

Town of Brimfield  
Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes – July 20, 2020  
Town Hall - 21 Main Street  
and virtual

**Current State of Emergency:**

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 Brimfield [Board of Selectmen] will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the town's website, at [www.brimfieldma.org](http://www.brimfieldma.org). For this meeting, members of the public who wish to virtually attend the meeting may do so in the following manner: WEBINAR allowing computer and phone participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the Brimfield website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting

+1 508-387-3549 United States, Worcester (Toll)

Conference ID: 158 536 117#

Members Present: Chair; Paul McCarthy, Vice Chair; Michele-Lee Shea, Member; Mike Doyle, Member; Carolyn Haley (remote), Member; Ryan Olszta, Recording; Admin; Carol Camerota.  
ZBA members: Kevin Moore and Pat Leaming. Others joined through Microsoft TEAMS.

Call to order (McCarthy) @ 6:24 p.m.

Roll call: (Doyle) – Here (Haley) – Here (McCarthy) – Here (Olszta) – Here (Shea) - Here

**Payroll & Warrants:**

Signed by (Shea)

**Minutes:**

Review & approve minutes for July 7, 2020.

**Motion:** by (Doyle) move to approve minutes of July 7, 2020 as written, seconded by (Olszta), all in favor. Roll call as follows;

(Doyle)-Yes (Haley)-Yes (McCarthy)-Yes (Olszta)-Yes (Shea) - Yes

**Review & Action:**

COVID-19 update:

COA Director has reported one positive COVID case asymptomatic in a volunteer at the Sr. Center. The Board of Health will be meeting tomorrow.

Discussion of the September flea market. (Olszta) suggested postponing the September flea market for several weeks and letting the field owners decide if they wanted to proceed with the show.

More than 100 people can attend outdoor functions. (McCarthy) agreed that the date could just be left open and let the field owners make the determination provided CDC guidelines were adhered to. The board also agreed that each field owner should present to the Board of Health what they would do to keep people safe and if violated they would then be shut down. (Haley) was concerned that this would make Brimfield a hot spot and was against having the show. No Action.

The Town of Wales is proceeding with their Old Home Day and has asked Brimfield to send officers through Mutual Aid for the event. Wales does not have the funds to pay and have asked that they be supplied while on duty for Brimfield. The Chief would like to help but was concerned about the health ramifications with a large attendance.

Appointment of interim Treasurer-Collector:

Sharon Ashleigh who came with very high recommendations has accepted the position of Treasurer-Collector. Her start date will be August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

ZBA Chair & Vice Chair: RE: Select Board member:

Not present yet

Appointment of Fire Chief:

Hold

Appointments:

Rec Committee – Crystal McGuire, Mike Komssi and Marcie Springer until 6/30/2021 – Hold

**Motion:** by (Olszta) move to appoint as Firefighters: Adam Hicks and Jeffery Montes until 6/30/2021, Seconded by (Doyle). (Doyle) abstained vote on Jeffery Montes. All in favor.

Roll call as follows: (Doyle)-Yes (Haley)-Yes (McCarthy)-Yes (Olszta)-Yes (Shea) - Yes

Flea Market Advisory Board - Klia Ververidis until 6/30/2021

(Olszta) had concerns regarding the fact that Ververidis does not live in town. (Haley) agreed.

Motion no to approve. Suzanne Collins asked if the town had a bylaw for people who do not live in town joining boards as she knows of other boards with members who don't live in town.

The Flea Market Advisory Board should be made up of not just field owners but citizens to keep the market in check. (Olszta) wanted to address negative comments made on Facebook by Ververidis about the Board of Selectmen and the Town of Brimfield. No action, hold until next meeting.

**7:00 p.m. Public Access**

Pat Leaming wanted to add that what the town has done in the past does not create a precedence.

ZBA Chair & Vice Chair: RE: Select Board member:

Kevin Moore and Pat Leaming were in attendance to discuss emails from Select board member Mike Doyle. Leaming stated point of order that some items were when Moore was Chair of ZBA.

Leaming is currently the Chair. (McCarthy) asked if (Doyle) was comfortable not going into executive session. (Doyle) agreed to continue in open.

Moore read emails sent to ZBA from (Doyle).

(Olszta) asked what the goal was to which Moore replied that (Doyle) had asked him for leniency for a friend concerning a zoning bylaw change. (Doyle) stated he did not even know this "friend". Both Moore and Leaming wanted the attitudes and character assassinations to stop. (Olszta) confirmed that the goal was for boards to get along. (Shea) added that applicants need to feel they are being treated fairly.

Discussion over withdrawal of (Doyle) from ZBA agenda for his food truck and whether he felt he would be treated fairly. ZBA still needs a letter from (Doyle) stating his withdrawal in order to return funds paid. Application was never submitted.

With all in agreement that conversations need to take place before issues come to the Selectmen, (Doyle) added that he had concerns for Open Meeting Law violations while also watching fiscal decision for other boards. (Olszta) agreed that the Select Board is there to oversee and make sure all boards are working fluidly.

D. Fagerstrom wanted to make sure she wasn't included in concerns with emails being unprofessional. (McCarthy) retracted comment made about emails. All agreed to move on.

ZBA will be meeting again this week at Brimfield Winery only because they were not sure if the Town Hall was open for meetings.

(Doyle) confirmed the railing on the Town Hall front porch has been secured and the fire extinguishers have been inspected.

Vacation carry over:

**Motion:** by (McCarthy) move to approve vacation carry over days for Joanie Robbins – 28 hours until 12/31/2020 and Rebecca Wells – 46 hours until 12/31/2020, seconded by (Doyle), all in favor.

Roll call as follows: (Doyle)-Yes (Haley)-Yes (McCarthy)-Yes (Olszta)-Yes (Shea) - Yes

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

**Office Matters & Mail:**

**7:51 p.m.**

**Adjourn:** From open session, convene Executive Sessions and adjourn from there.

Executive Session M.G.L. c.30A, Sec. 21(a) #1, To discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual.

(Amended 7/17/20 10:00 a.m.)

Roll call: (Doyle)-Yes (Haley)-Yes (McCarthy)-Yes (Olszta)-Yes (Shea) - Yes

**Upcoming Meetings:**

August 3, 2020

Respectfully Submitted:

*Carol Camerota*

Transcribed by: Carol Camerota

ACCEPTED: *[Signature]* DATE: 8/3/2020

Documents Utilized for this meeting

**MATERIALS FOR BACKGROUND AND REFERENCE**

1. Minutes of June 29, 2020
2. Vacation carry over request from Library
3. Emails submitted by (Doyle)