

OPEN SESSION MINUTES BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, January 27, 2020



WILLIAM DOWLING, CHAIRMAN CAROLE JULIUS, VICE CHAIRMAN DAVID SHEEDY. CLERK TOWN HALL, 1st FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM 175 CENTRAL STREET EAST BRIDGEWATER, MASS.

Members Present: William Dowling, Chairman; Carole Julius, Vice Chairman and David Sheedy, Clerk Members Absent:

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

4:00 pm Chairman Dowling called the meeting to order.

Chairman Dowling led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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OPEN FORUM

Susan Gillpatrick, Town Clerk was present to remind residents who have yet to return their census to please do so as soon as possible. Drop box locations are at Town Hall, Library and Council on Aging.

Ms. Gillpatrick stated February 12, 2020 is the last day to register to vote for the March Presidential Primary and absentee ballots are now available at the Town Clerk's office.

Early voting starts February 24 continuing February 28 during regular business hours at Town Hall.

Nomination papers are available for anyone interested in Town Office. The last day to obtain them is Wednesday, February 19 and the last day to return them in is Friday, February 21.

* Ms. Gillpatrick mentioned there are 60 unlicensed dogs and that the ACO is in the process of getting papers ready to start court proceedings.

APPOINTMENTS

Scott Allen, Police Chief was present to announce his retirement. challenges utilizing his expertise in behavioral health. Chief Allen thanked everyone for their support. The Board of Selectmen thanked Chief Allen for his service, accomplishments and wished him well.

Chief Allen reported that there were over 200 applicants for the police department Administrative Specialist position.

John Haines, DPW Director was present to discuss changes to the solid waste and recycling program. He proposes for consideration a fee adjustment of \$100 for residents. He stated that due to increased cost of disposing trash and recyclables an increase was required. He noted, for the last two years the Taxpayer has been offsetting the real cost of the program by as much as \$200,000 annually.

**4:42 pm the Board of Selectmen acting as the Board of Sewer Commissioners

John Haines, DPW Director was present to discuss 143 Bedford Street sewer connection application received from Cumberland Farms. He recommends the Selectmen approve this application.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to approve the sewer connection application from Cumberland Farms at 143 Bedford Street, Mrs. Julius seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to approve minutes of the January 6, 2020 4:00 pm Board of Selectmen's meeting. Mrs. Julius seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to approve and not release minutes of the January 6, 2020 6:30 pm Executive Session Board of Selectmen's meeting. Mrs. Julius seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to appoint Sean Riley to the Historic Commission as an Associate Member effective January 27, 2020 through June 30, 2022. Mrs. Julius seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sheedy stated that when the Board of Selectmen approve appointments to boards/committees/commissions both the applicant and member must be present.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to accept the resignation from Glenn Tattrie of the Capital Planning Committee effective 9/1/2019. Mr. Sheedy thanked him for his service and commitment. Mrs. Julius seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to appoint John Margie as a Registrars of Voters effective January 8, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Mrs. Julius seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to approve the resignation from Larry Allen of the Agricultural Commission effective January 27, 2020. Mr. Sheedy thanked him for his commitment and service. Mrs. Julius seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to appoint Katie Cavanagh to the Agricultural Commission effective January 27, 2020 through June 30, 2020 to fill a vacancy. Mrs. Julius seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to appoint Town Administrator, Brian Noble to the Personnel Board effective January 27, 2020, no designated term. Mrs. Julius seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to appoint Town Administrator, Brian Noble as Personnel Director per the Personnel By law, effective January 27, 2020, no designated term. Mrs. Julius seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to approve the request from Fire Chief Timothy Harhen for the quarterly Ambulance Billing Abatements as of December 2019 in the amount of \$51,414.16. Mrs. Julius seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to open the Town Meeting Warrant for the Annual & Special Town Meeting to be held on Monday, May 11, 2020. Mrs. Julius seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to approve the request of Professional Bar Services for a One Day Liquor License for The Center at Sachem Rock for a birthday party on January 31, 2020 from 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm. Mrs. Julius seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Noble stated the Town received MIIA credits in the amount of \$12,583, an information technology grant in the amount of \$70,000 and \$15,000 grant from the Municipal Vulnerability Program. He noted that state aid proposed in governor's budget increased by \$386,000 which includes an increase \$285,000 into education and \$558 towards the library. He mentioned Representative Alyson Sullivan reached out to him requesting the Board of Selectmen to help identify as priorities for state aid. He reported that Town Hall installed a new phone system. He briefly went over tradeshow at the MMA conference he and Selectmen Mr. Sheedy and Mrs. Julius attended.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/STAFF REPORTS

The Selectmen's meeting is Monday, February 10th & Monday, February 27th Senator Walter Timilty office hours at Town Hall are Tuesday, February 25 from 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Chairman Dowling's Birthday was noted.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Both Mr. Sheedy and Vice-chairman Julius briefly discussed the MMA conference.

The Selectmen reviewed drafts of new policies presented for second reading including the Non-Profit Funding Policy, the Social Media Policy Statement, and the Vehicle Use Policy.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to approve the Non-Profit Funding Policy, the Social Media Policy Statement, and the Vehicle Use Policy. Mrs. Julius seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Dowling entertained the motion by Mr. Sheedy to enter into Executive Session under G.L. 30A, § 21 (a)(2) to conduct strategy session in preparation for negotiation with non-union personnel (Police Chief) if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining & litigating position of the public body as the chair so declared and to not return to open session.

The motion passed on a roll call vote: Mr. Sheedy: Yes, Mrs. Julius: Yes, Mr. Dowling: Yes, All were in favor, 3-0

ADJOURN

Motion by Mr. Sheedy, second by Mrs. Julius to adjourn town public session. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 pm

Clerk

Board of Selegamen