

Select Board Meeting Minutes

Town Hall - Select Board's Conference Room

Monday, August 22, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

All meetings of the Select Board are recorded

Location: Town Hall Auditorium

All meetings of the Select Board are recorded except Executive Session

Date of this meeting: August 22, 2022

Meeting Notice: This meeting held Pursuant to Chapter 20, Acts of 2021

Notice: Hybrid meeting with limited technology until new equipment comes in the future. In the event of any technical difficulties, we will ensure a recorded tape of the proceedings is placed upon the Town Web page 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 Russ Fox at 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Chairman, Russell S. Fox – Present
Vice-Chairman, Doug Moglin - Present
Clerk, Jason Perron - Present
Chief Administrative Officer, Karl J. Stinehart – Absent
Administrative Assistant, Robin A. Solek – Present

Chairman roll call attendance of Board Members present for meeting.

****Moment of Silence for Louise Tagliavini, Historical Commission****

6:00 p.m. Public Comments:

Celeste St. Jacques, Town Moderator, 22 Deer Run discussed the Finance Committee appointments. The members do an excellent job and work well with the Select Board.

Inga Hotaling, Kline Road, discussed oath the Select Board took. Dissatisfied Maryssa Cook-Obregon not being re-appointed to Conservation Commission.

Cindy Lamoureux, 132 Granville Road, discussed possibility of a MCAD claim.

Carol Gauthier, 6 Island Pond Road displeasure of Maryssa Cook Obregon not being reappointed

Gary Yelin, 7 South Longyard Road why was Maryssa not reappointed?

Michelle Pratt, 152 Berkshire Avenue, discussed North Pond, thanked Mr. Fox and Mr. Perron for attending the CRC meeting and being available to answer questions, disappointed that Maryssa Cook Obregon was not reappointed, presented a survey she drafted

Sage Fury, 91 Granville Road spoke in support of Maryssa Cook Obregon

Dennis Clark, 75 Fred Jackson Road spoke in support of Maryssa Cook Obregon

Joanne Leblanc, Reservoir Road shocked Maryssa Cook Obregon not reappointed. Please reconsider

Kimberly LaMarche, 27 Granville Road agreed with public comments and Maryssa not being reappointed

Machenzie Diaz, 147 South Loomis, spoke in support of Maryssa Cook Obregon, discouraged she was not reappointed

For verbatim please visit www.southwickma.org 8/8/22 audio minutes.

6:05 p.m. STGRSD School Committee Vacancy:

Members of the STGRSD School Committee along with the Select Board interviewed Desiree Melloni. A series of questions were asked. The vacancy is to fill the entire term. A MOTION was made by R. Korobkov, seconded by E. Emmelmann- Roll Call Vote: R. Korobkov Yes, E. Emmelmann Yes, P. Jubb Yes, D. Moglin Yes, R. Fox Yes, J. Perron Yes.

Ms. Melloni was congratulated and wished a successful term.

6:15 p.m. Deputy Chief Interviews:

The Select Board interviewed Jess Bishop and Jeff Hamberg for the Deputy Chief. Each candidate was asked the same 12 questions (see attachment). The candidates were given an opportunity to speak or ask any questions. The Select Board thanked the candidates it would be determined at the end of the Select Board meeting if a final decision would be made.

6:40 p.m. Career Firefighter Interviews:

There were 4 candidates interviewed for the Career Firefighter position.

Krysta Downs, Ian Hurley, Ryan Jano and Jessica Meluzzi.

The candidates were asked the same 5 questions (see attachment). They were given the opportunity to speak or ask any questions.

The Deputy Chief was asked for his recommendation, all four were excellent candidates. Ian Hurley and Krysta Downs were recommended.

7:00 p.m. DPW Director Re: Hudson Drive to Sam West Road Feasibility Presentation for Mass Development Agency Grant Requirement:

The DPW Director, Jon Allard Project Manager for Fuss & O'Neill and Amanda Gregoire VP Real Estate for Mass Development Agency presented their findings of extending Hudson Drive to Sam West Road.

- Better access
- Alignment avoids Right of Way takings
- Reduces traffic
- Improve municipal infrastructure

The Select Board will continue to support the project.

Payables, Payroll and Minutes:

- Acknowledge Payables Warrant #2306B, dated 8/9/22, in the amount of \$3,615,220.79
- Acknowledge Payroll Warrant #2304, dated 8/16/22, in the amount of \$255,475.75
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to approve the Open Session Minutes 8/8/22.

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

- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to approve the Executive Session Minutes 8/8/22.

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

- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Moglin seconded by Mr. Perron (Vote - Unanimous) to accept a donation in the amount of \$108.00 from I.B.S., \$100.00 from Carey Leckie, and \$208.00 from the Martel children (lemonade stand) a round of applause for their contribution, and \$100.00 from an anonymous donor for the Animal Control Shelter.
Roll Call Vote: R. Fox: Yes, D. Moglin: Yes, J. Perron: Yes.
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Moglin seconded by Mr. Perron (Vote - Unanimous) to table the PVPC Invoice #14 in the amount of \$6,507.13 for FY 20 Southwick Community Assistance Program to the next SB meeting and to include backup sheet.
Roll Call Vote: R. Fox: Yes, D. Moglin: Yes, J. Perron: Yes.
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Moglin seconded by Mr. Perron (Vote - Unanimous) to acknowledge the resignation of Terry Mish, Finance Committee. A certificate of appreciation will be drafted.
Roll Call Vote: R. Fox: Yes, D. Moglin: Yes, J. Perron: Yes.

New Business:

- Discuss MGL Ch.268A Special Municipal Designation request for Community Preservation Committee.
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Moglin seconded by Mr. Perron (Vote – Unanimous) to designate the Community Preservation Committee as Special Municipal Employees.
Roll Call Vote: R. Fox: Yes, D. Moglin: Yes, J. Perron: Yes.
- A ceremony for Hidden Heroes will be held on 10/25/22 @ 6:00 p.m. at the STGRSD.
- Free concert at Whalley Park on Wednesday 8/24/22.

Old Business:

- North Pond violations site waiting for Fish & Game Agreement – Becoming a serious problem. Working on dates end of August to organize a meeting with all interested parties. Requesting to refer as a shore line not a beach. Meeting 8/30/22.
- HVAC – design Young Developers. Arthur Lawler Clerk of the Works.
- Sewer System IMA with City of Westfield update
- Deputy Fire Chief Decision and Offer Discussion.
A MOTION was made by D. Moglin, seconded by J. Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to appoint Jessica Bishop as Deputy Chief pending all pre-employment requirements.
- Request from High Speed Internet to put forth a Warrant Article for next Town Meeting Approval to form a MLP (Municipal Light Plant)
- Conservation Commission Vacancy – next meeting
- Review Southwick PB Comprehensive Impact Statement Hand Book – assigned to Mr. Moglin
- Military Leave Research for Labor Counsel to review
- **A MOTION** was made by J. Perron, seconded by D. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to appoint Ian Hurley as Career Firefighter pending all pre-employment requirements.

- **A MOTION** to go into Executive Session Pursuant to M.G.L. Chap. c. 30A, S21 (2) & (3) and Ch. 214, Section 1B at 8:30 p.m.
Litigation Matters or Threatened Litigation
Executive Session RE: M.G.L. Chap. c. 30A, S21 (2) & (3) Ch. 214, Section 1B and;
Roll Call Vote: R. Fox: Yes, D. Moglin: Yes, J. Perron: Yes.

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

A person shall have a right against unreasonable, substantial or serious interference with their privacy. The superior court shall have jurisdiction in equity to enforce such right and in connection therewith to award damages.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin A. Solek
Administrative Assistant