

Select Board Meeting Minutes

Town Hall - Select Board's Conference Room

Monday February 8, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m.

All meetings of the Select Board are recorded

ATTENDANCE: Chairman, Doug Moglin - Remote
Vice-Chairman, Joseph J. Deedy - Remote
Clerk, Russell S. Fox - Remote
Chief Administrative Officer, Karl J. Stinehart – Remote
Select Board Secretary, Robin A. Solek –Town Hall

Meeting Notices: Pursuant to the Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A, 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Select Board will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the office of the AG Web page at <https://www.mass.gov/guides/resources-during-covid-19#-open-meeting-law->.

No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted. We will post on the town's website an audio recording as soon as possible after the meeting.

The Public Body convened in Open Session according to M.G.L. c.30A, S21 (b) (1). The scheduled meeting of the Select Board was called to order by Chairman Doug Moglin at 5:30 p.m. Mr. Moglin read above State Laws and Governor Order into record.

Chairman roll call attendance of Board Members present for meeting.

Conducted Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments: There were none.

Payables, Payroll and Minutes:

- **Acknowledge Payroll Warrant #2118, dated 02/02/2021 in the amount of \$230,042.89.**
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Deedy, seconded by Mr. Fox (Vote-Unanimous) to approve Open Session Minutes of February 1, 2021.
- **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes.**
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Deedy, seconded by Mr. Fox (Vote-Unanimous) to approve Executive Session Minutes of February 1, 2021.
- **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes.**

Mr. Moglin, Chairman suggested to have a discussion with the 2 candidates, seeing as how they had been interviewed at an earlier meeting. Mr. Deedy, Vice-Chair, and Mr. Fox agreed.

5:35p.m. Appointments FF/EMT Interview:

- Josh Girard stated that he has worked hard to become a Paramedic. He still has a little longer to go, training should be completed by the end of March. He is dedicated and has been held to a different higher standard coming from a family of Fire Fighters.

5:45p.m Appointments FF/EMT Interview:

- Michael Newman has just passed his Paramedic license a few days ago. He is eager to be a part of Southwick and would like to continue his education.
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Deedy (Vote: Unanimous) to appoint Josh Girard and Michael Newman as Paramedics, upon passage of a cori, physical and other requirements set forth by the Deputy Chief.
- **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes**
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Deedy (Vote: Unanimous) to extend until June 30, 2021, Shane Hope as a Provisional FF/EMT.
- **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes**

Meeting Discussion Items, Action Items, Bills, Mail, Correspondence, Vendor and/or Personnel Contracts, Personnel Decisions, Policy Adoptions, Payroll Actions, Old Business, New Business, Etc.-Possible Motions/Votes:

- Notification to Town Clerk for Ballot Questions for local elections.
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Deedy (Vote: Unanimous) to authorize C.A.O. to finalize FY 22 Western Hampden District Veteran's Service Budget.
- **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes**
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote: Unanimous) to appoint C. Arnold, H.E.O. for DPW Highway Division. This is an internal position.
- **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Abstain, R. Fox: Yes**
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Deedy (Vote: Unanimous) to approve amended Policy Use of Sick Leave when Quarantining Due to COVID-19. See attachment.
- **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes**

New Business:

- The Select Board agreed to renew their corporate membership to the Rotary Club for one more year.
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Deedy (Vote: Unanimous) to Authorize the Chairman to sign the MOA with the Clerical Union for 3 year term.
- **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes**

- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Deedy (Vote: Unanimous) to sign PVPC Invoice #10, in the amount of \$4,968.42 for CDBG, Bungalow Street.
- **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes**

Old Business:

- Road Name Change Southwick Hill Road to Iron Horse Hill. (no discussion)
- SPD LT Recruitment Process. (no discussion)
- Westcomm Regional Dispatch Discussion: The Select Board explained the next step going forward is to send a letter of interest to Westcomm Regional Dispatch, so that in the town's behalf they can apply for a grant.
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Deedy (Vote: Unanimous) to authorize the Chairman to send a letter of interest to Westcomm Regional Dispatch.
- **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes**
Sgt Westcott expressed that he had a 3rd option he would like to present to the Select Board. Sgt. Westcott would have to find an alternative way to present his proposal, it would likely have to be the Chief and Lieutenant that would have to advance the option. Sgt. Westcott is the Union President for the Police Department.
- Green Energy Program with MA DOER. Informational Sessions before Town Meeting in May.
- Sewer Abatement Policy after 2/14/2021 Mr. Fox and the DPW Director have started the process.
- Town Crier Policy in draft form.

A MOTION to go into Executive Session Pursuant to M.G.L. Chap. c. 30A, S21 (2) & (3) Ch. 214, Section 1B and; CMR 20.03 (1) B at 6:25 p.m.

RE: Labor Counsel RE; Collective Bargaining Police, DPW, Dispatch, Clerk and Library Units

Executive Session RE: M.G.L. Chap. c. 30A, S21 (2) & (3) Ch. 214, Section 1B and; CMR 29.03 (1)(b).

RE: Police, DPW, Clerks, Dispatch Unions, Dept. Heads and Non-Union Staff

Exception #2:

Move to go into Executive Session to conduct collective bargaining sessions, with nonunion personnel and to:

not to reconvene in Open Session

(Chair Must Declare).

Move to go into Executive Session to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, and to:

not to reconvene in Open Session

(Chair Must Declare).

declare that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining

position of the body, and to

not to reconvene in Open Session

(Chair Must Declare).

Exception #3: Move to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and that the Chair Move to go into Executive Session to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel, and to

Not to reconvene Open Session

(Chair Must Declare).

Move to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to litigation, and that the Chair declare that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the body, and to:

not to reconvene in Open Session

(Chair Must Declare).

RE: Ch. 214, Section 1B

Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin A. Solek

