

*BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, March 19, 2020  
Groveland Town Hall,  
183 Main St, Groveland, MA 01834*

TOWN OF GROVELAND  
2020 APR 29 PM 12:35  
TOWN CLERK  
RECEIVED/POSTED

Attendance: Chair Bill Dunn, Selectmen Kathy Kastrinelis, Bill O'Neil, and Mike Wood

Absent: Selectman Ed Watson

Also Present: Denise Dembkoski, Finance Director

*EMERGENCY MEETING*

**Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Board of Selectmen will take place without any public present.**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 3:13pm.

- Discussion on the Town's handling of the COVID-19 Pandemic.
  - Adjustment of hours – Working from home
  - Re-examine closing the recreational areas
  - Employees returning from out-of-the-country travel
  - Any other concerns, policies, or protocols with regards to the Coronavirus

The Board once again discussed the recreational areas being closed. Chair Dunn is concerned that we don't want panic to set in. Selectman O'Neil is worried that the good weather is coming and people need a place to go. Selectman Wood thinks the terminology is incorrect, we need people to be alarmed because it is not being taken seriously. Ms. Dembkoski asked if the Board wants her to put out a call relaxing the prohibition on the parks. The vote the Board took on Monday night was to close all recreational facilities in town until further notice, but if the board wants to allow passive recreation, we can let folks know that. The Police are not going to bother with individuals or parents and kids being together, but they are supposed to move groups and those congregating out of our facilities. We cannot continue to allow folks to be on the playground, basketball courts, or in the dog park.

Ms. Dembkoski will put out a call that as a reminder that all recreational areas in town are closed because we need to do something to stop groups from congregating. We appreciate everyone's cooperation during this extremely uncertain time. In addition, inform residents that we will put out a weekly update on the status and more if there is new information to provide and the Board is committed to meeting regularly.

Selectwoman Kastrinelis stated that this is not a shelter in place, this is a small step to get people through the next three or four weeks.

Chair Dunn said it only takes one person to spread the virus, we're trying to do the right thing here. Let's do a call every week with the information from that week. He would like to see a weekly meeting with the Board of Health to discuss this matter and hopefully relax the residents and set their mind at ease that we have things under control and to show that we're doing whatever we can do.

Selectman O'Neil made a motion that the Board implement a policy that any employee that has travelled internationally within the last 2 weeks must self-quarantine for 14-days before coming back to work unless they show symptoms and then must seek medical treatment. Employees are expected to perform their work to the best of their abilities. Seconded by Selectman Wood – unanimously approved.

Ms. Dembkoski discussed evening hours and an opportunity to work from home. The Board would not like any employees working at night. We should cut town hall and library hours at night. The BOS will plan to meet earlier (at 4:30pm) during this pandemic.

Beginning next week, the Town Hall will close evening hours beginning on Monday and will close on Fridays as of next week. The highway, water/sewer and cemetery will close all day on Friday, and the Library will close at 4pm on Monday and Wednesday evening, and Saturdays. Motion made by Selectman Wood, Seconded by Selectman O'Neil – unanimously approved.

The Board's next meeting for the Coronavirus update on Monday, March 23, 2020 at 4:30pm and each Monday at 4:30pm thereafter.

The Chairman wants a letter to the BOH that the BOS held an emergency meeting on 3/19 to discuss the seriousness of this situation and to let them know that they are meeting weekly and wants them to meet as well with them to get some coordinated effort with this public health emergency. Motion made by Selectman Wood, seconded by Selectman O'Neil. Unanimously all in favor.

Motion to adjourn at 4:57pm by Selectman Kastrinelis, Seconded by Selectman Wood – unanimously approved

*Respectfully submitted,  
Denise M. Dembkoski*

*\*\*\* Approved on April 13, 2020 by a vote of 3-0-1 with Selectman Watson abstaining \*\*\**