

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FORT EDWARD TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2020 VIA ZOOM COMMENCING AT 4:00 P.M.**

Supervisor Losaw called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Losaw
Councilwoman Mullen
Councilwoman Holden
Councilman Fisher
Councilman Mercier

OTHERS PRESENT: Ryan Carpenter, Peter Ives, Caitlin Mahoney and Town Clerk Aimee Mahoney

BUSINESS:

Pool Opening Rules

Supervisor Losaw: We will need a resolution to open the pool or not, I am assuming everybody would like to. I don't see any reason why not, I did put a call in to our Attorney and he really hasn't responded back to me. We have permission from the State and the Department of Health and all that so it's a matter of if we are willing to accept the liability if there is any.

Councilman Fisher: We have liability every year.

Supervisor Losaw: Yes that's true, there is always going to be something. I think Ryan has put together a pretty good plan for screening when people come in; the only thing I don't see on here is temperature checks. Are you okay with doing temperature checks?

Ryan Carpenter: Yes, I think we probably have to have someone at the gate anyways throughout the day so if we have 4 or 5 lifeguards on at a time then one person can go to the gate on each rotation. Especially if we are going to keep it to Fort Edward residents only that would be part of the check with people coming in. I don't know if we have to do any type of a symptom survey or anything like that but I definitely think doing the temperature checks. I reached out to Mark Andrejkovics who runs the Hudson Falls Pool but he has not gotten anything from his recreation director, he is not sure that they are going to open because they are overseen by the school. I did look at some guidelines from DOH that came out last week when the Governor said that public pools would be able to open. I also looked at Gurney Lane as well to see if we could steal a couple of those ideas as well. What they are doing is having people register online ahead of time, they are doing 2 different sessions and only allowing people to register for 1 at a time and then they are cleaning surfaces in between those 2 sessions. They are limiting their occupancy to 75 people per session and they are also only doing Queensbury residents. One thing I did not have on the list that I sent out last week was I had originally thought about putting

out only half of the benches and tables but I think maybe if we did not do that and instead allowed people to bring their own chairs if that is something that we would be able to do.

Supervisor Losaw: It would be easier to clean if they bring their own.

Ryan Carpenter: Right exactly.

Supervisor Losaw: If they are wooden tables, how do you disinfect wooden tables?

Ryan Carpenter: If we have hand sanitizer or wipes or anything like that and we have a half hour maybe when we do the adult swim if we had to we could wipe them down but like I said Gurney Lane is making people bring their own chairs. Also, looking at the DOH guidelines they want to make sure that individuals that are on the premise or even in the pool that are from a different household stay 6 feet apart from each other. If 2 groups of people walk down to the pool together from different households if we are able to monitor that or not. They do say no groups more than 10 together especially if they are coming from a different household. If people are on the premise and not able to social distance they have to wear a mask but not in the water. They don't have any specifics on the occupancy but they do say to limit the maximum size of any single group of people on the premise or in the water that you would be able to keep people separated 6 feet apart. Our maximum occupancy is 170, Gurney lane is doing 75 and I think 75 is reasonable to have on the premise or in the pool and still be able to social distance unless anybody thinks that's too many or too little.

Councilman Fisher: That sounds like a reasonable number.

Supervisor Losaw: How many do you normally get at the pool at a given time?

Ryan Carpenter: Anywhere from 50 to 75 to 150 people depending on the day. When we have a heat wave it can be mobbed.

Supervisor Losaw: Would you recommend 75?

Ryan Carpenter: I would, I think that would be a reasonable number at least to start. If we have 75 people, Fort Edward residents only and we get a heatwave and more people are trying to show up I think if we start with that number and then let the Town know that it's subject to change. If we get mid-July or the end of July and it's hot and there are more Fort Edward residents that want to come to the pool we could have things subject to change I guess.

Supervisor Losaw: You have to handle it so whatever you think your crew can handle.

Councilman Fisher: Ryan, when you do the temperature checks are you going to have them sign in so you know who is there?

Ryan Carpenter: Yes, I think that is something that we would have to do especially for tracing. That is part of DOH's recommended guidelines; maintain the logs on site that document date, time and scope of the cleaning/disinfection. My question for you guys is how do you want us to

monitor Fort Edward residents only, I had the idea of signing up at Town Hall, I don't know if there is a way to have them register online through the Town Website or if it's something where they would have to go to the office to register or not.

Supervisor Losaw: Good question

Aimee Mahoney: The only thing that I'm wondering, are you thinking July 6th for opening? July 6th is when we are going to let the public back into the office so it's okay with me if they want to come here and sign up but they won't be able to do it until after you are open so I don't know if that first week it will be show your I.D., I don't know if all kids have student I.D. or the parents can show the I.D.'s. It's going to be different and sometimes they are going to have to go home and get their stuff.

Councilman Fisher: They could give their address, you have got to know a lot of them right?

Ryan Carpenter: yes if they were able to get the address or show I.D., even if we put out the information stating that right off the get go that it's going to be Fort Edward residents only and for the first week you will have to show I.D. or give your address, keep the groups limited, only bring people from your household and maybe once the office is open they can go there to register.

Aimee Mahoney: If I am going to have a sign made to put on the fence so that you guys don't have to keep repeating yourselves, besides Fort Edward residents only, bring your own chairs, you have to wear a mask, sign in, maximum 75.

Ryan Carpenter: Obviously adhering to social distancing rules, did you say only groups from the same household?

Aimee Mahoney: I will, groups less than 10 right?

Ryan Carpenter: Yes and from the same household.

Councilwoman Holden: Temperature checks so that they aren't surprised.

Aimee Mahoney: We got the thermometer today.

Ryan Carpenter: Maybe we want to say if you have had any symptoms within the last 14 days or have been exposed to anyone in the last 14 days to stay home.

Supervisor Losaw: Don't they have a check list at the County that we can get of questions that we should be asking, health screening questions?

Ryan Carpenter: I'm sure there is something yes.

Supervisor Losaw: Probably should have one of your lifeguards fill that out instead of the residents because you can't read their writing all the time.

Aimee Mahoney: Or just when they sign in and you check their temperature instead of having all of this paperwork, I would have a clipboard, have them sign in with their address and phone number and then just question them, have you had any symptoms, have you been exposed, okay go ahead because that's what they are doing out in public right now. You don't go to the store and fill out a form because then what are you going to do with that form? I just think that would be a little easier.

Ryan Carpenter: Yes, they do have to wear appropriate face coverings, my question then too is you mentioned reaching out to the Attorney, I am curious as to what happens if a lifeguard gets sick.

Supervisor Losaw: Good point, if a lifeguard comes down with it I think we have to close the pool and everyone will have to quarantine and that's why we have the papers for the screening and for the tracers to check on. Everything is subject to change with the Governor if we have a spike in cases.

Aimee Mahoney: Obviously we need to get some sort of a sturdy plastic that can withstand the weather sign. Would West Signs be what everybody would recommend?

Councilman Fisher: Is that who you have used before?

Aimee Mahoney: We don't really have a lot of signs made so I am up for suggestion. They are usually pretty quick though, I know the Fire Dept. uses them a lot.

Councilman Fisher: Just use them then if you are familiar with them.

Supervisor Losaw: Aimee did you call Tim Hardy at the County, we should probably get some signs that say social distancing required and that type of thing; 3 or 4 of them for the pool area. They might have them right at the County.

Aimee Mahoney: In addition to this one which has everything on there?

Supervisor Losaw: Yes, these are just about face coverings and social distancing.

Ryan Carpenter: Do we want to have anything in place that allows people to only stay for a certain amount of time because if we do reach that maximum capacity and someone shows up at noon and they are there until 5pm we might be keeping people from coming in at 3pm.

Councilwoman Holden: What do they normally do Ryan, do they stay the duration and are the hours going to be the same also?

Ryan Carpenter: Yes I would say that the hours remain the same. Gurney Lane is running 2 sessions from 1:30-3:30pm, closing for an hour to clean and then opening again from 4:30-6:30pm. We just go from 12:00-5:45pm with a couple of 20 minute adult swims in between. If we do a 12:00-3:00pm, close for ½ hour for cleaning and then 3:30pm-6:00pm.

Aimee Mahoney: Yes and when they sign in they could write the time they arrived.

Councilman Fisher: Right, give another group a chance after 3:30pm.

Supervisor Losaw: If you don't have many people coming in for the second one if the first crew wants to come back that would be okay.

Ryan Carpenter: Yes but people who haven't been there get first come first serve for that second session.

Ryan Carpenter: As far as swim lessons, I haven't seen anything from DOH on that. I don't know if we would want to limit that to just kids that can swim on their own because we have those 4 and 5 year olds that require a lot of hands on which obviously is not an option at this point.

Councilman Fisher: Maybe we shouldn't do them this year.

Ryan Carpenter: Maybe we could say swim lessons to be determined in case something comes out later in the summer and we can do that or come up with some other guidelines.

Supervisor Losaw: When are your swim lessons normally?

Ryan Carpenter: First two or second two weeks of July normally.

Councilwoman Holden: Are they through rec. or through the pool?

Ryan Carpenter: No, we run it. It is Monday-Friday for 2 weeks from 11:00am-12:00pm. We do get big groups of younger kids and it's a lot of hands on and I don't see that being an option right now.

Supervisor Losaw: Would it be wise just to not do it at all?

Ryan Carpenter: Yes but like I said we can just say to be determined that way we can change it if need be.

Supervisor Losaw: Seems like we have a plan of action, we will open up on July 6th and go from there, Aimee will call West Signs for a sign.

Councilwoman Holden: I just want to say thank you to Ryan, this probably was not an easy task to put all of this together. Thank you for being so thorough.

Ryan Carpenter: No Problem.

Councilwoman Mullen: Good job Ryan.

MOTION by Councilman Fisher, Seconded by Councilwoman Mullen to accept the plan and open the pool July 6, 2020 **ALL AYES**

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Councilman Fisher, Seconded by Councilwoman Mullen to adjourn the meeting at 4:25 p.m. **ALL AYES**

Dated: July 8, 2020

Aimee Mahoney, Town Clerk