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TOWN OF IPSWICH - MASSACHUSETTS

Ipswich Shellfish Advisory Subcommittee to the Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
February 2, 2021

A meeting of the Shellfish Advisory Subcommittee to the Select Board was held on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Members participated remotely utilizing Zoom in accordance with the Governor's March 12 Order suspending provisions of Open Meeting Law and to promote public health and social distancing.

Members present were Chairperson Linda Alexson, Nishan Mootafian, Brenda Turner and Peter Soffron. Also present were Chief Nikas and Shellfish Constable LaPreste, and Recording Secretary Rodgers. Sandi Corning arrived 7:16 p.m. Not attending were Charlie Surpitski and Wayne Castonguay.

This meeting was video recorded by the host.

Chairperson Alexson announced this meeting was being held remotely utilizing Zoom in accordance with the Governor's March 12 Order suspending provisions of Open Meeting Law and to promote public health and social distancing. This meeting was not airing live; it's being recorded and will be broadcast on ICAM.

Members in attendance introduced themselves.

Shellfish permits are available online and can be mailed to the town clerk or dropped in the white box in the parking lot outside the town hall. Applicants must be listed on the town census by March 1st, 2021.

Over-70 resident recreational permits are renewed annually and are valid from January 1st through December 31st; no longer will they need special approval from the Select Board. A \$10 payment to the Shellfish Enhancement fund is required.

Citizen's Queries: There were none

Constables report: Constable LaPreste reported a delay with receiving State bed certificates. He urges commercial clambers to show it to the town clerk as soon as they receive it. He suggested that if it becomes an issue by mid-February, he will address it with the town clerk.

The Ipswich River is currently closed for five days, due to the rain last evening.

2021 Task Program

Constable suggested delaying the program again this year, due to the slow rollout of the vaccine for the pandemic. Members agreed it would be prudent to delay again this year.

MOTION:

Mr. Mootafian moved to recommend to the Select Board to suspend the Tasks Program for 2021. Ms. Turner seconded and the motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Commercial Permit Lottery for Students

Chief Nikas explained lottery procedures of providing seven chips with seven corresponding names; he would draw the chips randomly from a bag.

Student applicants.

James Robie, Ryder Vigsnes, Nicholas Rishi, Benjamin Hetnar, Madeline Pulsifer, Andrew Beaudoin, Becket Devoe.

It was noted there were seven students and the regulations have a cap of five for student licenses. Constable suggested to take a wait and see approach and explained some of the students have applied for commercial permits, if, their name is pulled.
7:16 p.m. Member Sandi Corning arrived.

Commercial Permit Lottery for

Chief Nikas explained fourteen applications were received. He randomly picked 14 chips with corresponding names, without looking.

Brian Shaw, Lance Leno, Shaun Jackson, Cameron Banks, James Robie, Michael Contois, Doug Maxfield, Becket Devoe, Andrew Beaudoin, Ryder Vigsnes, Iliv Lecaj, Christopher MacDougall, Paul Surpitski, Tobin Perkins.

As of March 1, 2021, we will know how many existing commercial permits were not renewed and will be replaced with those names picked.

► Approval of minutes:

Edits to the December minutes were discussed.

MOTION: Mr. Mootafian moved to approve the December 8, 2020 meeting minutes as revised. Ms. Corning seconded, the motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

New Business:

Ms. Turner initiated discussion concerning a regulation that requires an applicant who is not a United States citizen to be a resident for five years before they can qualify for a clamming license. She never heard of this rule and she did not know about this regulation, until she tried to help some people apply for a commercial clamming permit and their application was denied. Mr. LaPreste confirmed it was a State law. Ms. Turner suggested it should be in our town's regulations.

Discussion ensued. Chief Nikas noted in the preamble of our Shellfish Rules and Regulations reference is made to the provisions of Section 52 of Chapter 130 of MGL. Incorporating all the State and Federal laws would not be practical; it's up to the applicant to be aware of the local regulations and state laws.

Ms. Alexson cited Mass General Law, Chapter 130, and Section 55.

Further discussion took place regarding the best way to alert non-US residents to make sure they comply with MGL 130, Section 55. Chief Nikas will reach out to the Town Clerk about placing clarification on the application.

Constable LaPreste reported on a zoom meeting he attended with Jeff Kennedy and Devon Winkler from the Division of Marine Fisheries, Linda Alexson and Chief Nikas concerning the FDA action to close zones due to pollution.

Discussion took place regarding Ipswich waters. The FDA is using Massachusetts as a model for the entire country. It is a Federal Program. It resulted in the FDA requiring no changes in Ipswich.

Chief Nikas said he will report to the Finance Committee on Thursday, the general fund has \$15,000 for the green crab eradication program. These funds are matched with money from the Enhancement Fund and he feels funding will continue into the future because it's a good value for the money.

Constable LaPreste noted that at the next meeting he will be requesting a vote for expenditure of money out of the Enhancement Fund for FY22

► Next Meeting –Tuesday April 6, 2021 @ 7:00 PM via Zoom.

Ms. Turner initiated discussion concerning the timing of the next meeting and timing of the Select Board meeting for the student licenses.

MOTION: Mr. Mootafian moved to recommend to the Select Board to extend the student commercial cap by 2 (if necessary) for the seven student applicants, approved tonight, for just this permit year 2021. Ms. Turner seconded, the motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously passed with a roll call vote to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Rodgers

These minutes were approved on Mach 9, 2021

Pursuant to the 'Open Meeting Law' the approval of these minutes by the Board constitutes a certification of the date, time and place of the meeting; the members present or absent; the findings made and actions taken. Any other description of statements made by any person, or the summary of the discussion on any matter, is included for the purpose of context only, and no certification, express or implied, is made by the Board as to the completeness or accuracy of such statements.