FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN Tuesday, April 14, 2020

The meeting was conducted through remote access by telephonic, video, and electronic means. The public was able to attend by viewing the livestream at http://mtbluetv.org/program-live-stream-farmington-selectmen.html or Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/MBTV11/ and/or calling 778-5874

Chairman Joshua Bell called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Michael Fogg, Matthew Smith and Scott Landry. Stephan Bunker participated remotely as authorized by PL 2019, c.617. Town Manager Richard Davis, Code Enforcement/Planning Officer Steve Kaiser, Town Secretary Nancy Martin, and the Mt. Blue TV camera operator were also physically in attendance.

Votes were taken by roll call.

ITEM 1: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Chairman Joshua Bell led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ITEM 2: To Hold a Hearing to Determine whether the Structure owned by the Estate of Ted Gay, Located at 130 Wilton Road, on Lot 27, Map U-31 of the Current Tax Maps of the Town of Farmington, Maine, on file at 153 Farmington Falls Road, is Dangerous or a Nuisance within the Meaning of 17 M.R.S. §2851 and to Decide whether to Order Abatement of said Nuisance by Demolition and Removal of said Structure

Richard Davis provided a copy of the proposed Findings and Order dated April 14, 2020. Mr. Davis stated that the Findings and Order document was reviewed by counsel.

Chairman Joshua Bell opened the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:32 P.M.

Code Enforcement Officer Steve Kaiser reviewed the history and background material pertaining to this matter. Mr. Kaiser provided photographs which were taken during an inspection of the building on November 15, 2019.

There being no questions or comments from the public. Chairman Joshua Bell closed the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:40 P.M.

Scott Landry moved to declare the structure located at 130 Wilton Road dangererous and a nuisance, and to order abatement of said nuisance by demolition and removal of said structure; Matthew Smith seconded.

Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Stephan Bunker: Yes, Michael Fogg: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes

VOTEAFFIRMATIVE5MOTION CARRIED

The Selectmen signed the Findings and Order.

ITEM 3: To Award the bid for a Riding Mower for the Parks and Recreation Department

Richard Davis provided a copy of the Request for Proposal dated March 25, 2020 and a memo dated April 8, 2020 from Matt Foster, Director of Parks and Recreation, with the tabulation for the three riding mower bids received. The recommendation is to award the bid to Hammond Tractor of Fairfield, Maine for a John Deere Model Z960M60.

Mr. Davis stated that the source of funds is the Parks and Recreation Equipment Reserve account, which has a current balance of \$22,421.

Matthew Smith moved to award the bid for a riding mower to Hammond Tractor of Fairfield, Maine at a cost of \$10,344; Scott Landry seconded.

Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Stephan Bunker: Yes, Michael Fogg: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes

VOTEAFFIRMATIVE5MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 4: To Approve a new Road Name (Lindy Lane)

Richard Davis referenced a memo from Cindy Gelinas, Planning Assistant, dated April 6, 2020. Michael Fogg inquired about the Town's criteria for naming a road. Mr. Davis stated that it cannot be an existing name, or too similar to an existing name because that becomes confusing to first responders. And the Town does not allow names that are too "cutesy", because those street signs are often stolen, and it gets very expensive replacing them.

Michael Fogg moved to approve a new road name of Lindy Lane; Matthew Smith seconded.

Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Stephan Bunker: Yes, Michael Fogg: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes

VOTE AFFI	RMATIVE 5	MOTION CARRIED
-----------	-----------	-----------------------

ITEM 5: To Approve the Minutes of March 24, 2020

Matthew Smith moved to approve the minutes of March 24, 2020; Scott Landry seconded.

Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Stephan Bunker: Yes, Michael Fogg: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes

VOTEAFFIRMATIVE5MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 6: To Discuss Other Business

- **A.** Richard Davis stated that the Town Office continues to do business for the people of Farmington, and they seem to appreciate having the staff available on a rotating basis to answer their questions and guide them to the services they need. Town employees are maintaining proper social distancing and hygiene.
- **B.** Richard Davis informed the Selectmen that once it is determined safe to hold the Town Meeting, the decision of when to do so will be added to the agenda as an item of discussion. Mr. Davis stated that the primary election was postponed until July 14th, and that might be a target date for the Town Meeting.
- **C.** Stephan Bunker stated that he shares the Town Manager's optimism, and we will get through the COVID-19 Pandemic. Mr. Bunker credited the staff for finding different ways of doing business and keeping up with the responsibilities we have for the general public. Mr. Bunker affirmed that we will see our way through this pandemic; we just need to hunker down and follow the recommended personal practices so that we do not have a recurrence.
- D. Michael Fogg thanked the Town for taking the COVID-19 pandemic seriously and reacting in such a positive manner. Mr. Fogg stated that, as he travels around town he sees that almost everyone is taking this situation very seriously as compared to those often seen on television who are not taking the social distancing seriously and continue to gather. Farmington appears to be doing an excellent job, and he hopes this keeps our experience with this virus at bay.
- E. Matthew Smith and Scott Landry both stated that they too are very proud of the people of the Town of Farmington and the manner in which they are conducting themselves through this pandemic.
- F. Scott Landry expressed concern about a gentleman sleeping downtown. Richard Davis stated that he would follow up with Chief Peck and ask if this situation has been reported and how it is being handled. Mr. Davis stated that the homeless shelter was cleared out because social distancing could not be maintained in the facility. Mr. Davis stated that if someone needs help the Town will assist them.
- G. Joshua Bell informed the Selectmen that the Franklin County Budget Committee Caucus will convene via conference call on April 20th at 5:30 P.M. Richard Davis agreed to email a copy of the letter with specifics to the Selectmen.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Matthew Smith moved to adjourn at 7:00 P.M.; Scott Landry seconded.

Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Stephan Bunker: Yes, Michael Fogg: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	5	MOTION CARRIED
------	-------------	---	----------------

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nancy L. Martin.

Michael J. Fogg - Secretary