

Select Board
Meeting Minutes
Town Hall - Select Board's Conference Room
Monday August 7, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.
All meetings of the Select Board are recorded

Roll Call Attendance:

ATTENDANCE: Chairman, Doug Moglin – In person
Vice-Chairman, Jason Peron – In person
Clerk, Diane Gale – In person
Chief Administrative Officer, Karl J. Stinehart – Remote
Assistant Chief Administrative Officer, Nadine Cignoni – In person
Select Board Secretary, Lisa A. Anderson- In person

The Board asked Commander Darcy Rock to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments:

Joseph Deedy from 158 Feeding Hills Road, asked now that the Treasurer's office is full when can they expect it to be open again full time to the public. Chairman Moglin will get back to Mr. Deedy with an answer.

On Zoom:

Joanne Leblanc, 38 Reservoir Road, asked that a senior citizen for a transfer sticker has to be 60 years old, but the water discount for a senior citizen is 65, why is it different. Mr. Moglin stated that he believes each Board can set their own age requirement, but he will ask to be sure.

- The Select Board Interviewed candidates for the Police and Fire Departments and asked the same specific questions for all applicants.
- The Select Board Interviewed Firefighter/Paramedic Martin Biela for the full-time Career opening with SFD. (See video for entire interview).
- The Select Board Interviewed Firefighter/Paramedic Krysta Downs for the full-time Career opening with SFD. (See video for entire interview).
- The Select Board Interviewed with Paramedic Joshua Dickmann for a Call Force Per Diem Paramedic position with SFD. (See video for entire interview).
- The Select Board Interviewed with Steven Pinette for a full-time Police Officer position. (See video for entire interview).
- The Select Board Interviewed with Nicholas Hultine for a full-time Police Officer position. (See video for entire interview).
- The Select Board Interviewed with Nathan Charlotte for a full-time Police Officer position. (See video for entire interview).
- The Board met with American Legion Post 338 Commander, Darcy Rock regarding the Annual Land Use License Fee. Darcy Rock stated that she is looking to get an extension on the payment. Darcy is trying to understand the fee for the Land Agreement with the Town. Darcy was told by prior members that they used to pay \$1 a year for the Land Agreement in the past and now the price is up over \$5,000.00. Darcy cannot find all the

Legion files, past bills, receipts of payments and would like to see if the Town has any that she could get to fill in the gap.

Chairman Moglin said that she could file Freedom of Information for them or we could just look in our files and get her the information.

Darcy went on to say, that since she has taken over as Commander, she has had to do a lot of expensive repairs to the building. Membership is up. We want to give back to our community and it is hard to keep doing that with a cost like this. We would like some time at a future meeting to do some discovery.

Chairman Moglin stated that this is a license that started in 2022, American Legion 338 had signed the Agreement in 2022 – 2025 so we are in the middle of that term. Darcy agreed because at that time she was new to the position and her Board told her it was something she had to sign.

Mr. Moglin explained that this is Town Land leased to the School who then grants the American Legion a license. We found out a couple years back that the Motor Cross was using more School land to have his events. Darcy would like to ask that she see the last 3 agreements with the Town because she has unsigned bills. She also stated that its not fair that we get charged \$1 for years and now we are being charged \$50 less than what the land is worth. Mr. Moglin stated that the work of the Legion and the Wick are important but we need to clear that up first and then come back and request to adjust it. Darcy informed that she had no records, the Legion has already paid \$35,000 already, to a group of people giving to the community. We want our community to succeed, we want to be able to give back to the community, and it is more than the Town needs.

- The Board had three open positions on the Council on Aging Board. Current Member Paula Leblanc, Current Member Carol Laughlin and Current Member Carol Smith.

A MOTION was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to appoint Paula Leblanc, Carol Smith and Carol Laughlin to the Council on Aging Board of Directors, for a 3 year term starting 7/1/2023 – 6/30/2026.

Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

- Diane Gale wanted to ask how we are going to figure out how some applicants put a second choice, and we just appointed for that board, so how do we keep track of that. Mr. Moglin said that is an issue right now, we will have to work on it, no easy answer.
- The Board had three open positions on the Board of Appeals. Current member William Lis (Current Member), Michael Parent (Current Associate Member) and new member Dan Tobias. Mr. Tobias lives at 54 Hillside Road, gave a brief description of his life and that he was interested in joining the Board.

A MOTION was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to appoint William Lis (Current Member) for a 3 year term starting 7/1/2023 – 6/30/2026, on the Board of Appeals Member.

Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

A MOTION was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to appoint Michael Parent to a 1 year Associate position starting 7/1/2023 – 6/30/2024, and Dan Tobias to a 1 year Associate position starting 7/1/2023 – 6/30/2024, and to the Board of Appeals.

Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

- The Board had two open positions on the Historical Commission. Current Member Linda McQuade and Current Member Kirk Sanders.

A MOTION was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to appoint Current Member Linda McQuade (Current Member) to a 3 year term starting 7/1/2023 – 6/30/2026 and Kirk Sanders (Current Member) to a 3 year term starting 7/1/2023 – 6/30/2026 to the Historical Commission.

Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

- We are moving our August 21st meeting to August 14th to accommodate schedules. We are also have appointments for Conservation Commission, Agricultural Commission and High Speed Internet Committee.
- The Board acknowledged Payables Warrant #2402B, dated 7/24/2023, in the amount of \$5,652,069.69
- The Board acknowledged Payroll Warrant #2403, dated 8/1/2023, in the amount of \$272,137.20

A MOTION was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to accept the Open Session Minutes dated 7/24/2023.

Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

A MOTION was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to accept the Executive Session Minutes dated 7/24/2023 and 7/11/23 as amended.

Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

- The Board acknowledged and accepted the donation of \$125 from Sterling Catering, dba The Launch.
- **A MOTION** was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to accept the \$125 donation for the First Ever, Agricultural Commission's Farm Day.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.
- The Board acknowledged and accepted the donation \$400 donation from High Standard Transportation, LLC, the donation of \$200 from B&E Tool Company, \$50 donation from Terra Americana, LLC, \$50 donation from Sonicron Systems Corp., \$50 donation from College Highway Insurance Agency, \$50 donation from The Mason Insurance Agency, to support the Agricultural Commission's First-Ever Open Farm Day, August 20, 2023.

A MOTION was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to accept the donation to the First-Ever Agricultural Commission's Farm Day.

Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

- The Board acknowledged the Retirement notification letter from Southwick Police Department Administrative Assistant Suzanne Anderson for 8/2/2024.
- The Board Authorized the Chairman to sign E.O.E.E.A MVP Grant for Kline Road Project.

A MOTION was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to authorize the Chair Doug Moglin to sign E.O.E.E.A. MVP Grant for Kline Road Project.

Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

New Business:

- The Board discussed the hiring for a Cal Force Per Diem position to be filled.

A MOTION was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to Appoint Joshua Dickmann as a Per Diem Paramedic with the SFD.

Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

- The Board discussed the hiring for a full-time FF/Paramedic Career position. Both Strong Candidates. Chief Stefanowicz stated that in the past if they were already a Paramedic that would be our choice.

A MOTION was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to Appoint FF/Paramedic Martin Biela to fill the current full-time Career position with SFD.

Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

A MOTION was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to Appoint Krysta Downs as a Per Diem EMT with the SFD.

Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

- The Board discussed the hiring of two Full-Time Police Officer positions with SPD. That all three candidates were acceptable. Sgt. Bannish, all great candidates.

A MOTION was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to Appointed Police Officer Hultine to the full-time Police Officer position with SPD.

Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

A MOTION was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to Appointed Police Officer Steven Pinette to the full-time Police Officer position with SPD.

Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

Old Business:

- The Board discussed the hiring of the Emergency Management Director. Diane's vote would have to go to Russ Anderson for Director. Iain stated that he would like to get in a few more years of experience.

A MOTION was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to Appointed Russ Anderson at the Emergency Management Director.

Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

- **Sewer System IMA** with City of Westfield. Randy, the Town Attorneys. Ben has sent information to Westfield, to finalize the agreement soon. It has to be done in October. Once they agree to it, our Board will sign it. Then it would have to go to the Council.
- **Marijuana dispensary** – Webinar on updated rules and changes. Mr. Moglin talked to the Town Planner, the planning board should send a proposed bylaw amendment change to the Select Board and then the Select Board would then ask the Planning Board to hold a hearing. A general consensus of the Select Board members to send this to the Planning Board to get the process started.

- **Municipal Aggregation for Electricity** – The next step is for us to select a representative. Karl will make sure that Beth Greenblatt will do a zoom with Jason and himself.
- Mr. Moglin stated that we have the final reading and changes to the Flag & Banner Policy is approved, so we can take that off the old business section. Nadine and Jim are working on the online application.
- Mr. Moglin would like to start the ball on putting together a subcommittee. Karl has provided some RFP samples for all of you.
- **A MOTION** was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to Authorize Chair to sign PVPC documents.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.
- **A MOTION** was made by Doug Moglin. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to nominate Diane Gale to represent the Select Board that coordinates Green Committees project items and determines PVPC administrative role.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.
- Diane Gale just wanted to confirm that we are not meeting on August 21st, but instead meeting on August 14th. Karl Stinehart stated correct.
- Doug mentioned a newspaper article on the Federal Government for \$2Million dollar acquisition on land for a significant parcel as prime residential land. I will hope that the Agricultural use of the land can still be used, we will see.
- A preview Conservation, Ag Committee, HSIC, do we need to vote MPAC that the board has another Month of work to do.
- No Executive Session tonight.
- The Board Congratulated Nick and Steven to the SPD.
- **A MOTION** was made by Jason Perron. **Seconded by** Diane Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to Adjourn.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa A. Anderson
Select Board Secretary