

Select Board Meeting Minutes

Town Hall - Select Board's Conference Room

Monday July 12, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.

All meetings of the Select Board are recorded

ATTENDANCE: Chairman, Joseph J. Deedy - Auditorium
Vice-Chairman, Russell S. Fox - Auditorium
Clerk, Doug Moglin - Auditorium
Chief Administrative Officer, Karl J. Stinehart – Auditorium
Acting Administrative Assistant, Robin A. Solek – Auditorium

Location: Town Hall Auditorium

All meetings of the Select Board are recorded except Executive Session

Date of this meeting: July 12, 2021

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

Notice: This is our first time holding a hybrid meeting and 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 Joe Deedy at 6:00 p.m.

Chairman roll call attendance of Board Members present for meeting. All present

Public Comments:

There was a vast amount of residents in the SB meeting along with Zoom participation waiting for Public Comments regarding the Carvana project. For a verbatim dialogue please log on to southwickma.org under Select Board page and click on audio minutes dated 6/28/2021.

The concerns were traffic, water usage, the vista of the corridor, the integrity of the applicant. Many residents expressed wanting an in person public meeting with Planning Board where questions and concerns could be addressed. That will take place on 6/29/21 at Town Hall.

- **Acknowledge Special Payables Warrant #2131B, dated 06/22/2021 in the amount of \$1,523.00.**
- **Acknowledge Special Payroll Warrant #2129, dated 6/29/2021, in the amount of \$170.22**
- **Acknowledge Special Payables Warrant #2201B, dated 7/1/2021, in the amount of \$1,867,711.16.**
- **Acknowledge Payroll Warrant #2201, dated 7/6/2021, in the amount of \$365,320.80.**

6:10 p.m. ACO Officer for 102 Mort Vining Road, Dog Hearing for Langan related to non compliance with earlier decision:

A MOTION was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote: Unanimous) to open the hearing at 6:10 p.m.

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

Mr. Deedy read the notification letter in its entirety.

All parties were sworn in.

Lizanne Bennett, ACO read her statement regarding the violations of MGL Chapter 140, Section 157 and Town of Southwick Chapter 69, Subsections 3,5,11,12and 16. The ACO expressed her thoughts on the orders that were imposed on Theo.

She spoke with Mr. Langan and inquired on the fence, his answer was evasive and then No. Mr. Langan said they were in the process of selling the home and doing a Title V septic repair. ACO Bennett called the realtor in May and the home was off the market.

She called again on 7/12 and it was under agreement.

She inquired about the training his answer again was evasive. The fine of \$285.00 has not been paid.

Mr. Deedy read Mr. Langan's unsigned typed statement received on 7/12/21. Please see attachment.

The dog walker Mihlek made comments of her being terrified and recounted a timeline of incidents when she would walk Ms. Emmelman's 2 dogs.

Ms. Emmelman stated that this has gone on too long and the Langan's need to be held accountable. She reported it has been rumored that Theo has been rehomed. She knew the first name to be Colleen was not sure of a last name.

The Select Board strongly emphasized their dislike for any dog hearings. It is the homeowner's responsibility to have their dog under control. Mr. Fox said Theo is a nuisance dog and the Langan's have been non-compliant. The Town will be in contact with Town Counsel for guidance. **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Deedy (Vote: Unanimous) to Continue the Non Compliance Hearing until July 26, 2021.

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

6:20 p.m. Fire Chief & Deputy Chief Update and Interviews:

Fire Chief Anderson discussed with the Select Board the open positions within the Fire Department. There are 2 open Career Positions with 16 applicants in total. Morgan McDonough and Brandon Patoine are the finalists to be interviewed at tonight's Select Board Meeting.

6:25 p.m Career FF/Medic interview Morgan McDonough:

6:35 p.m. Career FF/Medic interview Brandon Patoine:

The Select Board asked each candidate separately at their allotted time the same 5 questions. At the end of the interview each candidate was given an opportunity to ask a any questions or make a statement.

The Select Board will make a decision and Chief Anderson will inform the candidates of their decision.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to approve employment for Morgan McDonough and Brandon Patoine pending passage of all employment requirements.

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

6:45 p.m. Save Awards, Stork Awards, and Academy Completion:

The Deputy Chief presented recognition awards in the following categories

Save Awards: Anthony Angotta, Steve Backman, and Mike Perault

Stork Awards: Steve Backman, Jess Bishop, and Dave Dubchack

Completing Fire Academy Yellow Helmet: David Avalone and Dave Dubchack

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. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to approve Open Session Minutes dated June 28, 2021.
- **Roll Call Vote: J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes, D. Moglin: Yes.**
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to accept the resignation for the ConCom Coordinator and Ch.15.
- **Roll Call Vote: J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes, D. Moglin: Yes.**
- The Board wants to evaluate the revised job description and maybe consider other duties/functions as it can be hard to secure part-time professional people. Mr. Deedy will reach out to Mr. Pratt.
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to approve Tighe & Bond service contract for old Southwick Fire Association Building, 15 Depot Street rear for conditions and Hazardous Building Materials Assessment.
- **Roll Call Vote: J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes, D. Moglin: Yes.**
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to approve Union U.P.S.E.U. Agreements for DPW, Clerical, Dispatch and Library Units.
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to approve updated job descriptions for C.O.A. Clerk, Dining, and Activity/Benefits Coordinator.
- **Roll Call Vote: J. Deedy: Yes, R. Fox: Yes, D. Moglin: Yes.**
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Unanimous.) to approve MRF Contract for Bulky Rigid Plastics.
- **Roll Call Vote: J. Deedy: Abstain, R. Fox: Yes, D. Moglin: Yes.**
- **A MOTION** was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Moglin (Vote-Unanimous) to approve Contract Amendment #2 Between Southwick & Fuss & O'Neill

New Business:

- FY 22 Road and Infrastructure Projects review with DPW. The Select Board will set up a date to conduct site visit with DPW. This will be coordinated with DPW Director, Randy Brown.
- Dog discussion meeting formats.
- Discuss and Select Career FF/EMT's for employment offer. Decision was made after the interviews.
- Mr. Stinehart gave update on meeting with Lee Hamberg to develop scope for Police Station slate roof/cupola assessment.

Old Business:

- Date lined up with DOT to discuss the construction of the bridge in Westfield. Mr. Fox will be representing the Select Board.
- Road Name Change Southwick Hill Road to Iron Horse Hill waiting for Public Session.
- Green Energy receiving input from Town Departments. (Police Department to send information to PVPC.
- There is a vacancy on the Historical Commission. Mr. Fox has two candidates, Kurt Sanders and Mark Rankin.
- TheTown is seeking interest for occupancy for the vacant medical building on College Highway. The Board is continuing to reach out for any interest in renting the building for a medical practice.
- There is a vacancy for the School Board Committee. The STGRSD and the Select Board will hold a joint meeting on July 26, 2021 to interview candidates.
- Appointments for Town Boards/Committees to be addressed at the next meeting.
- The Select Board will continue to update their Goals & Objectives.
- August 6th Southwick Night at Starfires game at Bullens Field.

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 7:35 p.m.

RE: Non-Union Strategy Collective Bargaining and Litigation

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
Acting Administrative Assistant