

*BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, March 23, 2020  
Groveland Town Hall,  
183 Main St, Groveland, MA 01834*

TOWN OF GROVELAND  
2020 APR 29 PM 12:34  
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 4:32pm.

- Discussion on the Town's handling of the COVID-19 Pandemic.
  - Any other concerns, policies, or protocols with regards to the Coronavirus

The Board met with the Board of Health. In attendance were Chair, Joan Searl, Deb Kadar-Hull, Public Health Nurse Claire Walsh, Health Agent Joe Tevald, and Administrative Assistant Lori Bentsen.

BOH Chair Searl outlined current statistics in Massachusetts regarding the Coronavirus. Then the two boards discussed the town's recreational areas being closed. Chair Dunn thinks every park should have a sign that it is closed and the playgrounds should be wrapped with construction tape.

Selectman O'Neil arrived at 4:40pm.

Both boards feel that the loose toys should also be collected from Washington Park and stored until the situation is over. Chair Dunn recommended the highway guys take care of these items.

Selectman Wood made a motion to have the highway department place closed signs on all town fields, wrap all playgrounds with caution tape, and remove the toys at Washington Park. Seconded by Selectwoman Kastrinelis. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Dunn expressed to the Board of Health that they are the key point on this matter and need to take a more prevalent role on this and with FEMA. Money coming back into this town, FEMA is going to be consistently sending paperwork into town. We will make sure the Board is here to help whatever the Board of Health needs.

Deb Kadar-Hull from the BOH spoke about the how everyone should work together, but she thinks we're in good shape since there are no cases in Groveland.

Ms. Dembkoski interrupted and recommended that our Public Health Nurse should speak because there is a confirmed case in town.

Nurse Claire Walsh discussed the positive case in Groveland. She was notified over the weekend. The person is doing fine, they had symptoms initially no symptoms at this point. All family members in the house are quarantined, as well. His symptoms were significant and he should have been tested, but he had to go to three places before he was tested.

People need a doctor's order to be tested. Selectwoman Kastrinelis asked what the process is for being tested? Nurse Walsh stated they need to call their doctor and answer questions before they are permitted to be tested. Does the doctor tell them where to go to be tested? Nurse Walsh said the doctor has to give them or call in an order for testing, just as you would for any lab work.

Ms. Walsh said a lot of calls are coming in. Many calls from Bagnall School came in initially, and Pentucket held a meeting to discuss this. Nurses can do a lot of triage over the phone. She gets a report from the state when there are positive cases, then reaches out to the resident to see who they have been in contact with. What happened to them symptom wise, do they have a fever, are they in pain? They want to know "what is the town doing for us? Where are the test kits."

Selectwoman Kastrinelis asked if patients are retested after two weeks of quarantine? Ms. Walsh said she does not believe there is any retesting.

Lori Bentsen and Joe Tevald left the room at 5:18pm

Emergency Management Director Steve Sargent came into the meeting at 5:19pm to discuss his role with this. He informed the 2 boards that his role is limited since it is a public health situation, but he will be the point person with MEMA and will track expenditures and paperwork.

Chair Dunn stated that the Police Chief donated 40 masks to the Holy Family Hospital. He suggested that Ms. Walsh reach out to police and fire to see what they might need for supplies. She stated that has already been worked out. Selectwoman Kastrinelis asked what were to happen if Ms. Walsh were to get sick. BOH Chair Searl stated that the Board would take over, should they need to. There are three Board members and they could take on additional tasks, if need be.

The members of the Board of Health left the meeting at 5:27pm.

Ms. Dembkoski discussed the Governor's orders that came down earlier in the day and the town staff. It was discussed that the Library should be closed effective immediately and all town hall staff that can work from home should do so. We have such a limited workforce that we are unable to stagger hours or shifts and/or alter the workforce.

The Board will revisit the policy and will ask for an update from the Highway Department and Water/Sewer for next Monday.

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

Motion to adjourn at 5:41pm by Selectman Wood, Seconded by Selectman O'Neil – unanimously approved

*Respectfully submitted,  
Denise M. Dembkoski*

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