TOWN OF EAST KINGSTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN AGENDA

MONDAY, May 2, 2022 – 6:30PM

Attendance: Board of Selectmen, Joe Cacciatore, Chair; Rob Caron; Town Administrator, Grace Ruelle; Police Chief, Mike LePage; Road Agent, Mark Brinkerhoff; Code Enforcement Officer, Kip Kaiser; Town Engineer, Dennis Quintal; Town Planner, Julie LaBranche

Remotely via Zoom: Bud Staples

**Mr. Cacciatore called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm**

**Mr. Cacciatore took role call: Rob Caron – present; Joe Cacciatore – present; Bob Nigrello – absent**

**Mr. Cacciatore made a motion to go into nonpublic due to 91-A:3, II (c ) reputation. Mr. Caron seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

SIGN DOCUMENTS:

#1. AP Check Register: 4/21/2022 - $36,222.30

**Mr. Cacciatore made a motion to accept the AP Check Register of 4/21/2022 for $**36,222.30**. Mr. Caron seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

#2. Payroll Register: 4/29/2022 - $59,631.48

**Mr. Cacciatore made a motion to accept the Payroll Register of 4/29/2022 for $59,631.48. Mr. Caron seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

#3. Police Special Detail: 4/13 – 4/20/2022 - $1,997.50

**Mr. Caron made a motion to accept the Police Special Detail of 4/13-4/20/2022 for $1,997.50. Mr. Cacciatore seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

#4. July Tax Warrant

Mr. Cacciatore read in full the Tax Warrant. Ms. Ruelle explained that is it the first half tax bill.

**Mr. Cacciatore made a motion to accept the July Tax Warrant as read. Mr. Caron seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

#1. Infrastructure Grant presentation – Town Planning Consultant

Ms. LaBranche presented a new grant opportunity for the Town. She explained that the grant provides dollars for infrastructure projects related to culverts, bridges, drainage systems, etc. In the process the Town has to provide information that they are able to attain a loan of $100,000.00 to be eligible for consideration. She also stated that it is a lengthy application process and the deadline for this year is June1, 2022. Ms. Ruelle requested the involvement of the Town Treasurer for more financial guidance and input.

**Mr. Cacciatore made a motion to accept the July Tax Warrant as read. Mr. Caron seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

#2. Code Enforcement – Brandywine Complaint

Mr. Kaiser presented the next step in the process for the complaint regarding Brandywine Drive would be to send a Notice of Violation via certified mail and/or Police hand delivery to the homeowner outlining the infractions and the fees that could be associated.

**Mr. Cacciatore made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Code Enforcement Officer as outlined. Mr. Caron seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

Mr. Kaiser asked if he should take the same action for the current complaint concerning Rowell Road. Discussion ensued around the compliant between the Board and Mr. Kaiser.

**Mr. Cacciatore made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Code Enforcement Officer as outlined. Mr. Caron seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

#3. Waste Management Contract Increase

Mr. Staples joined remotely and outlined the discussion from the Solid Waste Committees meeting that took place in April. There was a letter sent to the Committee from Waste Management requesting an increase in contract services. During the April meeting with the committee, Waste Management requested a 5% increase in cart fees and a 5% increase for tonnage. The Solid Waste committee negotiated and through mutual discussion they agreed upon a 2.5% increase and a 3% tonnage rate increase.

Town counsel reviewed that request and noted that he believes they have outlined the need for the increase appropriately and stated that they have seen this type of request in many surrounding Towns.

It was stated that this would be an increase for 2022 only, and that this increase does not affect the rates of the contract for 2023 or forward.

**Mr. Cacciatore made a motion to accept the increase for Waste Management. Mr. Caron seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

Mr. Staples stated that they need to accept the recommendation from the committee for the increase as it was less than the original request from Waste Management.

**Mr. Caron made a motion to amend the previous motion and accept the recommendation from the Solid Waste committee to increase the rates for 2022 only. Mr. Cacciatore seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor. Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

#4. Animal Control – bills from 2020

Ms. Ruelle presented the Board with the invoices from 2020 that were received in the mail. The discussion commenced on how these will impact the current budget. Mr. Cacciatore stated that he would like to speak to the Animal Control officer and gather more information.

No action taken at this time.

#5. Accolade invoice – Approval to withdraw from CFR “Town Owned Buildings”

Ms. Ruelle presented to paid invoice to the Board and explained it was for the mold remediation at the Pound School. This initial discussion was to use the Capital Reserve Fund for the Town owned buildings to cover the costs associated.

**Mr. Caron made a motion to withdraw the funds from the Capital Reserve Fund – Town Owned Buildings in the amount of $5800.00. Mr. Cacciatore seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

#1. New Appointments: Zoning Board of Adjustment

# Planning Board

**Mr. Cacciatore made a motion to accept the new appointments for the Planning Board as presented. Mr. Caron seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

**Mr. Cacciatore made a motion to accept the new appointments for the Zoning Board of Adjustment as presented. Mr. Caron seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

# FOLLOW UP ITEMS:

#1. Radar speed sign quotes

Chief LePage presented the Board with the three quotes that he has received for a mountable battery powered radar speed sign.

Traffic Logic: $3,124.00

Tapco: $3,433.95

Marlin Controls: $3,450.00

Discussion continued around how the signs work and where they can/should be located.

**Mr. Cacciatore made a motion to table this discussion. Mr. Caron seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

#2. Veterans Exemption – MBL 08-02-07/48A

Ms. Ruelle presented the new paperwork for the Veterans Exemption provided by the Assessor.

**Mr. Cacciatore made a motion to accept the Veteran’s Exemption as approved by the Assessor. Mr. Caron seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

#3. Public Hearing Reminder – Thursday, May 5th 6:30P Pound School

Mr. Cacciatore read aloud the Public Hearing notice that was published and mailed to abutting residents.

#4. Mr. Brinkerhoff discussed fuel consumption, cost of plow truck tires, cost of drivers. Mr. Brinkerhoff shared concerns about the rising cost of fuel. The state has a fuel surcharge program. More discussion. Mr. Caron asked for his recommendations? Mr. Brinkerhoff asked if the town could follow the state’s fuel surcharge program. Ms. Ruelle said there are 2 issues: 1. fuel cost/fuel surcharge 2. Road Agent Salary- Mr. Brinkerhoff shared that his is the biggest immediate issue. Mr. Brinkerhoff said the next issue is plowing.

**Mr. Cacciatore made a motion to use the state’s fuel surcharge program for the highway department. Mr. Caron seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor. Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

**Mr. Cacciatore made a motion to go into a nonpublic session due to 91-A:3, II (c ) reputation. Mr. Caron seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

**Mr. Caron made a motion to come out of the nonpublic session and rejoin the public meeting at 8:47pm. Mr. Cacciatore seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

**Mr. Cacciatore made a motion to adjourn at 8:48pm. Mr. Caron seconded. Mr. Cacciatore and Mr. Caron were in favor, Mr. Nigrello was absent.**

Meeting minutes prepared by LeeAnne Miller

Approved 7/25/2022

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Joseph M. Cacciatore Robert A. Caron Robert L. Nigrello