



P. O. Box 121
Cotuit, MA 02635

Minutes
Executive Board Meeting, Tuesday, June 2, 2020, 7:00 PM
On-Line Meeting via Zoom

Present: James Dannhauser, Tom Burgess, Natalie Spence, Len Carter, Chris Gargiulo, Lallie Lloyd, Mark Lynch, Mike Scanlon, Mark Stranberg, Carol Zais

Absent: Seth Burdick, Chris Cohoat

Guest: Jessica Rapp Grassetti, Town Councilor

Call to Order: Jim Dannhauser called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Business Meeting:

1. **Condolences:** Jim Dannhauser expressed his regret that Rosa Babcock, wife of long time Board member Bill Babcock, had recently passed away while at the Cape Regency Nursing Home. For Members wishing to write a note to Bill, his address is PO Box 27, Cotuit, 02635.
2. **Secretary's Report:** On a motion made and seconded, the Secretary's minutes of the Executive Board meeting of May 5, 2019 were accepted as written.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** On a motion made and seconded, the Treasurer's report to May 31, 2020 was accepted as written.
4. **Precinct 7 Report:** Jessica Rapp Grassetti updated the board on the following items:
 - **Board of Health Meeting:** Wednesday, June 3 at 3:00 p.m. The Board will discuss elimination of the free recycling sticker to be replaced by a required fee for recycling.
 - **Asset Management Advisory Committee:** Tuesday June 9, 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be held remotely through Zoom. The main agenda item is a discussion concerning the fate of the Cotuit Elementary School property and surrounding grounds. Discussion is slated to include the possibility of subdividing the 13-acre parcel into two lots, with the Town maintaining possession of the fields and the tennis courts.
 - **Ropes Beach:** Catch basins have been cleaned out and the handicap parking sign has been reinstalled.
 - **Crosswalks:** There is discussion of placing crosswalks at the intersections of Main St. and Old Shore Road and Main St. and Piney Road.
 - **McKinnon property/Town Dock:** The property owner has been proceeding through the Conservation, Waterways and Legal Departments of the Town exploring permitting for a dock

adjacent to the Town Dock, based upon purported legal rights of long-standing. Removal of the rip-rap and concrete wall at the northeast corner of the property is under study.

- **Fire District Elections:** After further study, absentee ballots will be allowed for this election slated for June 23. The method for obtaining and completing these is being finalized. When it is, Jim will inform residents via Constant Contact and the next issue of *Cotuit Currents*. Full details will be available at the Fire District website: <https://www.cotuitfiredistrict.org/>
- **Budget Concerns:** Jessica is concerned that the School Committee has not adhered to the Town manager's call for budget restraint. The proposed budget includes a 9% raise for the Superintendent of Schools.
- **Traffic and Signs:** In response to questions from Board members, Jessica will seek to have the warning flags removed before the stop signs at Main St. and Ocean View Ave. and Ocean View Ave. and Cross St. A brief discussion followed concerning George Foy's continued concern for speed tables on Main St. Jessica noted that on Town roads, speed tables occur at crosswalks. The speed tables at Airport Road in Hyannis are on a private road.

Old Business:

1. **Civic Association Monthly Meetings and Fire District Election and Annual Meeting:** The Board unanimously approved that the **Candidates' Night Meeting tentatively scheduled for June 16 at 7:30 p.m. be held as a Zoom Meeting with Jim Dannhauser as Moderator.** Jim will give notice to residents via Constant Contact and signs placed around the village. The Fire District Election will take place at the Fire Station on June 23 from 4 to 8:00 p.m. The Annual Meeting will be held at Lowell Park commencing at 6:00 p.m., to be followed immediately by a Special District Meeting concerning purchase of a new vehicle for the Fire Chief.
2. **4th of July:** The board discussed a proposal brought by Mark Lynch that a contest be held on July 4th or that weekend asking residents to wear costumes, decorate houses, bikes etc. for photographs to be taken and then exhibited at public venues throughout the town. The Board approved the idea and a committee was formed of Mark Lynch, Mark Stranberg, and Len Carter to hammer out details, venues and costs of such an activity for the holiday weekend over the following 10 days.
3. **Report on Fire District Commissioners' Meetings:** Carol Zais noted that all meetings are now held via Zoom which makes attending easier. The Water Commissioners have sent out 39 letters to past due accounts totaling \$6324.00. They voted to impose a 90-day moratorium on new connections to the Cotuit drinking water supply for automatic, in-ground irrigation systems. The purpose of the temporary halt is to enable the Commission to review a series of proposals and seek public input on suggestions to discourage the use of the water system for lawn irrigation. This moratorium does not affect new hook-ups for in-home water distribution. It also does not affect existing in-ground irrigation. Among the items which the Commission is exploring are a permanent ban on new irrigation connections to the public water supply, water-saving devices and methods for irrigation, separate metering, premium pricing, eventual disconnections, and fertigation wells. The Fire Commissioners have an estimated \$70,000 surplus in this year's budget from which they wished to draw funds for a new vehicle for the Fire Chief. The Prudential Committee has approved this expenditure. However, this expenditure will require the approval of a special district meeting which will be held directly after the annual meeting on June 24, held at Lowell Park. Jim Dannhauser noted that the claim that the Cotuit Tax levy has been reduced by 7% needs to be clarified as the increase in water rates has actually resulted in an overall increase of amounts to be paid by residents. The full impact of water rates on the yearly budget will not occur until the next fiscal year.

New Business:

1. **Village Warrant:** In response to a question by Lallie Lloyd, Jim and Jessica explained that alterations to items in the Village Warrant can only be made by written submission at the Annual Meeting. Only reductions in overall budgeted expenditures are permitted, not line item modifications.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas K. Burgess, Secretary