

Selectboard Minutes  
Emergency Meeting of Selectboard Monday, May 9, 2022

REMOTE MEETING VIA WEBEX

Called to order at 10:04am.

Selectboard Present: Ted Sussmann, Nicole Berndt, David Ripley.

Also Present: Matt Streeter (Town Administrator), Rich Pierce (Moderator), Scott Bergeron (Selectboard-Elect), Tom Fitzgerald (Health Agent), Laura Burnett (Town Treasurer/Finance Committee), Martha Lacrosse (Finance Committee), Chief Matt Ripley (Fire/Emergency Management Director), Marjanne Nobbs (Bookkeeper)

Discussion: Possible Postponement of Annual Town Meeting

Selectboard Chair Ted Sussmann opened meeting. Discussed that Town Administrator Matt Streeter who usually sets up the Annual Town Meeting (ATM) tested positive and shouldn't be setting up the meeting. He also just got a message from Town Clerk Christina Teter that she testing negative but is exhibiting symptoms and we should probably presume she may have something that can spread; and with potentially two paper ballots to distribute, collect and count...her team seems to be okay. I am seeing a lot of resistance to having the meeting with two Selectboard members testing positive. Ted asked how David is?

David Ripley (Selectboard) reported he has tested negative and feels fine. He has concern there will not be a lot of people at ATM. With two department heads testing positive and two Selectboard members testing positive doesn't leave a lot of people to (run ATM); I will do it but if this was a bare-bones warrant that didn't have a lot of extra stuff in it I wouldn't be too concerned about it. But I think this Highway Garage (article) without Doug or two Selectboard members I don't know how this is going to go.

Ted asked to hear from Chief Matt Ripley (Emergency Management Director): How are you doing? Chief Ripley: Yes I am out of work still today and still have a pretty good cough this morning. His concern is this is turning into a matter of Public Safety and not necessarily the Warrant. Last week was a pretty busy week at Town Hall and not having (Town Clerk) Chris Teter (for ATM) is not good either. If it was very quiet at Town Hall and was contained to Town Hall, that might be a little better (situation), but I do not want to see this turn into more than it already has. That is my bigger concern. Definitely I have a couple of things on the Warrant but it's a matter of public safety at this point and recommends the Board of Health consider postponement. Ted agrees that is input he is looking for that the chief has a couple of items on the Warrant he should be there to speak for but from a public safety perspective you (Chief Ripley) are the person with the most responsibility in this group and if you are concerned the rest of us should be.

Rich Pierce (Moderator): Knowing that Chris Teter is sick, the Town Clerk is important for keeping a record of votes and if she isn't going to be there or function appropriately then that is a major hurdle and not having an immediate backup, I see that as a critical hole in the whole thing; aside from the public health aspect. The other aspect is that people are going to be reluctant to come out if they are at all vulnerable some I think that is going to limit our turnout anyway on top of that we wouldn't be able to have a representative discussion necessarily to go through with it. That opinion affects the declaration of an emergency adjournment or recession of ATM.

Tom Fitzgerald (Health Agent): I definitely agree. We should postpone the meeting. It will be short and sweet. I think it is a public health emergency and we should definitely postpone the meeting.

Ted Sussmann: I guess that makes it a short discussion. Friday I thought we would be postponing, than Saturday I thought we could go on. But when I learned about Chris Teter I went back the other way. It hasn't been an easy path.

Discussion on legal aspect of Chapter 39 §10A by Town Administrator Matt Streeter and possible dates to postpone ATM to. It was determined by recommendation of the Emergency Management Director and Health Agent that the Moderator. Ted Sussmann proposed postponement of one month until June 6<sup>th</sup> to allow this situation to clear up or not. Consensus between the Selectboard and Moderator was to postpone until June 6, 2022. The Moderator was going to post declaration of recess and continuance to time certain at site and Town Hall. A reverse-911 will be sent out by Matt Streeter and Matt Ripley, and it would be posted on the town website and shared to social media/community forum. Notify Police Department as well.

Motion to adjourn by Ted Sussmann, seconded by David Ripley. Meeting adjourned 3-0 at 10:26am.

Agenda Posted: May 8, 2022 10:30am amended May 8, 2022 12:20pm

**Granville Selectboard EMERGENCY MEETING MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022 10:00am**

Selectboard Office, Granville Town Hall  
707 Main Road, Granville, MA 01034

**THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD REMOTE ON WEBEX**

Agenda:

- ❖ Emergency Meeting Call to Order per GL 30A
- ❖ Appointments & Discussion Items:
  - Discussion: possible postponement of the Annual Town Meeting under GL 39 §9 and/or GL 39 § 10A; actions related to decisions.
  - Action: Votes may be taken
- ❖ Adjournment

**Selectboard**

**Hosted by Matthew Streeter**

<https://townofgranville.my.webex.com/townofgranville.my/j.php?MTID=mdfb7b73ab23d2f8587c0538e541c5f63>

Monday, May 9, 2022 10:00 am | 1 hour 30 minutes | (UTC-04:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Meeting number: 2554 098 8776

Password: 82WPm8JFGhc (82976853 from phones and video systems)

Join by video system

Dial 25540988776@webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join by phone

+1-415-655-0001 US Toll

Access code: 255 409 88776

**Notes:** The listing of items is those reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.