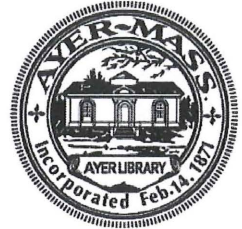


Town of Ayer
Ayer Select Board
Ayer Town Hall – 1st Floor Meeting Room
Ayer, MA 01432



Broadcast and Recorded by APAC

Tuesday October 20, 2020 Meeting 1 of 2
Open Session Meeting Minutes

SB Present: Shaun C. Copeland, Chair; Scott A. Houde, Vice-Chair; Jannice L. Livingston, Clerk
All Via Remote Participation

Also Present: Robert A. Pontbriand, Town Manager
Carly M. Antonellis, Assistant Town Manager
Both Via Remote Participation

Call to Order: S. Copeland called the meeting to order at 5:45pm.

Remote Access: S. Copeland stated that pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL Chapter 30A, Section 18 and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Ayer Board of Selectmen is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort has been made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided in the Order. He further stated that all votes will be taken by Roll Call.

Pledge of Allegiance: Select Board members and meeting attendees stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion: A motion was made by J. Livingston and seconded by S. Houde to approve the agenda, as submitted.

Roll Call: S. Copeland, aye; S. Houde, aye; J. Livingston, aye. **Motion passed by Roll Call Vote 3-0.**

Quorum Adjustment Pursuant to the Provisions of Section 7 of Chapter 92 of the Acts of 2020: S. Houde stated that the consideration for the reduction in quorum is for the October 26, 2020 Annual Fall Special Town Meeting only and that it is being considered due to the COVID-19 pandemic. S. Copeland stated that the intent is not to dissuade people from attending, but to ensure the Town Meeting starts on time and that a quorum remains throughout the meeting. S. Houde asked if it was possible to have a remote town meeting. S. Copeland stated that option is only for Towns with a Representative Town Meeting form of government. R. Pontbriand stated it can be reduced to no less than 10% of the current quorum, which is 50 and he is recommending 25. SB members agreed that they were comfortable with 25.

Mr. David Bodurtha, 28 Coolidge Road stated that he didn't feel this was necessary.

Ms. Janet Providakes, 1 Briliana Court asked what the rationale was in lowering the quorum. S. Houde clarified that we are not attempting to cap the number of people attending, but due want to ensure that we finalize all Town business in the event that fewer people came to Town Meeting because of COVID-19.

J. Livingston stated that the concerns on lowering the quorum are valid and she is recommending lowering the quorum to 40 voters.

Motion: A motion was made by J. Livingston and seconded by S. Houde to lower the quorum pursuant to the Provisions of Section 7 of Chapter 92 of the Acts of 2020 to 40 voters for the Annual Special Fall Town Meeting being held on Monday October 26, 2020. **Roll Call:** S. Copeland, no; S. Houde, aye; J. Livingston, aye. **Motion passed by Roll Call Vote 2-1.**

Adjournment:

Motion: A motion was made by S. Houde and seconded by J. Livingston to adjourn at 5:59 PM. **Roll Call:** S. Copeland, aye; S. Houde, aye; J. Livingston, aye. **Motion passed by Roll Call Vote 3-0.**

Minutes Recorded and Submitted by Carly M. Antonellis, Assistant Town Manager

Date Minutes Approved by BOS: _____

11/2/2020

Signature Indicating Approval: _____

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'S. Houde', written over a horizontal line.