



Office of the Board of Selectmen
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Randall V. Becker, Chairman
Donald D. Bourque, Vice-Chairman
Andrew Jolda, Secretary
Lisa Kontoes
Earl Gabor

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

Friday, June 5, 2020 9:00 A.M.

Selectmen's Meeting Room

Webster Town Hall, 350 Main Street, Webster, MA
via conference call in accordance with Governor Baker's
emergency "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the
Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §20
9:00 a.m.

MEETING OPENING: At 9:00 a.m., Chairman Becker called the meeting to order in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Webster Town Hall, 350 Main Street, Webster, MA. The following individuals were present: Chairman Becker, Selectman Don Bourque (Via Zoom Meeting), Selectman Andrew Jolda, Selectman Earl Gabor (via Zoom Meeting), Town Administrator Doug Willardson, and Executive Assistant Courtney Friedland. The Board stood and took the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Becker stated on March 12, 2020, Governor Baker issued an Executive Order modifying certain requirements of the Open Meeting Law, to enable public bodies to carry out their responsibilities while adhering to public health recommendations regarding social distancing as fully stated on the agenda. The Executive Order relieves public bodies from the requirement in the Open Meeting Law that meetings be conducted 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 through adequate, alternative means.

OUTDOOR SEATING DISCUSSION: Mr. Willardson stated Governor Baker announced restaurants will be able to re-open for outdoor seating starting Monday, May 8, 2020. He said the ABCC is also allowing the local licensing authority to allow the extension of liquor license premises for these areas through November 1, 2020. He stated each applicant must fill out the provided forms. He stated the law allows the individual licensing authority or staff to approve the applications. He stated there will not be a charge to submit the application. Selectman Gabor asked if the restaurants that have been closed will be inspected. Mr. Willardson stated the Board of Health Agent and the Building inspector are working together to do inspections. Selectman Jolda stated for clarification that onsite liquor licenses can apply to extend to the outdoor seating area on a temporary basis. If an establishment does not have a liquor license they still must apply for outdoor seating but can't serve alcohol. Chairman Becker asked if the appropriate protection will be in place to protect the diners. He stated he does have concerns. Mr. Willardson stated the Building inspector has already been out and has been inspecting the barriers. He stated the application requires the establishment outline what barriers will be in place. He said this will be reviewed before it is approved.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Gabor, to authorize the Town Administrator to approve requests for outdoor seating areas for restaurants and expand the premises for on-premises liquor licenses holders.

Call Vote: Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Bourque – yes and Chairman Becker – yes.

ADJOURN: At 9:13 a.m.,

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Bourque, to adjourn.

Call Vote: Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Bourque – yes and Chairman Becker – yes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Courtney M. Friedland, Executive Secretary to the Board of Selectmen