

**Town of Kennebunkport
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Town Hall – 6 Elm Street
December 28, 2017 – 9:00 AM**

Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting of December 28, 2017

Selectmen Attending: Stuart Barwise, Patrick A. Briggs, Allen Daggett, Edward Hutchins, and Sheila Matthews-Bull

Others: Michael Claus, Patricia Shotwell Concannon, Werner Gilliam, Jennifer Lord, Arlene McMurray

1. Call to Order.

Chair Briggs called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

2. Approve the December 12, and 14, 2017, selectmen meeting minutes.

Motion by Selectman Daggett, seconded by Selectman Barwise, to approve the December 12, and 14, 2017, selectmen meeting minutes. **Vote:** 5-0.

3. Public Forum (This is an opportunity for anyone who wants to address the Board of Selectmen with any issue that is not on the agenda.).

Patricia Shotwell Concannon passed out a letter to the Board (See Exhibit A) which states that her and her son moved into her deceased grandmother's house on Maine Street which is located in front of the Post Office. In August, she noticed an Amazon truck was doing deliveries at the Post Office anywhere from 3:45 AM to 6:00 AM. Her problem is the truck's back up alarm system which beeps excessively as it tries to maneuver forward and backward into the loading dock. This beeping noise disturbs her and her son's sleep and has gotten continually worse in the following months. As a result, her only recourse was to move back to Massachusetts with her son.

Ms. Concannon said that her neighbor, Mr. Hill, is also bothered by this noise. She stated that she has tried to address this problem with everyone from the town manager, postmaster, police, and code enforcement, to even the truck drivers. Although many were sympathetic, she has not been able to get this problem resolved. She said she has no problem with trucks delivering at 6:00 AM, which is the allowable start delivering time.

Board discussion followed that:

- The Post Office is Federal property, so the Town has no authority.
- The Town's Noise Ordinance will not cover this.
- Perhaps report this problem to someone higher up than the Postmaster.

- Her neighbor Mr. Hill should also write a letter.
- The Post Office could put up a gate that does not open until 6 AM.

The Board invited Werner Gilliam to the meeting to seek advice. Mr. Gilliam said vehicles are exempt in Noise Ordinances along with the backup alarms, and the Federal government is exempt from local zoning.

The Board will look into trying to resolve this problem. Also, perhaps the Town Manager's contacts with the legislature would help.

4. Consider request from the Ad Hoc Senior Advisory Committee to extend its term ending January 31, 2018, to March 31, 2018.

Motion by Selectman Barwise, seconded by Selectman Hutchins, to approve the request from the Ad Hoc Senior Advisory Committee to extend its term ending January 31, 2018, to March 31, 2018. **Vote:** 5-0.

5. Approve municipal quitclaim deed for John Everest for property located at map 22, block 99, and lot 47B.

Motion by Selectman Hutchins, seconded by Selectman Daggett, to approve the municipal quitclaim deed for John Everest for property located at map 22, block 99, and lot 47B. **Vote:** 5-0.

6. Authorize the Town of Kennebunkport to issue up to \$2,000,000 in bonds for a wastewater treatment plant and pump station upgrades project.

Motion by Selectman Hutchins, seconded by Selectman Barwise, to authorize the Town of Kennebunkport to issue up to \$2,000,000 in bonds for a wastewater treatment plant and pump station upgrades project. **Vote:** 5-0.

7. Other business.

Selectman Hutchins announced that the Board will be getting letters from several people complaining about abandoned mooring fees. Jen Lord said she has received eight complaints so far.

Selectman Matthews-Bull thanked the highway department for plowing the roads on Christmas morning.

8. Approve the December 28, 2017, Treasurer's Warrant.

Motion by Selectman Barwise, seconded by Selectman Daggett, to approve the December 28, 2017, Treasurer's Warrant. **Vote:** 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Barwise, seconded by Selectman Daggett, to adjourn the meeting. **Vote:** 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 AM.

Submitted by Arlene McMurray
Administrative Assistant

December 28, 2017 - Exhibit A

Town of Kennebunkport
Board of Selectmen

Dear Sirs/Madams,

I am writing to you today to tell you about my experience with the Kennebunkport Post Office. I moved here with my son last summer, intending to make Kennebunkport my permanent residence. We moved into my grandmothers house, she built this house at 3-
Maine Street and lived here for 50 years until her death in 1990. My sister, Jennifer, currently owns the house and last summer purchased the house next door, 5 Maine Street. My sister kindly purchased 5 Maine Street with the intention that my son and I would live there after it was re-habilitated. After we made the commitment to move here and my son was enrolled in the Middle School of the Kennebunks, we found out that the Post Office, which is right behind our house, was allowing Amazon trucks to do deliveries at very early hours. Early being anywhere from 3:45am to 6:00am (I consider anything after 6am to be reasonable). These trucks are too big for the small area at the loading dock and the beeping alarm on the trucks went on for sometimes as long as 15 minutes while the drivers attempted to back into the small space. My entire family and I have stayed in this house many times over the years, both when my grandmother lived here and in the last ten years since my sister has owned it. This has not been a problem until now. Mr. Hill, who lives next door, tells me it was a major problem last winter.

It has affected me to the point that I cannot sleep past 3:45. If I sleep anywhere else I still wake up at 4am, expecting to hear the beeping and loud loading. Just recently, the trucks started coming on Sundays, a day that had previously been quiet. On days when the beeping goes on extensively it also wakes up my twelve year old son.

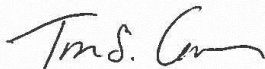
I've done everything I possibly can to get the 4am-5am delivery time changed. I've spoken to the Police, The Code Enforcement Department, I complained to the USPS and traded emails with Kennebunkport Postmaster. He was not interested in helping out or in being considerate to the post office neighbors. I even got up a few times at 4am and spoke directly with the truck drivers, they were the most sympathetic and agreed to wait until a PO employee arrived (which they had to do anyhow) before they started backing up their trucks. I've written to the town manager, Laurie Smith, who also seems to be very sympathetic and tells me she is trying to do something.

I have come to the point where I can't take the early morning jolts out of REM sleep anymore. I've arranged for my son to go to another school and we will be moving out of this house this week. We have totally scrapped our plans to move into 5 Maine St. I think this is all incredibly sad. The Kennebunkport Post Office is not being a good neighbor and they don't care.

I am aware that there is no noise ordinance that covers this problem and that this is a federal facility. I would like to see this ordinance changed so that there is no disturbance to the peace of residents in this area before 6am.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Patricia Shotwell Concannon
Formerly of 3 Maine Street
Kennebunkport, ME