1 APPROVED 2 TOWN OF PELHAM 3 **BOARD OF SELECTMEN - MEETING MINUTES** 4 May 26, 2020 APPROVED - June 9, 2020 5 6 7 **CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. Haverty called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30PM 8 9 Mr. Haverty stated as Chairman of the Pelham Board of Selectmen: I find that due to the ongoing State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with 10 the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is 11 12 authorized to meet electronically. 13 14 Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to today's 15 meeting which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order. I am confirming to the public that: 16 17 1) We are utilizing the Zoom platform, the Town's Facebook page, Pelham TV, Pelham You 18 Tube Channel and a telephone call in number to provide different options for the public 19 20 access to this meeting. All Board members are able to hear one another and to speak with one another during this meeting. 21 22 23 2) Notice to this meeting and how to gain public access to and listen to the meeting has been posted on the Town's website. If you're having difficulty accessing the meeting there is a 24 phone number and email address posted on the Town's website to let us know. 25 26 27 3) If the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled. 28 All votes taken during the meeting will be done by roll call vote, as will attendance. Mr. Haverty asked 29 that when your name is called for the attendance roll, please confirm your attendance, and please 30 31 identify as the right to know law requires, who, if anyone, is in the room with you. He then asked for roll to be called. 32 33 34 ROLLL CALL VOTE: PRESENT: Robert Haverty – present; his wife was in proximity Heather Forde – present; no one in the room Jaie Bergeron – present; no one in the room Hal Lynde – present; no one in the room Kevin Cote – present; no one in the room Brian McCarthy – present; no one in the room ABSENT: None 35 36 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE 37 38 **MINUTES REVIEW:** 39 May 12, 2020: 40 **MOTION:** (Lynde/Cote) To approve the May 12, 2020 meeting minutes as amended.

Ms. Forde – Yes

ROLL CALL Mr. Bergeron – Yes VOTE: Mr. Haverty – Yes

Mr. Lynde – Yes Mr. Cote - Yes

(5-0-0) The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENT(S)

There were no announcements.

APPOINTMENT(S)

Fire Chief James Midgley and Health Officer Karen McGlynn – COVID-19 Pandemic update

Ms. McGlynn told the Board there had been some progress. Currently in New Hampshire there were over 4,000 positive cases of COVID-19. The data has shown that 80% of the cases in New Hampshire have recovered at home with mild symptoms. She said the numbers were going down by percentage but the 'whole' numbers fluctuate each day. According to the State website, Pelham currently has twelve cases, which has decreased from last week; however, it takes the State a couple days to have it go into their data base. The Governor has continued to open the State with restrictions and indicated small group sports can begin immediately (with restrictions). She listed the activities and businesses that would be allowed to open (with restrictions) beginning June 1st. She's waiting on guidance for day camps but there is still no date for when they can open. Ms. McGlynn informed New Hampshire had seen its first case of multi-symptom infection syndrome ('MSIS') in Hillsborough in a child. She noted the Governor had given no indication of opening day camps. She added 200 children in New Hampshire had tested positive for COVID-19.

Ms. McGlynn informed the Board she had discussions with Sara Landry regarding the Hobbs Community Center (Senior Center) and slowly having activities begin to take place. She's given Ms. Landry the 'go ahead' with the understanding there are very strict guidelines. Every event has to be held outside. Staff and guests will have temperature checks. Staff will wear masks and guest should be 6-feet apart. She gave a description of all the precautionary measures that would need to take place with the center opening.

Chief Midgley was interested that the State had begun to account for the number of antibody tests they were doing, which has been approximately 10,000. He noted the perfection of the antibody tests was starting to get better. Chief Midgley informed they would now be able to utilize their matching fund from the CARES Act. Typically FEMA gives towns 75% of the available money that had been requested and the Town is responsible for the remaining 25%; however, now FEMA will fund 75% and the Town's 25% will be able to be taken from the CARES Act. A scoping meeting will be held Wednesday at the Fire Station with FEMA which will give an idea of what funds/expenses/personnel they'll cover. The cap is \$131,000, which was aside from the \$326,000 the Town received for its funding. Chief Midgley told the Selectmen they continued to chase down every bit of funding possible being careful not to overlap their requests. He commented the department had unfortunately gotten wrapped up into some fraud related to personal protection equipment; they placed orders that were never delivered, luckily Amazon backs orders when product isn't received. He spoke about their inventory of supplies.

Mr. Bergeron inquired if the Town should consider opening playgrounds for children. Ms. McGlynn, she felt they should; however, they would have to make sure all equipment is sanitized twice per day (morning and evening). Mr. Bergeron asked if it was possible to have them open to 'residents only'.

Ms. McGlynn replied they could if someone was able to monitor it. Mr. Bergeron thought it would be good for children to be able to get out of their homes. Ms. McGlynn mentioned all playgrounds at State parks were still closed and suggested the Town proceed with caution.

Ms. Forde asked if Pelham was keeping an eye on what neighboring towns were doing. She said if Pelham opened and neighboring towns didn't, there would be no way to keep the Town's facilities as 'residents only'. Mr. McCarthy stated Hudson and Windham were both closed. He believed Londonderry was also still closed. By opening facilities, Ms. Forde was concerned with attracting neighboring communities. Mr. Haverty noted Pelham was already attracting neighboring communities and believed it would be a problem no matter what they did. He didn't know what enforcement mechanism could be used to make certain areas 'residents only'.

Mr. Cote asked if New Hampshire had a rule about people coming into the State having to selfquarantine for two weeks. Ms. McGlynn answered yes. She said that's what they've said people need to do but there wasn't anyone policing it. Mr. Cote didn't understand the point of recommending it, if it wasn't going to be policed. Ms. McGlynn replied every state was recommending it. Mr. Cote questioned if the Police Chief could enforce it if he saw a vehicle with Massachusetts license plates at a facility. Ms. McGlynn replied he could if he chose to do so. Mr. Cote wanted to know why the Governor hasn't authorized the National Guard to enforce the State's borders to stop people from a closed state entering our State. He didn't know the point of opening if the State didn't close its borders. Ms. McGlynn said she couldn't speak for the Governor. She believed they were trying to 'tread lightly' so as to not instill anger and fear in people. Mr. Cote said he would continue to be vocal about the situation. He believed a person's right to not be infected was a choice; a person could 'choose' to stay home but everyone else was imprisoned in their homes. He said the whole shutdown was a huge issue and massive infringement on rights and the ability to live. He added that his right to live was a choice being taken from him while a person's right to not be infected was a choice a person still had because they could stay home. He said every time a person left their house; they had a chance of something happening. He noted his comments weren't aimed at anyone; he was voicing his opinions. Mr. Cote didn't think it made sense to open the State without protecting the borders from (people entering from) the third most infected state. He pointed out Pelham was a border town and it made no sense to do so.

Mr. Haverty noted being a border Town, there were also a number of residents who traverse the border to go to work on a regular basis. He said they couldn't shut the border. Mr. Cote mentioned Massachusetts had a two-week quarantine and questioned how it worked. Mr. Haverty works in Massachusetts (as an essential transportation worker) and stated he traveled freely between the two locations taking precautions as recommended by both state governments. He added he was not a tourist, he worked there and paid income tax there; there were a number of people who fell into the same category. He believed sealing the border would be a daunting task. Mr. Haverty believed the Governor empowered local law enforcement to enforce some of the restrictions. With that being said, it was the Board who had to decide if they wanted to push that issue.

Mr. Cote said if the Board decided to open up summer camp, he would like them to discuss the repercussions of doing so. Mr. Haverty had zero appetite in discussing opening summer camp until the State says it's safe to do so. He stated he would not put the Town in a position where they are the Town with an outbreak because they opened summer camp in the face of a recommendation by the State, the Town Health Officer and the Emergency Management Director. He said the Board could have a conversation about it, but he personally had zero appetite for doing so without the full backing of the State. Mr. Cote stated New Hampshire was the same State violating his right to practice free religion and to assemble peacefully. He added there were huge constitutional violations occurring. He wanted to know at what point they say the Government is wrong.

- Mr. Lynde asked what percentage of the New Hampshire population had been tested. Ms. McGlynn didn't have the numbers in front of her. She said there were more and more tests were being done, and
- the State was getting ready to open up testing to households. She will get the answer. Mr. Lynde
- mentioned when he goes out, he wears a mask. When he someone sees a person without a mask he
- stays away because he feels they are a threat to his health. He believed the United States had a high
- death rate because they didn't pay attention or act quickly. Ms. McGlynn said it might just take
- time, everyone should be patient.

Chief Midgley informed the Board the State announced they would be changing their E911 protocol 36 (pandemic protocol). Based on the numbers of false activation, they would shift away from how they did the screening to be a more conservative screening.

Mr. Haverty offered the Board's gratitude to those working on the front lines; their actions are appreciated.

Highway Building Update – Roland Soucy

Mr. McCarthy stated Building Inspector Roland Soucy provided the contract for the building (Morton Buildings) which was forwarded to legal for review. He said legal forwarded minor changes earlier in the day which were email to the Board. Once those changes are made and the contract is signed, they can order the building and move forward.

 Mr. Soucy concurred they were waiting for the contract to be finalized so the building can be ordered. With regard to the numbers, the project bottom line had reduced from \$1,153,000 to \$920,000 by going with a Morton Building instead of a pre-engineered steel building. Mr. Haverty understood Morton's delivery would take approximately 4-5 months after contract signed. Mr. Soucy said once the contract was signed, they could schedule the foundation to go in. He anticipated the delivery date may be sooner because Morton had some cancelations. He explained after the contract was signed, he would write the RFP for subcontractors; the current schedule of values was from the original submission.

Mr. Lynde recalled a concern was raised regarding the added load from the solar arrays and questioned if it had been taken into account with the Morton building. Mr. Soucy said it had been taken into account.

Mr. McCarthy asked if they were going to use radiant heat. Mr. Soucy replied originally, they were going to use waste oil heaters but now they would be using propane heaters that hung off the ceiling in the shop for heat. The office building would have a separate HVAC system for air conditioning. He heard a gas line would be heading (down Windham Road) in the direction of the Highway building in the near future; when that happens, they can switch from propane to natural gas. During building construction, they can run a natural gas line to the street to hook up at a later time. Mr. Soucy stated he had a conversation with someone from Liberty Utilities that handles offsite field engineering. He needed to let them know the gross BTUs so they can inform what size pipe to use. Mr. McCarthy asked if the pipe would be brought to Windham Road. Mr. Soucy answered no; just to the street (in front of the Highway building). He believed if the line came down Windham Road, he could get Liberty Utilities to bring the line in to the area of the building.

184 Mr. Cote inquired who would be doing the foundation. Mr. Soucy replied it would go out to bid.

- Mr. McCarthy asked Mr. Soucy if he had seen the comments returned from legal. Mr. Soucy replied he hadn't seen them yet. Mr. McCarthy stated he would forward them and asked Mr. Soucy to pass
- them to the Morton Building representative. Mr. Soucy said he would.

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Mr. Haverty asked Highway Agent Frank Ferreira if he had anything to add. Mr. Ferreira replied everything was moving forward; he was on the 'same page' as Mr. Soucy.

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DISCUSSION

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Liberty Utilities / NH SAVES Light Replacement Rebate Program

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Mr. McCarthy mentioned during the last few years the Town had replaced and converted all its florescent lights in all Town buildings/facilities to LED technology. In the NH SAVES Program, they do an assessment, outline the needs, and inform what the cost will be. The Program pays for half the cost and the remaining balance is rolled into the electric bill. He received a call from the Town's electrician (DEM Electric) who was informed by the Program's representative there was still money to issue to towns for additional lighting. Mr. McCarthy stated in the previous project they did the Town Hall with the exception of the rear wing (classroom area) employee entrance. With those spaces being slated for future use an assessment was done and received an estimated cost of \$8,797.95; the Program will pay half, leaving \$4,398.98 as the Town's cost to be rolled into the electric bill. This will complete the municipal building.

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> **MOTION:** (Lynde/Bergeron) To approve the request to submit for the Liberty Utilities / NH

SAVES Light Replacement Rebate Project

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mr. Haverty - Yes Ms. Forde – Yes

Mr. Bergeron - Yes Mr. Lynde – Yes Mr. Cote - Yes

(5-0-0) The motion carried.

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Castle Hill Road Bridge / Windham 209

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Mr. McCarthy stated the Castle Hill Road in Windham had a small bridge that came into Castle Hill Road in Pelham that had been closed for approximately four years. He received correspondence from his counterpart in Windham asking if Pelham would sign an easement deed so they could replace the bridge and re-open the road. The information has been forwarded to Town Counsel and approved. Mr. McCarthy asked the Board for authorization to sign for the Town.

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Ms. Forde asked if Windham had a timeline for the repair. Mr. McCarthy didn't know of any timeline 217 but hoped they would have it done as soon as possible. 218

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There was no objection to Mr. McCarthy moving forward and signing for the Town.

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Temporarily upgrade Health Officer to a part time position

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Mr. Haverty stated he would like to maintain a piece of the topic for the Board's non-public session.

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Mr. McCarthy stated the Health Officer (Karen McGlynn) had been working virtually everyday on the COVID-19 business and felt everyone could agree she had been an invaluable resource during the crisis and protect the citizens. He informed the Board Ms. McGlynn was only working on a quarterly stipend of approximately \$700. He asked if the Board would consider temporarily increasing her to a part-time (hourly) position with no benefits until things settle down. He told the Board under the CARES Act

the Health Officer's salary was reimbursable. The reimbursement can be put back into the budget lines as long as the Board of Selectmen vote to do so. He said typically money received is considered revenue and put into the General Fund; however, in speaking to his contact at the Governor's office, Mr. McCarthy learned as long as the Board of Selectmen vote to do so, they can put the reimbursement money back into the salary line items. He felt it was important to make the adjustment given that Ms. McGlynn was a hard worker who dedicated a lot of hours.

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Mr. Haverty stated Ms. McGlynn may be the best credentialled person in the State for the given situation. He said the Town was extremely fortunate to have the resource. He felt if the CARES Act was capable of funding the salaried position that would enable her to continue in the role, it would be an easy decision to modify the position.

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Mr. Lynde asked how many hours per week would be specified. Mr. McCarthy replied it varied; it could be 25 hours. Mr. Lynde suggested running the position and salary by the Department of Revenue Association ('DRA'). Mr. McCarthy replied the State contacted DRA and then got back to him with the process of how to put the money back into the salary lines.

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MOTION: (Lynde/Forde) To temporarily reclassify Karen McGlynn's position as Health Officer, from stipend to part-time, for a period of time as long as the CARES Act is in effect to fund the position.

ROLL CALL Mr. Haverty - Yes **VOTE:** Ms. Forde – Yes

Mr. Bergeron – Yes Mr. Lynde – Yes Mr. Cote - Yes

(5-0-0) The motion carried.

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Mr. Lynde believed the pay should come out of the Health Officer budget line. Mr. McCarthy replied they could over-expend the salary line item and put the money back in when they are reimbursed.

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Restaurant outside seating update

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Mr. Cote informed the Planning Board held an emergency meeting and made a motion to (temporarily) relieve site plan restrictions (during COVID-19) for restaurants to be able to have outdoor seating. The Planning Board's vote related only to the site plan restriction. He said if there was a food/beverage service location, the business would still need to abide by the Governor's order (and associated Town rules/inspections). He said the billiards place (Shooters) had a separate situation with the State because there was liquor involved; however, if the State approves their location, the vote taken by the Planning Board would include them. He added if Chunky's wanted to do something they could contact the Planning Department with a proposal.

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Mr. Haverty asked if there was a list of interested restaurants. Mr. Cote didn't believe they had a list. He felt it was their job to present the opportunity.

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Mr. McCarthy asked if there was mention about an alcohol license through the Liquor Commission. Mr. Cote stated State Representative Hershel Nunez called in to the meeting and gave some information regarding liquor licenses; basically, the Governor's office hasn't moved on the situation. He said the Planning Board moved on allowing (outside seating) if the State had first allowed it (for an alcohol beverage establishment). Mr. McCarthy said from his contact with the Governor's office he understood if an establishment wanted to serve alcohol outside, they had to apply for a waiver from the New

Hampshire Liquor Commission in order to accomplish that. Mr. Cote said the Planning Board was only concerned with the local rules.

Hobbs Community Center (Senior Center) Phase 2 opening and tent request

Mr. McCarthy stated the Health Officer had already taken care of the phase 2 opening. He said Director Sara Landry had submitted a request to rent a tent so they can do things outside. Information was provided to the Board; the total rental cost is \$1,410.00 (per month). He added the expenditure would be reimbursed by the CARES Act. He told the Board the Council on Aging would pay for the first month's rental fee. Mr. McCarthy stated Fire Inspector John Hodge would review the tent. He ended by saying he didn't need a motion, just a general consensus of the Board.

Ms. Forde asked if the tent would be located in the parking lot. Mr. McCarthy believed it would be located on the grass in back of the center. He will follow up to inform of the final location and assured the Board holes would not be punched into the pavement.

There was no objection by the Board and a consensus was reached to move forward with the request. Mr. McCarthy will ensure Ms. Landry reaches out to Inspector Hodge.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR / SELECTMEN REPORTS

Ms. Forde reported she received confirmation from High School Principal Meade they were working out an amended version of a graduation ceremony that would probably occur later in the summer but would appreciate June 12th being proclaimed graduation day for the Town of Pelham. She believed there would be a parade route for seniors and asked if she could have a sign printed for placement at Town Hall. There was no objection. Mr. Haverty stated they could discuss the logistics with Mr. McCarthy regarding the proclamation.

Mr. Cote asked if it would be possible to relieve the restrictions of in-person meetings for the Planning Board. He explained there were a lot of things that made the Zoom platform difficult for their type of meeting. He wanted to know if something could be done to have the members in the room. Mr. Haverty asked the date of the next Planning Board meeting. Mr. Cote replied June 1st. During the meeting there are seven full-time members, five alternate members and the cable television staff. Mr. Haverty asked how appointments would be conducted. Mr. Cote said he was looking for suggestions to make the meeting run smoother.

Mr. McCarthy believed the Zoning Board meeting worked well by having designated areas for people to queue as appointments were processed through. He added Zoning Administrator Jenn Beauregard ran the meeting efficiently and suggested Mr. Cote speak to her regarding organization. He believed it would go a long way if they adhered to the 10-person minimum and have a consensus that people would wear masks. Mr. Cote noted without the public being present there would already be (over) ten people. Mr. Lynde offered, as an alternate, he would call in (electronically).

Mr. Haverty asked Mr. McCarthy to bring the question to the Health Officer's attention and then inform the Board of her opinion. He said the current restriction was set by the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Cote suggested the restrictions possibly be released by Ms. McGlynn's authority. Mr. McCarthy asked if the Board would defer to Ms. McGlynn's judgment if she signed off on a process, she was comfortable with. Mr. Haverty stated he would be comfortable authorizing Mr. McCarthy to make the decision with Ms. McGlynn's input.

- Mr. Lynde agreed the last Planning Board meeting was lengthy and slowed down a bit because of roll calls; however, he believed it would have been the same length (time wise) if everyone was in the room.
- 324 Mr. Cote noted there were problems with members connecting electronically.

Mr. McCarthy questioned if there could be time limits for the cases. Mr. Cote understood the point, but noted the applicant presentation is usually quick, but the rest of the process including Planning Board member and public questions can make a meeting longer. He added there was also some information handed out during a meeting that might not be in the member meeting packet.

Mr. Haverty was interested in hearing the Health Officer's interpretation/opinion. Mr. McCarthy understood a lot of businesses were allowed to be open at 50% capacity and believed Sherburne Hall had a 197-person limit. It was Mr. Haverty's understanding the meetings didn't fall under the same guidelines as stores/restaurants.

Mr. Haverty reported the Budget Committee held their first (organizational) meeting, during which Dave Cronin was elected Chair and Amber Capone was elected Vice Chair and Bob Sherman was appointed to the Capital Improvement Project committee. Meetings this year will be held on Thursday evenings beginning September 3rd at 7pm. He mentioned the Budget Committee proposed meeting a week earlier than usual. Mr. McCarthy will follow up with Mr. Cronin regarding their site walk date. Mr. Haverty informed the Budget Committee also asked about the status of the Deputy Treasurer position. He informed them the position was being looked at in the interest of business continuity and hoped the Treasurer would take the item up in the fall.

Mr. Haverty mentioned the Memorial Day services were quiet and somber. He said the veterans had done a great job. The service was well attended and properly socially distanced by attendees. He was honored to be part of the ceremony.

Mr. McCarthy provided the Board with a draft budget season schedule in the Board's meeting packet. In previous years, the Board met every week during July and August. He stated with the new budget software he asked if the Board would consider a modified budget season where the Board is notified when budgets are ready to be viewed. Board members can review the budgets and submit their questions so a department head can be scheduled to meet with the Board to provide an explanation. In August, the Board could conduct a budget review meeting with all department heads present for any additional questions. Once the budget is approved by the Selectmen it would then be forwarded to the Budget Committee.

Mr. Lynde noted typically the Board informs departments their budgets should start as the approved figure from the prior year and include any contractual increases. Once the departments determine that figure, they create a 'priority list' of items for additional consideration by the Selectmen. Mr. McCarthy replied he informs the departments each year their budgets should start as a zero-based budget. All priority list information can be included for Board review. He said he was trying to accomplish a more stream-lined budget review season. Mr. Haverty said the Board will discuss the suggestion at an upcoming meeting.

Mr. McCarthy provided the Board with a copy of the Tree and Bench Policy. He stated the Board had a presentation March 3, 2020 on putting up military banners for service men and women from Pelham who made the ultimate sacrifice. At the end of the meeting the Board had decided to hang banners for Sergeant Daniel Gionet on the telephone poles near the Gionet Bridge. During that meeting there was some suggestion to modify the policy to perhaps include banners and clean up the language. The changes to the policy were highlighted and deletions showed a strikethrough. Mr. McCarthy reached out with Liberty Utilities regarding the banners for Sgt. Gionet; over the phone they have endorsed

373 374 375	hanging the banners and just need to go through the paperwork process of allowing it to happen. I said with the Board's permission he would like the authority to sign the appropriate paperwork.	
376 377 378 379	there was no e	firmed there was no cost to the Town (related to the banners). Mr. McCarthy replied xpense to the Town. Mr. Cote summarized the previous discussion by the Board that would be a fair process of recognition for everyone.
380 381 382 383	Mr. McCarthy provided the Board with an update of the sidewalk project by Liberty Utilities (from Gibson Cemetery traveling to Willow Street). The representative indicated they were compiling a packet for a pre-construction meeting. Mr. McCarthy ended by informing the Board regarding the results from the posting of the Agriculture Commission and Energy Committee. There was one applicant for the Energy Committee. There were ten applicants for the Agricultural Commission. He will discuss the interview process with the Board. Mr. Cote understood there were two members of the Planning Board that had submitted applications for the Agricultural Commission and noted only one could be appointed per Statute. He said when the Board discusses appointments, he would recommend the Planning Board member be appointed to the one-year position.	
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392	REQUEST FO	OR NON-PUBLIC SESSION
393	MOTION:	(Lynde/Forde) Request for a non-public session per RSA 91-A:3,II, a (personnel)
	ROLL CALI VOTE:	L Mr. Haverty - Yes Ms. Forde – Yes Mr. Bergeron – Yes Mr. Lynde – Yes Mr. Cote - Yes (5-0-0) The motion carried.
394 395 396 397	It was noted that when the Board returned, after the non-public session, the Board would not take any other action publicly, except to possibly seal the minutes of the non-public session and to adjourn the meeting. The Board entered into a non-public session at approximately 8:11pm.	
398	MOTION:	(Lynde/Cote) To leave non-public session.
	VOTE:	(5-0-0) The motion carried.
399 400 401	The Board returned to public session at approximately 8:18pm.	
	Minutes of non	n-public session were not sealed.
402 403	<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>	
404	MOTION:	(Lynde/Cote) To adjourn the meeting.
10.7	VOTE:	(5-0-0) The motion carried.
405 406 407 408	The meeting w	ras adjourned at approximately 8:18pm. Respectfully submitted, Charity A. Landry, Recording Secretary