

The Select Board met on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 remotely at 7:00pm. The following Board members were present:

Benjamin Barrett, Chair  
Nancy Mackenzie, Vice Chair  
Mark Gallivan, Clerk  
James O'Neil  
David Salvatore, joined at 7:50pm

Also participating  
James Johnson, Town Administrator  
Patrick Shield, Assistant Town Administrator, joined at 8:00pm  
Aoife Kelly, Executive Assistant

#### Executive Order on Remote Participation

Thursday March 12, 2020 Governor Baker issue and "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting G.L. c 30A Section 20. That order, which was effective immediately and until it is rescinded or the State of Emergency is terminated.

Chair to announce that all members will be participating remotely during the meeting due to unprecedented time in history of the Commonwealth. The Governor has authorized remote Participation for all public boards due to the Emergency declaration order that was issued on March 12, 2020. Every vote taken will be taken by roll call vote.

Chair Barrett called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Appointments

##### 7:00pm – Fire Chief Bailey, Discussion of FY21 Department Deficit and Station 2

Fire Chief Bailey and Deputy Barry attended. The Chief provided an overview to the Board on the operation of Station 2 and the budget deficit. The Board discussed the budget shortfall and Jim Johnson explained that there is a plan in place and can possibly be addressed under Article 5 of the upcoming Spring Town Meeting. The Board acknowledged the need to keep Station 2 open for many reasons and it is a budget impact but one we should be willing to cover. The Chief informed the Board that the construction project on 1A could have an impact on response times but is something that can be discussed if and when we get to that point. Chief Bailey outlined to the Board the cost share on a federal grant the department was looking to pursue which requires a 10% match. This particular grant is an assistance to fire fighter grant for PPE and/or vehicles. On motion of Vice Chair Mackenzie, seconded by Clerk Gallivan, voted to endorse the pursuant of the grant. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (4-0-0).

##### 7:15pm – Jack Wiley Conservation Commission, Vote request to use \$15,000 from the Wetlands Protection Filing Fee Account for staff hours used to administer and enforce the Mass Wetlands Protection Act

Jack Wiley attended for this appointment. Jack explained that the Conservation Commission approved this request at their meeting on January 13, 2021. On motion of Vice Chair Mackenzie, seconded by Clerk Gallivan, voted to approve the use of \$15,000 from the Wetlands Protection Filing Fee Account for staff hours used to administer and enforce the Mass Wetlands Protection Act. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (4-0-0).

##### 7:20pm – Sandhya Malur Walpole Trails Committee, Vote request to sign letter of support for Grant Application to the MA Trails Grant Program

Sandhya Malur was present and outlined to the Board that the goal of this project is to improve the usability of the trails within the town and to help make the trails self-guided. On motion of Vice Chair Mackenzie, seconded by Clerk Gallivan, voted to sign the letter of support for the Walpole Trials Committee grant application to the MA Trails Grant Program. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (4-0-0).

7:30pm – Vote request of Automotive Buyer’s Advantage Inc., for a Class II Dealer License to operate at 1171 Main Street, Bay #3

Tom Griffin, owner of Automotive Buyer’s Advantage Inc., and Deputy Building Commissioner James Crowley were present. Mr. Griffin explained that his business would be conducted online with no in person sales at the address. On motion of Vice Chair Mackenzie, seconded by Clerk Gallivan, voted to approve request of Automotive Buyer’s Advantage Inc. for a Class II Dealer License to operate at 1171 Main St., Bay #3 with the condition there will be no in person/public sales conducted on the premise. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (4-0-0).

New Business

Follow up discussion on 400 Summer Street and Possible Vote

Chair Barrett provided some background on this item and outlined the previous discussion at the Select Board meeting on December 08, 2020. On motion of Vice Chair Mackenzie, seconded by Clerk Gallivan voted to direct the Town Administrator to send a letter that is very polite yet stern and exact that we are in no way interested in entertaining any option of selling 400 Summer Street. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (5-0-0).

Town Administrator Budget update and Vote request for extension from February 1 to no later than February 12 to deliver the budget and budget message

On motion of Vice Chair Mackenzie, seconded by Clerk Gallivan, voted to approve request of the Town Administrator for an extension from February 1 to no later than February 12 to deliver the budget and budget message. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (4-0-0).

Vote to replace any reference of Board of Selectmen to Select Board in the Town of Walpole Policies and Procedures Manual

On motion of Vice Chair Mackenzie, seconded by Clerk Gallivan, voted to replace any reference of Board of Selectmen to Select Board in the Town of Walpole Policies and Procedures Manual. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (4-0-0).

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion of Vice Chair Mackenzie, seconded by Clerk Gallivan, voted to accept with gratitude

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| 1. Diane Lacivita to COA Gifts                      | \$100 |
| 2. Walpole Pharmacy to COA Grab & Go Lunch Donation | \$90  |

On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (4-0-0).

Town Administrator’s Update

COVID

1,379 total confirmed cases with 124 active cases. This is down from my update two weeks ago.

### Trash

Melissa and I have started working on a game plan for recycling and trash, trash contracts are set to expire in June 2022. At this point weekly trash collection is not being discussed and I do not plan to do so unless directed by the Select Board. We are really in the beginning stages of this and these are not on the table right now.

### Vaccine

We are in the process of setting up vaccine clinics at the COA starting in February, details are yet to be finalized, and we are in the planning stages right now. However, we will be providing information on the town website and through the COA. Kerri is going to be assisting the seniors with the sign up process and we will start with the 75 and older residents.

### Community Development Director

I am pleased to report that we have someone set to start in mid-February to replace Ashley; he is currently the assistant planner in Norwood and I look forward to working with him. Once he starts, I will bring him on board for a zoom meeting to introduce him to this Board.

### Animal Control Officer

John Spillane notified myself and the Chief that he is set to retire. In many ways, this job can be a thankless position and John has done a great job over the years. I have been in contact with the Norwood General Manager with the possibility of setting up some sort of regional district.

### Norwood Assistant General Manager

The Assistant General Manager passed away yesterday, obviously we send along our condolences. Bernie served Norwood for 30+ years and he was a real asset to the community. The Board asked the Town Administrator to send a letter of condolence to Norwood on the passing of the Assistant Town Manager, on behalf of the Board.

## Minutes

On motion of Vice Chair Mackenzie, seconded by Clerk Gallivan, voted to approve the Minutes of December 08 and 22, 2020 and January 12, 2021 as presented in our packet. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (4-0-0).

## Executive Session

Chair Barrett stated that the Board's intention to go into Executive Session for Purpose 2: To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel:

- To negotiate with non-union personnel Michael Donovan and Fire Chief Bailey.

On motion of Vice Chair Mackenzie, seconded by Clerk Gallivan, voted to enter into Executive Session for the purpose stated, with the Board returning to open session at the conclusion. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (5-0-0).

The Board moved out of session of Executive Session at 8:15pm

Possible Vote to approve and sign the contracts for IT Director Michael Donovan and Fire Chief Bailey after exiting Executive Session

On motion of Vice Chair Mackenzie, seconded by Clerk Gallivan, voted to approve and sign the contract for IT Director Michael Donovan. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (5-0-0).

On motion of Vice Chair Mackenzie, seconded by Clerk Gallivan, voted to approve and sign the contract for Fire Chief Timothy Bailey. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (5-0-0).

On motion of Vice Chair Mackenzie, seconded by Clerk Gallivan, voted to adjourn the meeting and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 8:17pm. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (5-0-0).