***.03.22.21***

***Select Board***

***Meeting Minutes***

***Town Hall - Select Board’s Conference Room***

***Monday March 22, 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 Floater, Lisa A. Anderson- 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.** All present.

**Conducted Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Public Comments:** Michael Doherty, 16 Lexington Circle, Chairman of Planning Board would like to give his viewpoint on the Verizon matter. Question raised whether or not it would need an ethics approval or Town Counsel approval. Mr. Moglin states it falls under pending litigation for executive session. Mr. Deedy suggested that they can discuss this in an executive session. Russ Fox and Chairman Moglin agreed.

* **Acknowledge Payables Warrant #2123B, dated 03/08/2021 in the amount of $162,373.65.**
* **Acknowledge Payroll Warrant #2121 dated 3/16/2021 in the amount of $230,237.03**
* **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Deedy, seconded by Mr. Fox (Vote-Unanimous) to approve Open Session Minutes of March 08, 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 March 08, 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 Budget work session Minutes of March 6, 2021.
* **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:**

* **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Deedy, seconded by Mr. Fox (Vote: Unanimous) to approve and authorize Chairman to sign, MOA Settlement Agreement with Library Union Local 424.
* **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 and have Chairman sign agreement with PVPC for Fiscal Year 2020 CDBG Grant Admin. Services to act as our Community Development Dept.

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

* Revisit the Covid-19 Legislation and potential grants coming out in the near future. This is a $1.9 trillion federal aid package that creates new state and local Covid relief funds, with $130 billion going directly to municipal and country governments. This Legislation has already been signed. The Mass A&F and D.O.R. will provide specific guidance on allowable uses of funds and will determine final allocations. C.A.O. suggests we think about how we would like the money to be used and allocated over a two year span.
* **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Deedy, seconded by Mr. Fox (Vote: Unanimous) to accept the discharge from Lien for 46 North Lake Avenue.
* **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 Authorize Chairman and C.A.O. to approve a Sick Leave donation transfer to Robert K. Johnson.
* **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 Authorize Chairman to sign MOA w/ IAFF Local 4919 for EMT week-end coverage.
* **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 Accept and approve MA D.O.R. Annual Grant of $2,348.00 for Sewer Rate Relief.
* **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes**
* Doug Moglin would like to continue to revisit the Liquor serving permits that were handed out to businesses in 2020, and make sure BOH, Fire and Police re-inspect them if needed. We want to do what is needed for the businesses to continue their outdoor activities safely under the guidelines as they change.
* **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Moglin, seconded by Mr. Fox (Vote: Unanimous) to Authorize Mr. Deedy to approve any liquor permits required for 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 Authorize the Chairman and Police Chief to send a letter to Mass OFBA for North Ramp boat house easement.
* **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 Nominate ACO Lizanne Bennett as Inspector of Animals.
* **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes**

***6:07p.m. Rick Johnson: Wick 338***

Rick Johnson stated that the schedule is similar to the years past, with one exception of adding more staff for policing the masks since this is the new norm. We have the same racing organizations, some went out of business, some are choosing to bail out.

We will continue to support Civic Fund with the Movie night and possibly add Friday night concerts with the same basis of movie night. We will add a few new events this year, such as New England Motorcycle Museum out of CT. where they have a 500cc shootout, brings about 50 people and is a television thing. We added a New York off road event that uses both woods and track. The newest event will be EventLink, which helps promote automotive products with consumers. About 100 consumers to come and look at new products.

Mr. Fox asked if the permit fee for the year was paid. Mr. Johnson stated that he did pay the $500.00 for the year 2020, and for 2021 it will be $1000.00, for 2022 it is $1500.00. The projected date for Nationals Motor Cross is June 26, 2021. If it allows only 12% attendance it may not be worth it. We will only announce pre-ticket sales for the first three events. Mr. Johnson stated he will be in on Wednesday with his check.

The Board would like to get a copy of the schedule and review it for their next meeting. The Chairman advised Mr. Johnson to stay connected with the BOH, Police and Fire in order to make his events safe. Mr. Johnson stated that he has an event this coming weekend. He has only carried the insurance till the end of April.

* **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Chairman Moglin (Vote: 2:Y 1:Abstain) to approve events from March through April, and will review the rest of the schedule at next Select Board meeting.
* **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Abstain, R. Fox: Yes**

**New Business:**

* Green Energy Fuel-Efficient Vehicle Policy. This is to reduce the Town of Southwick’s fuel consumption and energy costs. This requirement is for the Town to only purchase fuel efficient vehicles for the municipality when it is available and practicable. We will meet on April 5th, 2021 and will invite the Building, Fire, and Planning Board/Alan Slessler.
* Mr. Fox stated April is donate life month, he would like flags to be raised at all our buildings. For Autism month, also in April we will change lights to blue.
* Mr. Fox would like to discuss the Baystate Medical facility on College Highway, closing their doors. The lease was up and they have a shortage of Primary Care Physicians. This takes away our only Medical Physicians in Southwick.
* Mr. Fox stated Mr. Pinell would like the Town to let the trees naturally grow in front of the DPW Building at 661 College Highway. It is supposed to be a natural buffer according to the Town Special Permit.
* Mr. Fox would like to start a discussion of when we will be re-opening Town Hall, the Governor is in Phase 4, we need to have a plan going forward.
* Mr. Moglin would like to bring back the discussion guidelines regarding Board members/Commissions participating in virtual meetings when out of Town. Mr.

* Moglin was surprised at how many are taking interest while being away. Mr. Moglin wished the Town residents would take interest in the capability while we have it.
* Mr. Deedy expressed his disapproval of the situation with the Retirement Board and would like to have a letter sent.
* **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Deedy, seconded by Mr. Fox (Vote: Unanimous) to draft a letter to express “no confidence” in the Hampden County Regional Retirement System and request members of the Retirement Board to resign.
* **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes**
* The Board agreed to a Budget Work Session meeting for FY22 with the Town Accountant, Laura Fletcher for April 7th at 3:30pm.

**Old Business:**

* Waiting for an appointment with DOT to discuss bridge in Westfield
* Road Name Change Southwick Hill Road to Iron Horse Lane.
* Regional Dispatch research / options is ongoing.
* C.A.O. went over potential STM/ATM articles for May Town Meeting.
* **MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Deedy (Vote: Unanimous) to meet after Easter on Thursday 3/8/2021 at 3:30 with the Town Accountant.
* **Roll Call Vote: D. Moglin: Yes, J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes**

**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 6:36 p.m.

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

Deputy Fire Chief, and non-union COLAS.

**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,

Lisa A. Anderson

Select Board Floater