# Town of Winchendon Notice of Meeting

WINCHENDON TOWN CLERK

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 30A, Section 20 of the General Laws, as amended, notice is hereby given that a meeting of the following board, commission, or committee will be held on the date and time specified below. Said meeting will be open to the public and the press.

**Board/Committee: Historic Commission/Historic District** 

Date: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 Time 7:00PM

CONDUCTED REMOTELY THROUGH ZOOM MEETING

Requested By: Peg Corbosiero, Chair

**Topic: Historic Commission Meeting** 

Time: Sep 9, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

#### Join Zoom Meeting by computer:

https://winchendonk12.zoom.us/j/91650053159

Meeting ID: 916 5005 3159

Passcode: 7640667

#### Join on Your Cell - One tap mobile:

+19294362866,91650053159#,,,,,0#,,7640667# US (New York) +13126266799,,91650053159#,,,,,0#,,7640667# US (Chicago)

#### Join by Phone - Dial by your location:

- +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 916 5005 3159

Passcode: 7640667

- \*6 Mute/UnMute
- \*9 Raise/Lower Hand

Find your local number: <a href="https://winchendonk12.zoom.us/u/acMr4aUPd2">https://winchendonk12.zoom.us/u/acMr4aUPd2</a>

### Agenda

#### 7:00 PM Call to Order

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

• Mill Farm Initiative, Inc. Letter of Support Request

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

- Set Next Meeting Date and Agenda
- Adjournment

The meeting will be conducted through Zoom Meeting. To request assistance, contact the Town Manager's office prior to the meeting at 978 297 0085.

Notice: The above topics do not prohibit additional last minute unforeseen matters.



## Office of the Governor Commonwealth of Massachusetts State House • Boston, MA 02133 (617) 725-4000

CHARLES D. BAKER GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

#### ORDER SUSPENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN MEETING LAW, G. L. c. 30A, § 20

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting pursuant to the powers provided by Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 and Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, declared that there now exists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19"); and

WHEREAS, many important functions of State and Local Government are executed by "public bodies," as that term is defined in G. L. c. 30A, § 18, in meetings that are open to the public, consistent with the requirements of law and sound public policy and in order to ensure active public engagement with, contribution to, and oversight of the functions of government; and

WHEREAS, both the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health ("DPH") have advised residents to take extra measures to put distance between themselves and other people to further reduce the risk of being exposed to COVID-19. Additionally, the CDC and DPH have advised high-risk individuals, including people over the age of 60, anyone with underlying health conditions or a weakened immune system, and pregnant women, to avoid large gatherings.

WHEREAS, sections 7, 8, and 8A of Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 authorize the Governor, during the effective period of a declared emergency, to exercise authority over public assemblages as necessary to protect the health and safety of persons; and

WHEREAS, low-cost telephone, social media, and other internet-based technologies are currently available that will permit the convening of a public body through virtual means and allow real-time public access to the activities of the public body; and

WHEREAS section 20 of chapter 30A and implementing regulations issued by the Attorney General currently authorize remote participation by members of a public body, subject to certain limitations;

#### **NOW THEREFORE**, I hereby order the following:

(1) A public body, as defined in section 18 of chapter 30A of the General Laws, is hereby relieved from the requirement of section 20 of chapter 30A that it conduct its meetings in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body for interested members of the public through adequate, alternative means.

Adequate, alternative means of public access shall mean measures that provide transparency and permit timely and effective public access to the deliberations of the public body. Such means may include, without limitation, providing public access through telephone, internet, or satellite enabled audio or video conferencing or any other technology that enables the public to clearly follow the proceedings of the public body while those activities are occurring. Where allowance for active, real-time participation by members of the public is a specific requirement of a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, pursuant to which the proceeding is conducted, any alternative means of public access must provide for such participation.

A municipal public body that for reasons of economic hardship and despite best efforts is unable to provide alternative means of public access that will enable the public to follow the proceedings of the municipal public body as those activities are occurring in real time may instead post on its municipal website a full and complete transcript, recording, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as practicable upon conclusion of the proceedings. This paragraph shall not apply to proceedings that are conducted pursuant to a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, that requires allowance for active participation by members of the public.

A public body must offer its selected alternative means of access to its proceedings without subscription, toll, or similar charge to the public.

- (2) Public bodies are hereby authorized to allow remote participation by all members in any meeting of the public body. The requirement that a quorum of the body and the chair be physically present at a specified meeting location, as provided in G. L. c. 30A, § 20(d) and in 940 CMR 29.10(4)(b), is hereby suspended.
- (3) A public body that elects to conduct its proceedings under the relief provided in sections (1) or (2) above shall ensure that any party entitled or required to appear before it shall be able to do so through remote means, as if the party were a member of the public body and participating remotely as provided in section (2).
- (4) All other provisions of sections 18 to 25 of chapter 30A and the Attorney General's implementing regulations shall otherwise remain unchanged and fully applicable to the activities of public bodies.

This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until rescinded or until the State of Emergency is terminated, whichever happens first.

Given in Boston at 2.1 PM this 12th day of March, two thousand and twenty.

CHARLES D. BAKER

GOVERNOR

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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