

TOWN OF TUFTONBORO
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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Selectmen's Emergency Meeting
1:00 pm – Town Office

Monday, March 13, 2017

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Carolyn Sundquist, Selectman Lloyd Wood, Selectman Bill Marcussen and Administrative Secretary Karen Koch. Chairman Sundquist called the emergency meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

The Selectmen met with Town Moderator Dan Barnard, Town Clerk Heather Cubeddu, and Police Chief Shagoury to discuss options relative to tomorrow's scheduled election. There was discussion about the Secretary of State stating that RSA 669:1 (all towns shall hold an election annually for the election of town officers on the second Tuesday in March) overrules RSA 40:4 (town moderator can decide to postpone a voting day in case of a weather emergency). The Attorney General has objected to the Secretary of State's interpretation of the statute and will hold a conference call with other state officials this afternoon to determine what to do. Attorney Sager advised via email that postponing the meeting is entirely up to the Moderator, not the Secretary of State.

There was discussion regarding dangers of travel, potential loss of electricity and heat due to high winds, effect on counting of school ballots, making the decision today versus tomorrow morning, etc.

Per the agreement of the group, Chairman Sundquist called Randy Walker, Wolfeboro School Board and Town Moderator to obtain his opinion. Initially Mr. Walker did not want the election date moved. He later called back and changed his opinion.

The group shared varying opinions for and against moving the election date. If Town Elections are rescheduled, Mr. Barnard proposed moving them to Thursday and Town Meeting to Saturday. The group shared their opinions in regards to moving both dates. According to statute, if Town Meeting remains Wednesday and Elections are postponed to Thursday, there will need to be a vote at Town Meeting to change the order of the agenda, as election of officers is the first article on the warrant. Mr. Barnard decided to wait a few more hours to watch the weather report and see what other towns are doing before making a final decision.

At 1:45 pm, Selectman Wood moved to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Marcussen with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Koch, Administrative Secretary