

Agenda
Emergency Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday, November 30, 2021
6:00 PM
In Person or VIA Zoom

6:00 PM – Public Comment

6:05 PM – Mask Discussion for The Town of Warren – Regarding the Legislative Action

6:30 PM – Other Business

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88595437913?pwd=Q2FHdVVod3podkFKWnJsY0N0NnNNQT09>

Meeting ID: 885 9543 7913

Passcode: 531834

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Selectboard Minutes of November 30, 2021

Emergency Meeting – Face Masking

6:00 PM

In Person or VIA Zoom

Members Present: Andy Cunningham, Bob Ackland, Luke Youmell, Camilla Behn & Devin Klein Corrigan.

Others Present: Jim Westhelle (Sugarbush) Erika (Valley Reporter), Jeff Campbell, Gene Bifano, Tracy Kelly (Pitcher Inn), Ben (TV 44/45), Carolyn Sistrand, (Channel 5 News), John's Phone, Dylan Frazer & Cindi Jones.

6:07 PM – Meeting Called to order by Mr. Cunningham.

6:08 PM -Mr. Cunningham commented that the Legislature passed a short-term bill until April 30, 2022 as described below:

The bill, which passed the House in the early evening, authorizes towns, cities, and villages to establish masking requirements through rule. A local legislative body may initially adopt the masking requirement for up to 45 days and may renew it subsequently for 30-day periods through April 30, 2022. The rule would not be subject to petition and could take effect immediately upon adoption at a duly warned regular or special meeting of the local legislative body. The rule would not apply to schools.

Mr. Cunningham asked the board on their thoughts about going back to mandatory masking in Warren. The board received a few emails from taxpayers that they wanted to have mandatory masking in Warren.

Mr. Youmell motioned to adopt the Mask Mandate, seconded by Ms. Behn. Discussion followed as Mr. Campbell had presented an edited version of the policy from VLCT for requiring facial masks. Some of the businesses have their own protocols regarding masking up at their businesses. Mr. Youmell commented that most businesses have protocols and this isn't going to change what the businesses are currently doing now. Ms. Kelly from the Pitcher Inn commented that she is full support of the masking mandate as her staff and guests mask up and they have very little push back. Mr. Westhelle from Sugarbush commented that as of November 15th all their offices require masking inside and in private spaces. At the lodge area they do require guests to wear masks in the boot up section and at Clay Brook lodge as well and when people come for dining. They feel they are doing a good job in controlling this.

Mr. Bifano commented that the board is presuming that travelers are not educated. Everyone knows the risks, people have a choice and this mandate is not going to make people wear masks, so why pass it, if it is unenforceable?

Ms. Klein Corrigan commented that the philosophy is what we are seeing with the variants is that they are more transmissible than previous versions therefore more resist to the vaccines and is so as far as transmissible. The vaccines are still effective for illness but we are looking at trying to stop the spread of transmission. The best ways to stop the spread the spread is to wear a mask, social distance and be vaccinate. Therefore, the one tool in the toolbox is to all wear masks. Mr. Ackland commented that we need to get ahead of it to stop the spread of the virus with the tools we have, wear a mask, social distance and get vaccinated as he felt that the country was a little slow the first time.

Ms. Klein Corrigan commented that we as municipality have the right as a part of government when we entering into a democratic system, we are part of the social contract that we forfeit certain freedoms to allow general freedoms for all.

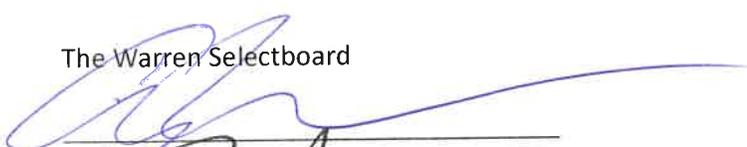
Mr. Cunningham commented that the expectation is that we as a town pass a mandate on facial masking so that everyone is aware of the virus and that the people who are front line workers have some protection with something they can point to that has some action that people will be more likely to wear a mask. We are not looking to enforce this on anyone. A full version of the Masking Mandate is attached.

Mr. Youmell amended his previous motion to read: Motion to pass the amendment as presented by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Ms. Behn. All in Favor: VOTE: 5-0.

6:41 PM – Motion by adjourn by Mr. Ackland, Seconded by Mr. Youmell.
All in Favor: VOTE: 5-0.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by,
Cindi Jones, Warren Town Administrator

The Warren Selectboard



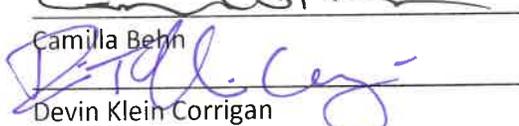
Andrew Cunningham Chair



Bob Ackland



Luke Youmell



Camilla Behn



Devin Klein Corrigan