

The Select Board met on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 remotely at 7:00pm. Vice Chair Nancy Mackenzie and Board member David Salvatore were absent. The following Board members were present:

Benjamin Barrett, Chair
Mark Gallivan, Clerk
James O'Neil

Also participating
James Johnson, Town Administrator
Patrick Shield, Assistant Town Administrator
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 That order, which was effective immediately and until it is rescinded or the State of Emergency is terminated.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

Discussion and Vote on updated Council on Aging Policy and Procedures

Council on Aging Director Kerri McManama and Chairman Richard McCarthy were in attendance. Kerri outlined to the Board some of the changes and how this is required to be looked at every five years. The Board acknowledged the hard work the Council on Aging have put into these procedures. On motion of Clerk Gallivan, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to endorse the updated Council on Aging Policy and Procedures. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (3-0-0).

Vote request of Shantae Holmes to use the Town Common and close sections of Elm and Front Street on Saturday June 19, 2021 from 4pm to 8pm for a Juneteenth Celebration

Present was Shantae Holmes, Liana Cosgrove and Rev. Anna Flowers. Shantae presented her plan for the Juneteenth Celebration to the Board and outlined the program of events that are planned. On motion of Clerk Gallivan, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to approve request of Shantae Holmes to use the Town Common and close sections of Elm and Front Street on Saturday June 19, 2021 from 4-8pm for a Juneteenth Celebration, subject to them complying with all COVID 19 protocols that are in place at the time of the event. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (3-0-0).

Vote request of CTA Group LLC dba Sticks & Stones for a Common Victualler License to operate at 514 High Plain Street

Present from Sticks & Stones was Elie Haikal. On motion of Clerk Gallivan, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to approve the request of CTA Group LLC dba Sticks & Stones for a Common Victualler License to operate at 514 High Plain Street conditioned upon the applicant receiving final approval from the Building and Health Departments. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (3-0-0).

MBTA Presentation on Bus Stop Accessibility and Safety Improvement Program for eight stops within Walpole and Vote of the Board. (Stops on Washington St., High Plain St. and East St.)

Present was Carl Balduf, Town Engineer, Natasha Vance MBTA, Angela Saunders, McMahon Associates and Peter Wroblewski, Howard Stein Hudson. Natasha gave an overview on the Plan for Accessible Transit Infrastructure. Angela presented to the Board the improvements planned for Washington Street at Lafayette Drive and Pilgrim Way. Peter presented to the Board the improvements planned for Washington Street at Bird Middle School: High Plain Street and Peach Street and finally East Street and School Street. Peter also outline to the Board the stops proposed for elimination on East Street. Carl informed the Board that these improvements work in coordination with the other intersection improvements in that area from Pulte as part of Pennington Crossing Project. The Board discussed the importance of communication to the abutters and also the residents that use these routes so they are aware of the stops being eliminated and any other changes that are occurring. On motion of Clerk Gallivan, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to approve recommended improvements for the intersection at Washington Street and Lafayette Drive/Pilgrim Way; recommended improvements for the intersection at Washington Street and Bird Middle School Driveway; recommended improvements for the intersection at High Plain Street and Peach Street; recommended improvements for the intersection at East Street and School Street. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (3-0-0).

New Business

Discussion and Vote on Charge and Makeup for the Master Plan Implementation Committee

Present was Patrick Deschenes, Community & Economic Development Director. Pat outlined this committee would be the steering committee and wanted it to be a good representation of the Town but also a manageable group and there would be plenty of opportunity for public feedback. The Board agreed that the charge is very comprehensive and a nine member committee is a good number and the importance of having two planning board members. With only three Select Board members present the Board decided to table until the next meeting to take a vote on this matter. Board member O'Neil expressed his interest in being the Select Board designee for the Master Plan Implementation Committee.

Vote to sign the 2021 Annual Town Election Warrant

On motion of Clerk Gallivan, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to sign the 2021 Annual Town Election Warrant. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (3-0-0).

Adams Farm Events Requests

On motion of Clerk Gallivan, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to approve request of Angela Cote to use Adams Farm on May 08, 2021 from 9am-12pm for a hike and yoga fundraiser subject to them complying with all COVID 19 protocols that are in place at the time of the event. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (3-0-0).

On motion of Clerk Gallivan, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to approve request of Jodi Cuneo to use Adams Farm on May 08, 2021 from 2pm-6pm for an engagement party subject to them complying with all COVID 19 protocols that are in place at the time of the event. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (3-0-0).

On motion of Clerk Gallivan, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to approve request of Christina Davis to use Adams Farm on April 22, May 27, June 24, July 22, August 26 and September 23, 2021 from 6pm-9pm for Eagle Board meetings for BSA Metacomet District, Mayflower Council subject to them complying with all COVID 19 protocols that are in place at the time of the event. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (3-0-0).

Vote request of Norfolk County Agricultural High School to use Old Fisher Ball Field on June 03, 2021

On motion of Clerk Gallivan, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to approve the request of Norfolk County Agricultural High School to use Old Fisher Ball Field on June 03, 2021 for Graduation Night. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (3-0-0).

Vote to renew the Junk Dealer & Junk Collector Licenses for the following:

On motion of Clerk Gallivan, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to renew the Junk Dealer & Junk Collector Licenses as listed on the agenda. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (3-0-0).

Junk Dealer

- Allied Recycling, 1901 Main St
- Game Stop 6463, 103 Providence Hwy
- Second Glance, 961-E Main St
- Hefez & Sons Jewelers 996 Main St

Junk Collector

- Allied Recycling, 1901 Main St
- ecoATM LLC, 550 Providence Hwy

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Accounting Consultants Inc. to Turner Pond Lodge Gift Account \$200

Alexander F. Thomas Jr. & Sons Funeral Home to Turner Pond Lodge Gift Account \$100

On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (3-0-0).

Town Administrator's Update

COVID

1,971 total confirmed cases with 33 active cases, pretty low, lowest it's been in a long time. It's good to see the numbers going down.

Town Meeting

We continue to prepare for this. We are going to have Town Meeting on May 1 on the Turco Field at the Walpole High School. Finance Committee is set to hold the Public Hearing on Tuesday April 27 at 6pm. I expect that we are going to post a Select Board meeting for 9am on May 1, likely somewhere on the softball field to vote on Article 17. Since the Planning Board Hearing is not until April 29. Motions for Town Meeting are all set, packets went out last week, and everything is also available on the town website.

Route 1A Project

I was advised today by MassDOT, that the roadwork is not going to begin until mid-May or so, they didn't give me an exact date. Between now and then the contractor is going to continue to work on signage, tree cutting, erosion control, drainage. I did ask them to also update the digital signs. We created a page on the town's website that residents can go to get up to date information. And we will be updating that every week or every other week depending on how much information is available.

Police Chief

Chief Carmichael has accepted a position in Newton. John has been a great partner here in Walpole for a very long time and tried to convince him to stay but he is looking forward to this opportunity. He has not given me an official date but I do expect it to be the first or second week in June. I expect that the Board will likely want

to hire a search firm and conduct an assessment center of the top candidates. This is going to take some time and some planning. I would like to have the Board review the scope prior to us putting it out, requesting a search firm and assessment center. I expect that we will have something in the next one to two meetings; I'd also like to come forward and present a game plan as to how we should proceed with this search. I would like to get some directive from the Board between now and the end of May, it is going to take some time and we are also going to have to appoint an interim Chief and I would recommend the Deputy for obvious reasons. All of this should be discussed by the Board as an agenda item at one of the upcoming meetings. The Board congratulated the Chief on his new opportunity and look forward to discussing this further at a future meeting.

Minutes

On motion of Clerk Gallivan, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to approve Minutes of April 06, 2021 as presented in our packet. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (3-0-0).

On motion of Clerk Gallivan, seconded by Board member O'Neil, voted to adjourn the meeting and the meeting was adjourned accordingly at 8:15pm. On roll call vote of the Board, Motion Passed (3-0-0).