**REMOTELY PRESENT**: Thomas Driscoll (Chair), Matthew Newman (Secretary), Adam Gedutis (Member), Lisa Cullity (Health Agent and Sheila Landy (BoH Secretary).

Chair Driscoll opened the meeting and read the statement regarding COVID-19 and meeting procedures.

**HEALTH AGENT REPORT**

The Health Agent gave an update of the current COVID situation in Pembroke. The numbers are high and have been rising since Thanksgiving. The contact tracing is pointing to social gatherings. Some cases are related to the person’s occupation. The cases per day (and for the month) are the highest we have ever seen.

There is no evidence of spread in the schools nor the youth sports activities. Statistically, the children that are strictly remote children have a higher incidence of COVID Cases. In school children do not miss out if they test positive for COVID. They can switch to remote learning until able to return to school. Anybody can switch to full-remote or back.

The Agent reiterated the importance of maintaining social distancing during the Christmas holiday. She reminded everyone has to take into account the risks involved in sports and other activities. For some families, the risk is too much. For others, it is more detrimental to miss those types of activities. Both the Chair and the Agent praised the sports team managers for running a tight ship and going above and beyond for the children of Pembroke.

The Agent said she understands the right of any individual to decide the risk they are willing to take whether it be wearing a mask or attending venues with large crowds, etc. They do not, however, have the right to endanger the public.

**BOARD ACTION ITEM**

*Vote to Extend License and Permit Renewal Period throughJanuary 31, 2021.*

The Chair made a motion to extend the Deadline for Permitting to January 31, 2021. Newman seconded and all were in favor (3-0-0).

*Vote to Declare COVID-19 “ Extenuating Circumstance” RE: License Renewal under Town Bylaws, Article XXXII Entitled “Denial, Revocation or Suspension of Licenses and Permits for Failure to Pay taxes.”*

 The Chair made a motion to Declare COVID-19 “ Extenuating Circumstance” RE: License Renewal under Town Bylaws, Article XXXII Entitled “Denial, Revocation or Suspension of Licenses and Permits for Failure to Pay taxes. Newman seconded and all were in favor. (3-0-0).

The Agent asked the Board if they were receiving any questions from the public. Newman said people ask why the Town Offices are closed to the public. The Agent stated the employees are there working. The Town Hall is closed to the public to prevent crowding. You can call to take to any office.

The Chair asked how the vaccine will be disbursed. The Agent state the Governor has outlined it with Medical Front Line workers. First Responders and community front line people next. Towns will be working together with CVS and ConvenientMD. Next would be strategic on-site disbursement at congregate care setting (New England Villages, Nursing homes) possibly in a partnership with the National Guard. Mass population would be next starting with our most compromised population.

Adam asked why the bus drivers are not notified if a student is positive. The agent stated it depends on the exposure. Bus drivers not be a close contact for anyone riding on the bus as the seating is spaced. A close contact is less than six feet about for fifteen minutes. The Agent also reminded all of the HIPPA laws. It is against the law to release private medical information.

The Chair asked if, with the impending storm, would warming stations be open in the event of loss of electricity, etc. The Agent said we would not be opening warming stations as we would not be able to maintain social distancing.

*Approve Minutes of August 25, 2020, September 29, 2020, October 27, 2020, and November 17, 2020*

The Chair tabled to the next meeting.

The Agent thanked the public for the cooperation with COVID protocols and to continue to make good choices. The Chair agreed and asked people to be responsible.

Mr. Newman and the Chair wished everyone a joyous Holiday Season.

The Chair asked for motion to adjourn at 6:34. Mr. Newman made a motion to adjourn, Gedutis seconded and all were in favor (3-0-0).

The Chair signed off at 6:35.