

**ACUSHNET BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 20, 2020**

I. OLD BUSINESS

The Board of Selectmen met for an emergency meeting to discuss COVID 19 and listen to the employees and make a remote policy plan (if decided).

Chairman Cabral participated remotely as the Board previously voted the remote participation policy

- Selectman Gaspar motioned to open the meeting and Selectman Desroches seconded, all were in favor. They discussed the overview of departments and the workflow, at the time everything is always changing. The Town should have a plan, encourage social distancing, stagger hours so employees are not working together, end the Tuesday 7:00 p.m. for the time being and keep it at 4:00 p.m. Employees have to be willing and able to come to work, if they are not, then they would be required to use their time whether it be sick, vacation or personal. Those that can work from home during this time it would be great for those personnel to have remote access. At this time the residents have access to government services such as paying bills online, leave payments in the lock box and keep employees safe. Each Department is expected to complete all regularly scheduled work, including essential functions as listed on their Departmental Remote Action Plan form. The Department Heads will provide weekly update reports to the Town Administrator to confirm their progress and indicate any challenges they may be facing. The Town Administrator will discuss all expectations with each department at the onset of this Remote Action Plan. As each department has a varying level of essential functions and essential personnel, the amount and type of work completed will fluctuate accordingly.

These arrangements are expected to be short term, and the Town of Acushnet will continue to monitor guidance from health officials and the need for remote work arrangements. The Town of Acushnet may require employees to return to regular, in-house work at any time.

Selectman Gaspar motioned to endorse the 30 day plan as presented w/ remote action, Selectman Desroches seconded and all in favor.

Town Clerk inquired about any thoughts on delaying town meeting, there are a lot of components that make up the town meeting and this is taking time, meetings are being canceled so this is something to think about. The Election should not have to be postponed but that is another question as time goes on.

The Board of Selectmen canceled the Tuesday, March 24th meeting to be cautionary, and will revisit the Town meeting postponement.

Jim Marot Building Inspector asked question about a verbal agreement to Kearsage since we are canceling our meeting, Kearsage would like to know what are the Board's intentions. The Board said conceptually they are on board and want to reap the benefits. As of this meeting Town Counsel is reviewing the document.

The Board also discussed the Planning Board and hearings they have pending if they do not meet would come across road blocks by 90 days, it was discussed to check with town counsel and see what avenue they have during this state of emergency.

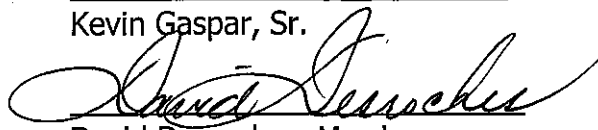
Chief Gallagher told the board that during this unchartered territory this is the time for leadership and this is when the leaders lead and the town is being led well. This is the time for personal protective equipment and those supplies are getting low we don't want to lose staff due to not having masks. Looking for businesses to donate.

Selectman Gaspar motioned to adjourn, Selectman Desroches seconded and all were in favor. Motion passes.

Adjourned: 11:45

Roger A. Cabral

Kevin Gaspar, Sr.



David Desroches, Member
BOARD OF SELECTMEN