective. I really look forward to the results of the

hard work of the coalition and to our gradually opening our town for a calm and safe summer season, whatever that means. I hope and pray that we can all come together and get behind good ideas and be open to out of the box thinking and be open to each other's ideas and not just to knock things down because it sounds crazy when it first goes out.

- **Louise Venden** – I am so grateful for the people who have called in. There is clear direction from the public, and certainly from the community survey as well on our mask policy. We know what needs to be done. We know what efforts have been made in other places, whether it's South Korea or California where they have imposed much stricter guidelines sooner and enforced them that that's what we need to do. I am concerned because the sense of urgency that we have not had about having specific direction for people who live here, people who work here and people who have businesses here has left us the walking worried. In my three years on the Select Board, I support an open, a more open and public process for moving through the recommendations about being flexible about some of the licensing and zoning guidelines. I believe we need to do things that are reasonable and that are aired in the public about how we use various sections of commercial street and how we allow businesses, art galleries, shops, and restaurants to expand this, the way in which they provide their services and goods. And I believe that we need to do that fairly soon and discuss because it's clear that people are coming here, and they will continue to come here because it is a safe place because they love Provincetown. So, I am hoping we will have more specific guidelines, more specific proposals and more ideas about what materials and goods have been procured, signage and how to pay for additional help.
- **John Golden** – You don't want to hear a lot from me. It's unfortunate that the rumors started about this mask thing. We took up a lot of time with phone calls that were. A majority of the board voted in favor of masking on commercial street. It's been working wonderfully. Not a hundred percent, but it's, it's working very well. And to rescind that would have been ridiculous. It's unfortunate that the rumor got started by somebody, and then, we spent almost an hour dealing with, the public outrage because of that. But I guess that, you know, got 87 people listening to the meeting. I am really interested to hear about the coalition because that's where this meeting was supposed to go. Let's get on with that. Thank you.
- **David Abramson** – The recovery coalition has done excellent work. I appreciate all the people that have given up their time to be part of that and also to town staff for all the work they've done. Given that the governor had just issued his guidelines last Monday May 18<sup>th</sup>. The fact that they were able to take that information and try to turn it around, so we have stuff to act on this week. Tonight, we'll be hearing a lot about what the suggestions and ideas are. Tonight, will be the time to debate about it and think about it. We don't need to make votes tonight. That's why we're coming back on Thursday. It will also give us some time to think about it and get comments from people we know and in the community. Thursday will be the full community survey report.

### **7:08 pm. Board of Health called to Order**

**Stephen Katsurinis – Here**

**Susan Troyan – Here**

**Janet Whelan – Here**

**Elise Cozzi – Here**

**Kalliope Chute – Here**

**Irv Morgan – absent**

**Christopher Hartley – Here**

### **3. Joint Meeting/Presentations/Requests - (Votes may be taken on the following items):**

#### **A. Joint Meeting with the Board of Health**

##### **a. Governor's Guidelines for Municipalities – Update from May 25<sup>th</sup>.**

Town Manager Robin Craver talked to the Boards about the changes that are now in place with the Governor's reopening 4 phased reopening plan. Each of the phases will last about a minimum of three weeks before going to the next phase. The Commonwealth will partner with industries to draft sector specific protocols in advance of each of the phases. Phase 1 suggests



working from home as much as possible, priority consideration for work accommodations. Phase 1 still has a size limit for gatherings, and all travelers coming to Massachusetts are urged to self-quarantine for 14 days. The lodging is restricted to essential workers, only houses of worship were able to start on May 18<sup>th</sup>. I know that many of our houses of worship are reviewing their practices and making decisions on when they want to open. As the chairman had talked about at the last meeting, businesses are going to be a self-certification. Each of the sectors have their own guidelines that they will be required to meet. Business are able to open with restrictions and some capacity limitations. Essential businesses were allowed to continue but need to bring their practices up to the standards for the guidelines, office space is limited to 25%, limited personal services such as hair, pet grooming, car washes on the outside, and retail, remote fulfillment and curbside pickup. The state has convened a restaurant in hospitality work group. They were convened on the 15th of May and they're developing procedures for opening when they open in a phase two. On May 18th hospitals and community health centers, they will be able to expand the care that they're giving at this time. Originally beaches were open only for transitory activity with no parking now at this point, the beaches, parks, drive-in theaters, some of the athletic fields in court, many outdoor adventure activities, fishing, hunting, boating, outdoors, garden, zoos, reserves, and public installations, are all allowed. As of May 25th, again, they need to look at their sector guidelines and fulfill those and self-certify that they're able to start. More details can be found on the Town of Provincetown's website as well as the State website.

Board Member Venden asked for a copy of the guidelines to be sent to the Board Members.

**b. Recovery Coalition Final Report**

- i. Social Distancing and Use of Town Property/Transportation**
- ii. Temporary changes to Regulatory Board procedures and approvals**
- iii. Social Services Subgroup Report**
- iv. Communications Plan**
- v. Enforcement Discussion**

Town Manager Robin Craver gave a brief history of how the Town of Provincetown has handled public safety and health of the community during this pandemic. She spoke about the formation of the Recovery Coalition from the health, social services and business sectors of town. The recovery coalition's mission statement was to engage representative stakeholders of the major sectors to advise the province town manager in the development of plans that will facilitate the operation of town in its businesses to serve residents and visitors while maintaining the health and safety of everyone during the summer and fall of 2020. The Provincetown recovery coalition members were asked to engage the community, gather information from their engagement, and then create a series of recommendations to present to the Select Board, the Board of Health and other regulatory committees to decide on the best path forward to open our town. For outreach effort, we had several sectors; health and science, business, public safety, social services, and town staff. The group tried to cast a wide net to be able to get as many voices into the mix as possible. It's important to remember that the health and safety of our community includes balancing the public safety and health of everyone with the health of our town's economy, health, safety, and the economy all play important roles in varying degrees and at varying times. And in the overall health of the community. Town Manager Craver presented procedures and policy changes the Coalition suggested as well as a communication plan, enforcement guidelines, closure of certain areas of Commercial Street to accommodate better social distancing and an ambassador program.

Emergency Manager and Transportation Coordinator informed the Select Board on the changes to the parking department including changes in the new parks system, parking kiosk and lot changes as well as increase safety amongst town staff to reduce human to human contact.

Select Board Member Lise King request in future, there are more breaks in presentation to allow for questions as a lot of content was presented. Member King also request more information from the staff on the case number that would create the need to shut down the town. Is the town creating some sort of mapping that shows what a safe volume of visitors in town are and what is the criteria being used to slow things down?

Select Board Member Louise Venden questions were, are there draft guidelines for businesses to use in establishing sanitation standards, social distancing and enforcement of board of health orders? Are there, will there be a public meeting with business

owners and the general public to address their concerns? Will we see those or is the board of health as it is entitled to do and pose them without Select Board review and approval. Commercial Street closure is very limited. What is the rationale when other proposals have been given? Would like more supporting data.

The Select Board discussed with staff their concerns with taking away parking on Commercial Street and controlling the way of traffic. The Board of Health discusses with the Select Board scenarios determining who is here and what levels the Town could handle.

Assistant Town Manager David Gardner spoke to the Boards about Business Subgroup of the Recovery Coalition initial recommendations for regulatory relief for businesses being considered such as seating area requirements, outdoor display of merchandise, limitation on temporary structures, setback requirements, parking regulations, signage restrictions and tents. The Board of Health is waiting for direction from the Governor's office and once those are received will be returning to the Select Board.

The Select Board and Board of Health discussed when staff thought they could see these orders being implemented. ATM Gardner explained that a lot of these suggested wouldn't be possible without legislative changes by the States, so they are waiting to see what the Governor's orders will be.

AIDS Support Group President and CEO Dan Gates and Helping Our Women Gwynne Guzzeau presented the Social Services Subgroup recommendations. These recommendations include providing the public with access to support through resource guide, radio ads and kiosks around town. The Social Services Subgroup also worked to identify the primary point of contact for referrals to other agencies and asked for fund to be devoted to emergency workers, block grants, food and nutrition programs. The Group also hoped to be able to conduct outreach and engagement with the marginalized communities that live or work in Provincetown.

The Select Board and Board of Health thanked Mr. Gates and Ms. Guzzeau on their excellent presentation.

The Messaging and Communication overview was presented to the Boards by Tourism Director Anthony Fuccillo and Leslie Sanborn. There will be a three coordinated communication plan; communication plan to create public awareness campaign for Provincetown implementation of Governor Barker's reopening plan, communication and marketing plan for approaching tourism and Crisis Communication support for town emergency plans. The communication will be to continue to focus on keeping the public safe and will include all federal, state, regional and local health and safety mandates in campaign. The Tourism Department has engaged a media specialist who will provide guidance as necessary. Currently has the "Hope" campaign in place and the next steps will be to hold a joint meeting with the Visitor Services Board and the Select Board to talk about visioning going forward.

Select Board Member Lise King would like to add improvement of technology to the messaging campaign as well as destigmatizing asking for help.

Select Board and the Board of Health spoke about how important communication to the public is.

Board of Health Chair Steve Katsurinis discussed with the Boards enforcement of these orders and the roles of the Board of Health, Health Department and Police Department. The Board of Health and the Health Department are the first line of enforcement and making sure the public knows the guidelines and the mechanisms for enforcing those rules.

Police Chief Golden spoke about the Police Department's role in community policing; stressed that education was key. First and foremost, individuals should take steps that they feel will keep themselves and their family safe.

Select Board and the Board of Health thanked the Police Chiefs for his report and attention to the details.

### **c. Public Health Policy Options**

Health Director Morgan Clark presented the public Health Policy Options recommendations from the Public Health working group. The purpose of the presentation is to allow the Select Board and Board of Health prepare for Thursday meeting. As a reminder, this is an ever-changing landscape. HD Clark presented a variety of topics such as; banning certain large attractions, bus tours, street performers, public or semi-public showers, saunas, or steam rooms, indoor entertainment, shared bathrooms, self-service food and outdoor smoking areas that the Boards should take into considerations.

**d. Presentation on Authorities**

Town Counsel John Giorgio reviewed with the Boards the various options the Board of Health would have to protect the public health and the jurisdictions of the enforcement. He also reviewed the Select Board purview and staff purview during this crisis.

Select Board Member Lise King asked if the Town had jurisdiction on Route 6.

TC Giorgio – Route 6 is a State Highway, but the Town is responsible for maintenance.

**e. Discussion, make clear decisions will be made on Thursday’s meeting**

**4. Town Manager’s Administrative Update**

**A. Staff Biweekly updates**

**5. Minutes - (Votes May Be Taken)**

**A. May 4, 2020 5 pm**

**B. May 18, 2020 6 pm**

**6. Select Board Closing Matters - Topics to Include but not limited to: (Votes May be taken on the following items)**

**A. Pending Items List**

- **Robert Anthony** – Thanked everyone for putting together the presentation
- **Lise King** – Thanked everyone for their hard work.
- **Louise Venden** – Urge the town to come up with more specific orders and time frames to impose the implementations and enforcement.
- **John Golden** – I’m all set.
- **David Abramson** –

Board of Health recessed at 10:39 pm

Without objection the meeting was recessed at 10:40 pm

Minutes transcribed by Elizabeth Paine