

OPEN SESSION MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, August 10, 2020

COPY

CAROLE JULIUS, CHAIRMAN
DAVID SHEEDY, VICE CHAIRMAN
PETER SPAGONE JR. CLERK

TOWN HALL, 2nd FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
175 CENTRAL STREET
EAST BRIDGEWATER, MASS.

Members Present: Carole Julius, David Sheedy, and Peter Spagone Jr.

Members Absent:

Others Present: Brian Noble, Town Administrator and Rebecca Johnson, Administrative Assistant

6:30 pm Carole Julius called the meeting to order.

Ms. Julius led the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECD ED TOWN CLERK
'20 AUG 31 PM 5:55

OPEN FORUM

Police Chief, Paul O'Brien was present. Chief O'Brien stated the Department has a Sargent and Deputy Chief opening. He would like to move forward with the Deputy Chief.

APPOINTMENT

The Board of Selectmen held a Public Hearing under the provisions of Chapter 166 of General Laws and any additions thereto, or amendments thereof, the Board of Selectmen on August 10, 2020 at 6:30 pm on the petition of NATIONAL GRID, covering NATIONAL GRID pole location(s) to install new pole to Tower Hill Road about 30' from P1.

A representative / engineer from National Grid was present and explained why they chose the area to install the new pole.

Resident John Irvine, 82 Tardy Terrace was present, he had concerns regarding the look of the pole and the location.

The Board of Selectmen decided to continue the Hearing until the next scheduled Board of Selectmen's meeting until further information can be provided including an image of what the pole will look like.

Phil Wolfe, Firefighters Association Local 2768 was present for a contract signing. Mr. Noble stated this is a one-year contract agreement.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to accept the contract agreement between the Town of East Bridgewater and Firefighters Association Local 2768 for the period 7/1/2020 through 6/30/2021. Mr. Sheedy seconded. All were in favor. 3-0

Christopher McGhee, Library Director was present for his contract signing. Mr. Noble stated, contract negotiations went very smoothly thanks to Christopher and the Board of Library Trustees. He stated the Board of Library Trustees voted to accept and signed the contract at a previous meeting.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to accept the contract agreement between the Town of East Bridgewater and Library Director, Christopher McGhee for the period 7/1/2020 through 6/30/2023. Mr. Sheedy seconded. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Sheedy stated that the Library has done a tremendous job throughout this pandemic.

Mr. McGhee states the Library hours are currently Monday thru Friday 9:00 am -3:00 pm, 9:00am – 11:00 is reserved for Seniors and those with compromised health. Curbside pick up is still available.

COA Director, Nancy Hill was present to give an update on the Council on Aging. Ms. Hill stated they were not able to hold their annual volunteer appreciation dinner due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however, on June 22, 2020 they held a grab-and-go event. Ms. Hill indicated volunteers have given 2,884 ½ hours of their time to deliver meals to home bound EB residents, preparing & serving meals, preparing newsletters for mailing, delivering newsletters and office help. The MA hourly rate for volunteers is \$32.15 making their gift to the Town \$92,736.68.

Ms. Hill thanked the family of Beverly Fanning for the memorial donation of five new outdoor umbrellas. She stated the COA has been closed throughout the pandemic, but the staff has continued to provide essential services. Ms. Hill stated thousands of phone calls have been made to stay connected with the older adults. She mentioned the COA has partnered with the Bridgewater and West Bridgewater COS and local access cable to provide programming that can be shown simultaneously in all three Towns. Ms. Hill stated a small group busy hands crochet and chair yoga class has begun at the Senior center recently and plans for a walking group are soon. She also hopes to increase the outdoor programming.

DPW Director John Haines was present to discuss the present staffing within his Highway and Grounds Division. Mr. Haines stated, since March he has had one unanticipated resignation and one transfer, creating an impact on that Department. Mr. Haines is requesting the Boards consideration to look at filling a vacancy now and filling the second vacancy when the Town has a better understanding of the finances.

Ms. Julius stated that even though the Town is currently in a hiring pause, the Board does want Department Heads to approach them if they need support as they don't want them to fall behind.

Mr. Sheedy stated Mr. Haines's request to fill one of the positions is in order.

Fire Chief Tim Harhen was present to discuss the present staffing within the Fire Department. He stated there is an upcoming retirement at the end of October and he would like to fill the position. He is requesting the Boards approval. Chief Harhen explained how this vacant position would affect his department.

ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Sheedy made a motion approve the request from Mr. Haines to post a position for one laborer to be hired on or before October 5, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve, sign and date the agreement regarding P.A. Landers' use and maintenance of the Eastern States Steel site. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Haines stated PA Landers is the site contractor that is working on the Rt. 18 reconstruction project and will be using the Eastern States Steel Site as their staging site.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Fire Chief Timothy Harhen to fill a vacancy within the department in or around November 1, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve to turn delinquent accounts of unpaid Ambulance debt over to a collection agency, for collection as a matter of procedure. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Sheedy stated the Board will revisit this after one year and if it's not working it will be reviewed.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes of July 13, 2020 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the foregoing Conservation Restriction from Pine View Reality Trust, Frank L. Moore, Jr., Trustee, Olde Farm Realty Trust, Frank L. Moore, Jr., and Rosemary E. Moore, Trustees, and Pleasant Countryside, LLC, to Wildlands Trust, Inc., in the public interest pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 184, section 32. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Scott MacFadden, Wildlands Trust was present. He stated they are a non profit land conservation group and what the plans are for the Moore Family property.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Chuck Horan of East Bridgewater Kiwanis Club for the use of the Town Common to display American Flags for two weeks to honor Veterans; Field of Flags. October 31, 2020 – November 14, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Paul La Porte of Angels in America for the use of the Town Common to display gold ribbons for the last weekend of August and entire month of September in honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from resident on 38 Fieldcrest Drive along with the recommendations from Police and DPW to install a streetlight on pole 22, Fieldcrest Drive due to safety issues. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Noble stated the HR Review is underway. The documentation requested the Collins Center has been completed and sent off.

The Board of Selectmen office intern, Andrew Buckwinkler's last day is Friday 8/14. Mr. Noble stated Andrew has completed the capital inventory, except for the School Department.

The public land auction is scheduled for 9/2/2020, the Governors order that restricts gatherings is an issue, Mr. Noble is working with Mr. Sheedy and Senator Walter Timilty to get an exception.

Mr. Noble acknowledged Sue Mulloy, Board of Health for her work tracking COVID-19 cases and staying on top of contact tracing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christopher Buckley, Veterans agent would like everyone to know that the POW/MIA Chair will be dedicated to Edward Sexton, the dedication will take place in the month of September. He will let us know when he has a date and time.

The Community Garden Club unfortunately has to cancel their tomato festival this weekend due to the pandemic. They will be giving out tomatoes informally, to dog walkers and passersby, and will continue to donate to our town's 2 food pantries.

September 14, 2020 Board of Selectmen's meeting

September 28, 2020 Board of Selectmen's meeting

BOARD DISCUSSION

Mr. Noble presented a Traffic Calming Policy to the Selectmen for first reading. He stated this is based on the street speed limit acceptance that was done at Town Meeting.

Mr. Noble presented a Financial Policy to the Selectmen for first reading. He stated the police has been reviewed by the Town Treasurer Collector and Town Accountant. Mr. Noble is ready to move forward with this policy, he mentioned it is a living document and can be changed as things change.

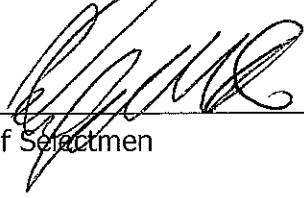
The Selectmen received a request from a resident on Fieldcrest Drive, requesting installation of a streetlight on pole 21. The Selectmen reviewed recommendations from Police and DPW and decided due to safety concerns the best location for the additional light would be pole #22.

Mr. Spagone Jr. stated a letter was sent to the Recreation Commission requesting an inventory of users of the fields, status of the organizations, and meeting minutes.

ADJOURN

Motion by Julius, second by Sheedy. to adjourn. All were in favor, 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm



Clerk

Board of Selectmen