

The Select Board met on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 beginning at 7:00pm in the Main Meeting Room of Town Hall. The following members were present:

Mark Gallivan, Chair
Benjamin Barrett, Vice Chair
Glenn Maffei, Clerk
Nancy Mackenzie
James O'Neil

Also participating
James Johnson, Town Administrator
Aoife Kelly, Executive Assistant

Appointments

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Gallivan called the meeting to order at 7pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Police Chief Quarterly Report

Police Chief Richard Kelleher and candidates Robert Pimentel and Caleb Nix were present. Chief Kelleher provided an overview of the quarterly report to the Board including some notable incidents that have occurred in the past quarter. The Chief touched on call volume, arrests, an increase in overdoses and mental health call numbers in line with last year. The Chief outlined various community policing events that have occurred in the past months and updated the Board on several grants the Department has been using. The Chief also spoke about some recent personnel changes including the retirement of Detective Tim Songin. The Board thanked the Chief for his report and congratulated Dt. Songin on his retirement and others within the Department that recently received promotions.

Chief Kelleher introduced Caleb Nix to the Board and provided some background on how he has gotten to this point in his career. Caleb introduced himself to the Board and thanked them for this great opportunity to become part of this community. On motion of Board member Mackenzie seconded by Board member O'Neil voted to appoint candidate Caleb Nix to the position of Walpole Police Officer. Motion Passed (5-0-0).

Chief Kelleher introduced the next candidate Robert Pimentel to the Board. Robert introduced himself to the Board and thanked them for this opportunity. On motion of Board member Mackenzie, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to appoint candidate Robert Pimentel to the position of a Walpole Police Officer. Motion Passed (5-0-0).

Fire Chief Quarterly Report

Present was Fire Chief Timothy Bailey to provide the Fire Department quarterly report. The Chief informed the Board that total calls for the year stand at 5,647 which is an increase of 511 calls to date compared to last year. The Chief spoke about continuing to operate out of both stations, touched on the ambulance account and the discussion on a possible rate increase in the coming months coming before the Board. The Chief outlined some personal matters including the new Fire Prevention Officer being accepted into a fire prevention class, new hires from over the summer attending the academy in December and one long term injury within the Department. The Chief updated the Board on his capital requests which includes the two new engines – one of which will be paid for by a grant written by the Deputy. The Chief recognized the hard work put in by Deputy Barry in writing the grants.

The Board congratulated the Chief on the great job on the grants, and taking advantage on the discounts offered by buying two engines, the Board discussed possible staffing and equipment needs in the coming years and what would be necessary to properly size the department. A discussion occurred among the Board and the Chief concerning the increase in mutual aid calls.

Town Clerk Elizabeth Gaffey, Discussion and Vote on Early Voting Schedule for November 2, 2021 Special Town Election

Town Clerk Elizabeth Gaffey was present. Elizabeth outlined to the Board, the Early Voting Schedule the office is looking to implement for the November 2021 election. On motion of Board member Mackenzie, seconded by Board member O'Neil voted to accept the Early Voting Schedule as presented in our packet. Motion Passed (4-0-0).

Interview and Vote to Appoint - Zoning Board of Appeals Associate Members (Three Positions)

Candidates Mark Major, Tim Hoegler, Natalya Orlando and Judith Conroy were present. Each candidate introduced themselves to the Board and provided some background on experience and why they are interested in serving on the ZBA as an associate member. The Board each cast a vote for their three candidates and after the votes were tallied on motion of Chair Gallivan, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to appoint Mark Major, Tim Hoegler and Judy Conroy as associate members to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion Passed (5-0-0).

Open Forum

Bill Hamilton provided comment on the safety of the Summer Street ground crossing with MBTA passenger trains. The Board thanked Bill for his comments.

New Business

Stadium Event Parking Lot License Requests:

Building Commissioner Michael Yanovitch was present. Michael gave an overview of the application process. On motion of Board member Mackenzie, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to approve Stadium Event Parking Lot Licenses at 93 Summer Street with 26 spaces, 60 Shufelt Road with 19 spaces, 8 Water Street with 3 spaces and 9 Water Street with 15 spaces. Motion Passed (5-0-0).

Vote to sign the 2021 Fall Town Meeting Warrant

On motion of Board member Mackenzie, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to sign the 2021 Fall Town Meeting Warrant. Motion Passed (5-0-0).

Discussion and Vote to appoint the Select Board representative to the Master Plan Implementation Committee.

On motion of Board member Mackenzie, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to appoint Glenn Maffei as the Select Board representative to the Master Plan Implementation Committee. Motion Passed (5-0-0).

Vote to award Bid/Contract No. 2022-01 for Water Treatment Chemicals

On motion of Board member Mackenzie, seconded by Chair Gallivan, voted to award Contract No. 2022-01 to the lowest qualified bidders for Water Treatment Chemicals for the unit prices bid. Motion Passed (5-0-0)

Vote to award Bid/Contract No. 2022-02 Catch Basin Cleaning to Road Way Maintenance Services, Inc. in the amount of \$159,000

On motion of Board member Mackenzie, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to award Bid/Contract No. 2022-02 Catch Basin Cleaning to Road Way Maintenance Services, Inc. for a three year contract in the amount of \$159,000. Motion Passed (5-0-0).

Vote to accept the following Board/Committee resignations:

On motion of Board member Mackenzie, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to accept the resignation of Kurt Tommy from the Housing Partnership Committee and Timothy Joyce from the Walpole Veterans Services Committee. Motion Passed (5-0-0). The Board thanked them both for their service.

Vote to reappoint Jean Kenney and Richard McCarthy to the Walpole Media Corporation

On motion of Board member Mackenzie, seconded by Board member O'Neil voted to reappoint Jean Kenney and Richard McCarthy to the Walpole Media Corporation. Motion Passed (4-0-1). Chair Gallivan abstained.

Vote request of Albert DeNapoli for a One Day Wine & Malt Beverage License on October 16, 2021 from 12pm-3pm as part of the Uncommon Arts on the Common Event

On motion of Board member Mackenzie, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to approve request of Albert DeNapoli for a One Day Wine & Malt Beverage License on October 16, 2021 from 12pm-3pm as part of the Uncommon Arts on the Common Event. Motion Passed (5-0-0).

Vote request of Patricia Brant, Landry's Bicycle to use Adams Farm on September 22, 2021 from 3pm-7pm for an employee fun day

On motion of Board member Mackenzie, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to approve request of Patricia Brant, Landry's Bicycle to use Adams Farm on September 22, 2021 from 3pm-7pm for an employee fun day. Motion Passed (5-0-0).

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion of Board member Mackenzie, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to accept with gratitude the following donations

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 1. Lorusso Family in memory of Anna Silvi to COA Gifts | \$1,000 |
| 2. Peter & Victoria Musto in memory of Anna Silvi to COA Gifts | \$100 |
| 3. Multiple Donors to Recreation Smiling Eyes Financial Assistance | \$292 |

Motion Passed (5-0-0).

Minutes

On motion of Board member Mackenzie, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to approve the minutes of August 24, 2021 as presented in our packet. Motion Passed (4-0-1). Vice Chair Barrett abstained.

Town Administrator's Update

Police Chief Search

We now have a full screening committee, the consultant and I are setting up a schedule, with a meeting to outline the process, going over the resumes, getting the list down to no more than ten candidates to be interviewed by the committee. Then passing along the top five-six candidates for the assessment center and then have anywhere from three-six candidates for the Select Board to interview later on this Fall.

Capital Budget Committee

They have gone through all the capital requests and made their recommendations to Finance Committee last week.

Finance Committee

The Committee voted on all the recommendations last week and they are moving through the articles pretty quickly. Tomorrow night they meet for the second to last time until the public hearing. The entire Committee are doing a great job. After discussion with the Chair the next Select Board meeting will be held at the Johnson Middle School on the 28th at 6pm as there is a public outreach session on the middle school project at 7pm.

ARPA Money Finance Committee

Members may recall that I mentioned in the past that we are feeling our way through the ARPA fund process. Jodi has found a firm that has agreed to work with us to provide some consulting services in relation to what we can and can't spend the money on. We will vet the projects we have in mind before we present to the Select Board for consideration. It is not a contract that the Board would need to approve as the fee is based on actual time and expenses occurred. Glad to have a firm that is going to take this on. We did have a brief meeting with the County this week and the portal should be open in a few weeks, where we can start to get the requests in. We will be presenting some projects to your Board for consideration but want to make sure that everything falls within the allowed scopes of work.

On motion of Board member Mackenzie, seconded by Board member O'Neil voted to adjourn the meeting and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 8:20pm. Motion Passed (5-0-0).