

**Kingston, New Hampshire
Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting of August 26, 2020
FINAL MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM in the Meeting Room at the Town Hall.

PRESENT: Phillip Coombs, Chair; Donald Briggs, Vice Chair; Richard Wilson, Electra Alessio, Select Board Members; Moderator Ellen Faulconer; Town Clerk Tammy Bakie

2020 Election Topics:

The Moderator and Town Clerk shared with the Select Board Members plans in place for the Primary election on September 8 and the General Election on November 3. Extra precautions will be in place, such as requiring masks, supplying personal protective equipment, and supplying extra items such as paper “placemats” for the voting booth and disposable pens and pencils.

The layout of the gym for voting was discussed. It will include a separate entrance and roped off voting area for use by anyone unwilling or unable to wear a mask. The entrance and exit doors must be separate so that voters will move in one direction. The removal of trash was discussed; maintenance personnel may be asked to stop several times during the day and Selectmen may cover the evening hours for this chore.

Several more poll workers are needed to ensure good coverage for breaks and splitting up the day into shifts. Training for new ballot clerks will be provided. Selectmen will be asked to fill in on poll duties as needed to give workers breaks. Buffet-style food will not be offered, but poll workers will be informed ahead of time about the change and given a gift card to Dunkin Donuts.

Magnifying, lighted license readers will be obtained to place on the glass in front of poll workers; voters will be asked to place their driver’s license against the glass.

Moderator Ellen Faulconer will be placing a notice in the paper about the various changes to expect.

Absentee votes will be processed ahead of time with four elections officials present. This can’t be completed until 9:00 am on the morning of voting day.

Ms. Bakie said she is applying for a Cares Act grant to cover the extra expenses incurred due to COVID-19, including the increased number of absentee ballots. She said the calculations have been done by the state and the maximum amount to be received is \$14,000.

MOTION: by Selectman Briggs, to authorize the Town Clerk to apply for a Cares Act grant for reimbursement of COVID-related election expenses, by having the Chairman

sign the grant application.

SECOND: by Selectman Wilson

All in favor.

Ms. Faulconer said that two Republican Inspectors of Elections need to be appointed; the Democrats have named their inspectors. The inspectors are also ballot clerks.

MOTION: by Selectwoman Alessio, to appoint Janet Hart and Gail Ramsey as Republican ballot inspectors for the 2020 Primary and General elections.

SECOND: by Selectman Briggs

All in favor.

Adjournment:

MOTION: by Selectman St. James to adjourn at 2:45 PM

SECOND: by Selectman Coombs

All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Ayer, Administrative Assistant