

Select Board
Meeting Minutes
Town Hall - Select Board's Conference Room
Monday, March 25, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.
All meetings of the Select Board are recorded

Roll Call Attendance:

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

Karl J. Stinehart led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance for his last meeting as C.A.O.

Public Comment: Robert Stevenson, 10 South Longyard Road, Chairman of the Southwick Tolland Granville Regional School Board Committee. Mr. Stevenson was very upset with Mr. Perron's comments regarding the School Board Committee. Please see attached zoom link for entire conversation.

Erica Emmelmann, 81 Mort Vining Road, I would like to talk about Southwick as my village. Ms. Emman had a horrible tragedy happened about 9 years ago where she lost her husband and the Community gathered around her and her family. Please see attached zoom link for entire conversation.

6:05 pm Pole Hearing for Verizon New England and NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for relocation of one pole, wires, cables and fixtures on Job #1A6PG1G South Loomis and Kline Road.

Mr. Moglin asked if anyone would want to see a copy of the plan. No one spoke up. A resident on the corner of Klein Road and South Loomis #178 asked to see the map, and Mr. Voner explained the plan to her and gave her copies

Randy Brown stated the pole at the intersection is being relocated so we can eliminate that y island to make that a more traditional t-shaped island.

- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to close the hearing for Job #1A6PG1G.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes
- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to approve the job #1A6PG1G for Verizon.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes

6:10 pm Liquor License Transfer Hearing from Ken's Lakeside LLC (Ken Eggleston) to DVJF, LLC (Jose Fernandes) at 141 Congamond Road.

- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to open the hearing for Liquor License transfer hearing from Ken's Lakeside LLC to DVJF, LLC at 141 Congamond Road.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes

Mr. Moglin acknowledge Mr. Kirk Saunders to speak in favor of this business. Mr. Saunders says he does not know the applicant but that Mr. Ken Eggleston has done his due diligence to select a good candidate for this project. Also that there is a family from New York a few houses down that couldn't be here tonight but would like to say they are in favor also.

Mr. Moglin asked if the owner of the business would like to introduce himself. Damien and his business partner Joe Fernandes. Joe stated he lives here in town and wanted to be part of this community. When this place came available, we asked Mr. Eggleston if we could start the Fusion Bar & Grill. Mr. Moglin also stated that there is a change of manager paperwork also. Joe Fernandes will be the manager.

Diane Gale stated that she knows that Mr. Eggleston has done a ton of work to pull this all together and Ms. Gale is happy to see that he's got some partners coming and bringing that place to life again.

- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to close the hearing for 141 Congamond Road.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes
- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to grant the transfer of the license to Fusion Bar & Grill LLC and change of manager to Jose Fernandes.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes

6:20 p.m. Pole Hearing for Verizon New England Inc. for relocation of one pole, wires, cables and fixtures on Job #1A6DM8L Kline Road. Don Voner with Verizon. Mr. Voner showed a map of the location where the work will be done. There is one pole #20 that is moving 10 ft. to the right and there is a new pole going in between existing 21 and the new pole 20. The purpose of these poles the relocation of one and the new one is to be put on either side of an intended culvert project which Mr. Voner assumes was initiated by the highway department. They are moving one pole further away from the culvert and then one on the other side to support the wiring going across towards there.

- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to close the Pole hearing for job #1A6DM8L Kline Road
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes
- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to Approve the Pole hearing for job#1A6DM8L on Kline Road.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes

Payables, Payroll & Minutes:

- The Board acknowledged Payables Warrant #2422B, dated 3/18/2024, in the amount of \$5,336,330.94.

- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to approve the open session minutes from 3/11/2024.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes
- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to approve the 1 Day Liquor License for 2024 Cultural Council Art Show on 4/26/2024 which is at the Town Hall lobby subject to Beer and Wine only subject to approval of Police department.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes
- Mr. Moglin read into the record notice of the open elected offices for annual town elections on May 14, 2024, and the draft CPC warrant article for Annual Town Meeting on May 21, 2024.
- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to approve the COLA Adjustments for FY 24 for Non-Union Staff.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes
- Mr. Moglin decided to skip the next item on the agenda, to review the pay equity adjustments for FY24/25 per Mass Attorney General Office guidelines/laws since the board will be going into executive session later.
- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to accept the donations to Animal Control Shelter \$625.00 from E. Falcetti-\$75, J. Fritsch-\$50, D.LaBrecque-\$25, E.LaBrecque-\$50, C. Leckie-\$50, D.Mitchell-\$150, E. Payne-\$50, Security Fence-\$50, J. Skaret-\$100, and C. Zarichak-\$25 to go into the Animal Control Medical Gift Fund and the Southwick Animal Control Gift Fund.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes
- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to approve the request for the Planning Board to hold a Public Hearing on potential modifications to Chapter 185, Section 38 Short – Term Rentals.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes
- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to approve the DPW Director Randy Brown’s request to post seasonal help job ad at a rate of \$16.50 an hour
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes
- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to approve the donation of \$17.60 into the Library Gift Account and a \$250 donation from Depot Square Condo Association.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes

Any Other New Business:

- Mr. Moglin: wanted to take a moment to let everyone know that tonight would be Karl J. Stinehart last meeting. Mr. Moglin wanted to thank Mr. Stinehart for his stewardship and mentorship and all that you’ve done for the Town of Southwick. Mr. Stinehart said it was a pleasure serving the Town under 20 different Select Board members. It has been a

great place to raise a family.

- Diane Gale: There have been a lot of communications by a member of this board that have been questioned as to whether they are from or reflect the opinion and desires of this board as a whole. These were represented from a board position.

Ms. Gale wants to make it clear that she was not consulted nor included in any of those communications. Ms. Gale has now seen them, and Ms. Gale does not support the actions that were demanded in those communications. If either of the other board members agrees Ms. Gale believes that the Town Council should be consulted on the appropriateness of those discussions and whether some corrections be needed. Mr. Moglin has no objection since it is certainly in Ms. Gale's purview as a Select Board member to consult with the Town Council.

Mr. Perron wanted to clearly state for the record that if Mr. Perron caused those problems Mr. Perron would accept that responsibility. Mr. Perron would like to address one thing, Mr. Perron reviewed the emails that were sent to Mr. Stevenson, and Mr. Perron did admit he forgot to edit his email prior to sending it. Mr. Perron wanted to clearly state that this was his personal opinion, and no one else's, and Mr. Perron stands by his opinion.

- Mr. Moglin added that he would like the board to consider adding buildings and grounds as a department under the department of public works. This would require a special act in front of town meetings, and it would require some reconfiguration around DPW. Maybe put these under goals and objectives to discuss and see if that's something worth exploring or not.

New Business:

- Acknowledge that the governor has finally signed and approved Special Legislation to split the Treasurer Collector Clerks Office under The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 46 of the Acts of 2024.
- Review and send referral to the Planning Board to hold a Public Hearing for 233 South Loomis Street Map amendment & Zoning change. Sodom Mountain Campground is looking to change the zoning to Residential R40.

- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to approve the referral to the planning board to hold a public hearing for 233 South Loomis Street map amendment & zoning change.

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

- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to accept the contract change order from Young Developers LLC for the Town Hall Roof Replacement Project.

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

- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Gale (Vote-Unanimous) to approve the Lead Water Service Line Inventory Amendment request for \$15,000.00 for Tighe & Bond Contract.

Diane Gale suggested next year we can ask for people to take pictures throughout this year and submit a picture contest next year. Diane asked Lisa to post that on the calendar.

- Mr. Brown stated that he would like to continue with the drainage work on Feeding Hills Road that was already started last year. Foster Road to Buckingham drive. Mr. Brown stated that the total working with is \$540k. Feeding Hills Road would cost roughly \$350k The Board will review this over the week and Mr. Brown will have an update.4
- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to approve the changes to the Town's social media Policy and Telecommunications Policy for Appointed and Elected Board/Committee Members.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes
- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to approve another 1-year license agreement with Commonwealth of Mass and DCAMM for State owned parking lot at 99 Point Grove Road and for the Chair to sign the agreement.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes
- The Board decided on Thursday, April 4th, 2024, for the FY25 Budget Review meeting with the Select Board, C.A.O. and the Accounting staff.
- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded by** Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimous) to approve ATM Article and accept MGL 44, sec.54(b) for Trust Funds to use MGL Ch. 203C for Prudent Investment Rule.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes

Old Business:

COA Director Internal Posting: Posted and ends April 5th.

Police Internal Recruitment Process: April 1st Interview:

High Speed Internet Sub Intermunicipal Agreement: The subcommittee meets this Thursday and will have the redline discussions with Westfield Gas & Electric, Attorney Coyle promises to have them back in time for the meeting on Thursday. Our intent is to have the subcommittee review the redline to send back to this select board for review and or approval and signature.

Marijuana Dispensary Webpage posting HC Process template RFI value TR scoring: Diane stated that she is still waiting for feedback from Council and Diane Gale is at a standstill.

Hunting Bylaw: Mr. Moglin asked to set a date for the open forum suggestions for April 16th at 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

Land License Agreement with the American Legion: In the Attorneys hands.

61A, 61B: Set date for this discussion with all boards, committees. May 30th.

Town Administrator recruitment panel and Job Description: Mr. Moglin wants to thank Jim Putnam and Celeste St. Jacques as Chair and Vice Chair of the subcommittee and this Select Board for giving Mr. Moglin the honor of serving on the subcommittee and all the members. The subcommittee put three potential candidates forward. Randy Brown, currently DPW Director for the Town of Southwick, Chris Garrity head accountant for Southwick Hadley Electric Light Department and Nicole Parker the Town Administrator of the Town of Hardwick.

Late Friday Mr. Moglin was made aware that Mr. Garrity has requested to be removed from consideration for the position. The board agreed to meet on Saturday 6th, at 10am. Select Board members need to have their three questions to Nadine.

T-Mobile Hometown Grants Application review: Mr. Perron was working on it today.

Town Clerk internal posting: Done closes April 5th, 2024.

Master Plan Implementation Subcommittee: Mr. Moglin spoke with Mr. Dougherty last Thursday. Mr. Moglin and Mr. Dougherty still agree that it will be 5 members. Select Board chooses 1, planning board chooses 1, and 3 town residents. Agreed with the 3 town residents one appointed by the select board one by the planning board and one appointed by a joint appointment. Still deciding on whether the committee works independently through a town meeting vote, or it needs to be under a committee.

Any Old Business:

Karl J. Stinehart: Mr. Stinehart wants to thank everybody, the Board members, my office staff Lisa, Nadine, and Christie and all the department heads.

Mr. Moglin: Mr. Moglin said there was a document management seminar from Mass Municipal Association of electronic handling of documents. Thank you to the two people who watch Mr. Moglin's radio show on March 20th which is also on YouTube if the other three people watch it. Articles 2 & 3 were finally approved by the Attorney General those were both related to Cannabis, there are some minor corrections to be put in front of a future town meeting. Mr. Moglin gave the board an update on the Eagle Scout project that was originally proposed to be done at the town green, was denied so the young man will rethink his project.

Mr. Moglin wanted to just ask if on our goals and objectives if we had a new successor agreement with Suffield for the LPP because that's going to end this year. Mr. Perron is still interested in contacting Mr. Grannells and we're going to set up a date to meet with Suffield.

The last thing is the Community Development Block Grant, PVPC informed us that the application was submitted earlier today.

- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded** by Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimously) to go into executive session at 7:37 p.m. and to reconvene into Open Meeting.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.
- **A MOTION** was made by Diane Gale. **Seconded** by Jason Perron (Vote-Unanimously) to adjourn at 9:08 p.m.
Roll Call Vote: Doug Moglin – Yes, Jason Perron – Yes, Diane Gale – Yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa A. Anderson

