

Select Board Meeting Minutes

Town Hall - Select Board's Conference Room

Monday February 1, 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 –Remote

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.

***A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR Patti Phillips
Ken Ide, Member of the Board of Appeals***

Conducted Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments: There were none.

Payables, Payroll and Minutes:

- **Acknowledge Payables Warrant #2120B, dated 01/26/2021 in the amount of \$259,782.85.**
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Deedy, seconded by Mr. Fox (Vote-Unanimous) to approve Open Session Minutes of January 25, 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 January 25, 2021.
- **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes.**

5:35p.m. Appointments re: Attorney Frank Caruso, Jen Nolasco, Transfer of Liquor License. The Cove:

A MOTION was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Deedy (Vote: Unanimous) to open the hearing at 5:35 p.m.

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

Mr. Moglin read the legal ad in its entirety.

Attorney Frank Caruso gave a brief overview of the Liquor License Transfer to LTM. The present owners would still remain the property owners. Ms. Nolasco is undecided about the reopening of Nora's. Should she re-open that other establishment she would hire a new manager. Attorney Caruso explained Ms. Nolasco will follow what the present license of the Cove reads. Entertainment will end at midnight and will hire Fire Fighter assistance if over 100 people capacity. Mr. Moglin asked if anyone would like to speak in favor of the transfer: None

Mr. Moglin asked if anyone would like to speak against the transfer: None

The Select Board emphasized adhering to the Liquor License and Entertainment License stipulations. Lt. Landis stated there is a good rapport with Ms. Nolasco and they will work closely together.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Deedy (Vote: Unanimous) to close the hearing at 5: 49 p.m.

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 approve the Liquor License Transfer of the Cove to Jennifer Nolasco, Change of Manager, Pledge of Liquor License, New LLC members, Change of DBA and establish Entertainment License.

5:50 p.m. Senator Velis and State Representative Boldyga:

Discussion with the Select Board on what is realistic for FY 22. State Representative Boldyga's highlights were:

- Covid-19 vaccinations timely
- Revenues are down \$100 million dollars was stolen from the Commonwealth Health Program
- Unemployment , Identity theft and fraud increasing

Senator Velis echoed the Representative's comments. FY 22 requests have to be realistic. Covid has effected all aspects of the economy.

Mr. Fox replied that the town has spent \$800,000.00 on lake treatments, along with a \$1,000,000.00 Bond for a new roof at the Fire Station. Town Hall will need a new roof shortly. Mr. Fox inquired if the Legislators could co-ordinate a meeting with DOT regarding a bridge in Westfield which the detour is damaging our town roads.

6:00 Police Chief and Lieutenant FY 22 Budget Highlights:

Please see the attached summary.

6:10 Fire Chief FY 22 Budget Highlights:

Please see the attached summary.

6:20 p.m. Finance Committee, Town Counsel, Police and Fire Chiefs to discuss Regional Dispatch Westcomm:

A. Pinell, Finance Committee Vice-Chairman, called a roll call vote of FinCom members for attendance.

RCV: A. Pinell, R. Horacek, S. Chamberlin, T. Mish, K. Doherty, K. Demaio: Present.

L. Bathel, Chair: Absent.

Chief Anderson gave a presentation to discuss the advantages to the Town becoming a Regional Dispatch. The first step would be for the Town of Southwick to write a letter of interest to Westcomm, so it would be possible to apply for a grant with start up costs and upgrading equipment.

It was made clear that the current dispatchers in Town have been very dedicated and loyal employees. They would have the opportunity to apply for the open positions that Westcomm Regional Dispatch has vacant. The Police Chief and Lieutenant had an opportunity to speak. Dispatcher Peter Coe offered his input for remaining an in house dispatch with 2 dispatchers on.

The process going forward is the letter of interest, Westcomm applying for the grant, award of the grant, and then a letter of commitment. The process could take up to a year or more.

A. Pinell, Finance Committee Vice-Chairman, called a roll call vote of FinCom members to adjourn the Select Board Meeting at 7.28 p.m. He asked to hold decision for one more week, after the Finance Committee Meeting on February 2, 2021. He also invited the Westcomm Executive Director to attend.

RCV: A. Pinell, R. Horacek, S. Chamberlin, T. Mish, K. Doherty, K. Demaio: Present.

L. Bathel, Chair: Absent.

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:

- Confirm with Chief Administrative Officer about Legislative requests.
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Deedy (Vote: Unanimous) to approve the FY 21 Support and Incentive Grant, Emergency Medical Grant and State 911 Department Training Grant.
- **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 authorize the Chairman to sign MGL. Ch 268A Disclosure Acting Administrative Assistant.
- **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes**
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote: Yes:2; Abstain:1) to authorize the Chairman to sign MGL. Ch. 268A Disclosure Vice-Chairman Deedy.
- **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 authorize the Chairman to sign letter of support for Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Trails Grant.
- **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 approve a 12 year note for roads portion for upcoming \$3,000,000.00 Bond Issue.
- **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 approve the Calendar Year 21 LMC Boat Ramp Attendant pay rates approval.
- **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes**
- The Select Board approved the Calendar Year 2020 Select Board Annual Report. A collage of the 250th pictures was suggested for a cover. Mr. Fox advised to contact David Pierce, he was the photographer for the 250th celebration.

New Business:

- A discussion to be held in the near future concerning the Administrative positions in the Select Board Office.

Old Business:

- Dog Hearing Finding of Fact for 102 Mort Vining Road (Langan). Mr. Fox would recommend the Langan's yard be fenced. Theo, the dog would have to be leashed when not in the fenced in yard. Theo will be considered a nuisance dog and not a dangerous dog. The Select Board also recommends some training. The C.A.O. will forward the recommendation to Town Counsel to put to form.
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Deedy (Vote: Unanimous) to approve the above recommendation.
- **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes**
- Road Name Change Southwick Hill Road to Iron Horse Hill.
- Westcomm Regional Dispatch Discussion Tabled until 2/8/2021.
- Green Energy Program with MA DOER. Reached out to the agency.
- Propose a policy going forward for water use and sewer abatement for certain uses ie: swimming pools. Mr. Fox will work the DPW Director. Carry over until next meeting.
- Town Crier Policy. Carry over until next meeting.

A MOTION to go into Executive Session Pursuant to M.G.L. Chap. c. 30A, S21 (2) & (3) Ch. 21 Section 1B and; CMR 20.03 (1) B at 8:05 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robin A. Solek", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Robin A. Solek
Administrative Assistant