

Town of Nelson
Selectmen's Meeting 1:00 PM

June 17, 2020

Executive Board Attending: David Upton, Maury Collins, Gary Robinson, Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Special Note: Meeting was held outside in front of the Town Office

Others attending:

At 1:00 PM David Upton opened the June 17, 2020 meeting of the Nelson Select Board.

● David made a motion to approve the minutes for June 9, 2020 as recorded.

Gary seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● David made a motion to approve the manifest for June 17, 2020 as presented.

Gary seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● David made a motion to approve invoicing the Conservation Commission for grading work to Homestead Lane up to the parking area.

Maury seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● David made a motion to approve thank you letters to Harrisville and Sullivan for their Road Mutual Assistance when the Nelson Grader was out of service due to a breakdown.

Maury then seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● David made a motion to approve a Cease and Desist order to R. Forney for construction without a permit.

Maury seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● David made a motion to approve a request from Eversource for "Dead" tree removal at Homestead Lane.

Maury seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● The Board received a Right-to-know request for any settlements for use of excessive force by the Police Department. The Board agreed to reply that there have been no such settlements.

● David made a motion to approve the Following Resolution:

Nelson Select Board Resolution

Relative to Cancellation of the 2020

Business Portion of the Nelson Town Meeting

Whereas:

1. The COVID-19 virus is highly contagious.
2. The disease caused by the virus is potentially lethal, especially for the elderly and for those with chronic medical conditions.
3. Once contracted, there is no established safe and effective treatment for the disease.
4. There presently exists no safe and effective vaccine for the prevention of the disease.
5. There presently exists no testing protocol that can determine, in real time, if an individual is a carrier of the disease.

The turnaround time is a minimum of 72 hours from the time the NH PHL receives your specimen. That means if you got tested on Monday, your specimen may not arrive at the NH PHL until Tuesday. You results would not be available until Friday (commercial laboratories are reporting a similar turnaround time).

[Testing Guidance | Resources Guidelines | COVID-19 - NH.gov](#)

6. No indoor venue that is considered safe to use is available.
7. The present politicization of the need for social distancing and the wearing of protective face coverings makes enforcement of those preventive measures, at municipal events, potentially impossible.
8. The Select Board has previously acted to cancel town sponsored activities for Memorial Day 2020, Fourth of July 2020, and Old Home Week in mid-August 2020.
9. Fear that gathering in large groups will lead to the spread of the disease will prevent members of our community from attending the meeting, effectively disenfranchising them.
10. Community members have expressed their belief that the meeting should not be held in 2020.
11. The holding of this meeting is not necessary to the ability of the Town of Nelson to provide basic services during FY 2020. The Town of Nelson is financially strong and can continue to provide necessary services making use of our 2019 approved budget as a default budget for 2020.

12. The only methodology presently in use to control the spread of the disease is to allow more and more people to gather together and then to measure, after the fact, how many become ill. Conducting such an experiment, by holding an unnecessary finance meeting for the Town of Nelson, presents an unnecessary and unacceptable risk to our constituents.

Therefore, the Nelson Select Board recommends and requests that the business portion of the Nelson Town Meeting, presently scheduled for July, 18, 2020, be postponed indefinitely.

Maury seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

● David made a motion to postpone signing of the Dog Warrant until June 30, 2020.

Maury seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

● David made a motion to deny a request for use of the Town Hall as a training headquarters for 2020 Census takers.

Gary seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

● The Board agreed to have Troy Tucker check a parking brake problem when other repairs are being done on the Grader.

● After a brief discussion, David made a motion to allow the Library Trustee to plan a modified opening of the Library Proper following CDC guidelines, entry only by those wearing a mask, limited number of patrons, social distancing, bathroom use only by employees and report their complete opening plan to the Select Board.

Maury seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

1:30 PM

● David made a motion to move into Non-Public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (a&c) Personnel and Harm to Reputation.

Gary seconded.
The motion carried 3-0 by roll call vote. Maury – yes, Gary – yes, David - yes

1:40 PM

● Upon returning to Public session, David made a motion to seal the minutes.
Gary seconded.

The motion carried 3-0 by roll call vote. Maury – yes, Gary – yes, David - yes

● With nothing further, David made a motion to adjourn.

Maury seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

1:42 PM Meeting Adjourned.

For June 17, 2020

David Upton, Chair

Maury Collins, Selectman

Gary Robinson, Selectman