

## MINUTES OF SELECT BOARD MEETING

Hope Select Board

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

6:30 PM

Hope Town Office/Zoom

*View the meeting in its entirety at*

[https://townhallstreams.com/towns/hope\\_me](https://townhallstreams.com/towns/hope_me)

### **Board Members Present:**

- Sarah Ann Smith, Brian Powers Jr., Thom Ingraham, Bruce Haffner, and Amy Gertner

### **Others Present:**

- Samantha Mank, Amy Powers, Chris Sewall, Ellie Goldberg, Liz Drury, Creighton Drury, Langley Willauer, Elizabeth Tibbets, Regina Rooney, Olivia Powers, Paul Smith, Dick Crabtree, Sandie Sabaka, Molly Luce, Adrian Humphries, Nancy Ford, Jim Guerra, Willow Hall, Grammie Morse, and iPhone

### **Call to Order:**

- The meeting was called to order by Sarah at 6:32 PM

### **Public Comment:**

- None

### **New Business:**

- Resignation of Town Clerk and Staffing Discussion: The Town Administrator read the Clerk's resignation aloud. The resignation was effective immediately on September 28<sup>th</sup>. In the meantime, the Town Administrator sent out a message on the Listserv for Maine and Town and City Managers Association explaining the staffing situation in Hope. So far, the Towns of Windsor, China, Morrill, and Somerville have sent employees to assist with the day to day work. It has been an amazing outpouring of support. In addition, The Town Administrator applied for a Covid-19 Grant and was awarded \$5,000 to off set the additional costs associated with the election.
- Ratify Appointment of Interim Town Clerk, Tax Collector, and Registrar of Voters: In the wake of the sudden resignation, Sarah as Chair of the Select Board administered the oath's of office to the Town Administrator on Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, in order to ensure the Town was in compliance with the law and was able to continue conducting daily business. Tonight, the Select Board can ratify that appointment. Brian made a motion to ratify and appoint Samantha Mank as the Interim Town Clerk, Interim Tax Collector, and Interim Registrar of Voters. It was seconded by Amy.

**Motion passed 5-0**

**Old Business:**

- None

**Other Business:**

- Bruce wanted to discuss some election protocol. People with fevers and other Covid-19 symptoms should not be allowed in the building on election day. Perhaps they should vote outside.
- Sarah would like at least two Select Board members present when the polls have closed to watch and see how each step in the process is handled.
- Thom spoke with Julie Flynn and found out that we could order a ballot drop box through the Secretary of State's office and the state would pay from 80% to 100% of the cost.
- The Select Board set the Public Hearing date for October 13, 2020 at 6:30 to discuss the items on the municipal ballot.

**Executive Session:**

- Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(C) - Hardship Request: Brian made a motion to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(c) at 7:28 PM. It was seconded by Amy. Thom voted to enter executive session. But because he attended remotely, he will not participate in this evening's executive sessions.

**Motion passed 5-0**

- Action from Executive Session: Brian will speak with Vern.
- Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(A) – Personnel Matter: Brian made a motion to enter executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S. §405(6)(A) for a personnel matter. It was seconded by Amy. **Motion passed 4-0**
- Action from Executive Session: None

**Adjournment:**

- Brian made a motion to adjourn at 8:52 PM. It was seconded by Amy. **Motion passed 4-0**