

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER
SELECTBOARD / SEWER COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF EMERGENCY MEETING
MARCH 16, 2020

Draft

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 am by Lynne Bertram, Chair.

Present: Norman (Nope) Martin, Brian Bontrager, Vicky Young and Nancy Robinson

Lynne reported that she had a phone conversation with Sheriff Chamberlain this morning indicating that due to the COVID-19 virus and safety concerns, the deputies were no longer going to preform speed stops unless the violator was going dangerously fast, but would continue to be present in town and respond to safety events. Being present but not writing tickets for the foreseeable future would impose a large financial burden on the town. After much discussion and consideration; Brian moved that a letter be drafted and sent to the Sheriff stating that the limitation of services imposed by the Sheriff's Department warrants suspending all services temporarily in the Bridgewater Community effective immediately. Nope seconded the motion and motion carried. A letter was drafted and emailed to the Sheriff.

Also discussed was a letter sent to the town from Attorney Barlow outlining recommendations and actions that the board could act upon during this coronavirus outbreak. One of which was to move that any one or all of the board members would be authorized to sign expense and payroll warrants outside of a meeting for the next 2 months; to be revisited at that time. Lynne moved the above action which was seconded by Nope and carried.

At present time, board will continue to hold scheduled meetings, but will conduct only necessary business and will follow social distancing guidelines.

Town office will continue to be open regular hours but with limited services while adhering to safety precautions. Nancy will post a notice outlining open office procedures on website and at post offices.

Discussion of cancellation of rabies clinic that was scheduled for March 21st. due to virus. Most towns are extending dog licensing due date to end of April or May 1st. Nancy asked the board to extend the due date to April 30th and that any late fees be waived during that period. Nope moved to extend the deadline as requested. Lynne seconded the motion and motion carried.

Being no further business, motion was made and seconded to adjourn meeting at 5:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Robinson

Nancy Robinson,
Clerk