

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Monday, October 23, 2017 at 6:30 pm.

Present: John Margie, Chairman; David Sheedy, Vice Chairman; William Dowling, Clerk; George Samia, and Gloria Mitchell, Administrative Assistant.

Pledge of Allegiance

Open Forum

None.

Public Hearing

TAX HEARING - The Board of Selectmen and Board of Assessors will hold a public hearing on property tax classifications on Monday, October 23, 2017 at 6:40 p.m. in the first floor conference room at the Town Hall.

This hearing, which is required by law, determines whether the Town will have one classification or will differentiate among several classes when setting the tax rate.

The Director of Assessor, Paula Wolfe, together with members of the Board of Assessors, Steve Solari and Curtis Gluck, reviewed the presentation. George Samia explained what Debt Exclusion is. Ms. Wolfe stated the recommendation of the Board of Assessors is to not split the tax rate.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to maintain a single tax rate for the Town of East Bridgewater.

David Sheedy stated that commercial properties not only pay real estate taxes, they also pay taxes for parking lots, personal property, etc.

Appointment

DPW Director, John Haines, was present for his contract signing. The Selectmen commended Mr. Haines for all of his hard work and how all of the roads and Town properties look great and are well maintained. Mr. Haines stated that this is a fantastic organization with the support of the Town and has a great team. The DPW takes pride in the snow and ice removal as well as the value of the fields and grounds.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve the Employment Agreement between the Town of East Bridgewater, MA and John Haines, Director of Public Works effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020.

Appointment

Treasurer/Collector, Erica Flemming, was present for her contract signing. Mr. Samia stated that Ms. Flemming is one of the few Treasurer/Collector's that is a CPA and has extensive knowledge of other municipalities due to her years of experience as an auditor. The Selectmen commended Ms. Flemming on a job well done with having to take over the office even when there was a lot of turn over and the town was in the midst of changed health insurance carriers. Ms. Flemming stated that it is a team effort, everyone works well together and hopes things continue to move along.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve the Employment Agreement between the Town of East Bridgewater, MA & Erica Flemming, Treasurer/Collector effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020.

Appointment

Susan Silva was present giving an update from EB H.O.P.E in regards to the coalition work and drop in center. Ms. Silva stated that EB H.O.P.E. has merged with Plymouth Outreach and have changed the name to Plymouth County Outreach H.O.P.E. and gave a list of the directors. The Selectmen mentioned that the program has been very successful with assisting people looking for help, most people do not even know where to go. The Selectmen thanked Ms. Silva and all members of the organization for everything they do.

Appointment

John Delano gave an update in regards to DW Clark and reviewed the letter given to the Selectmen. Jeff Burek, owner of DW Clark gave an update as to the progress listing the following: 600 tons of sand have been removed, another 300-400

tons will be removed by the end of the week; he received feedback from 3 landfill locations in Massachusetts and the Waste Management Application has been approved, pricing is now an issue he is working on; they continue to work on the Storm Water Restrictions which included the inspection and replacement of tarps, prepared the area around the pile and will have Mr. Delano do an inspection once everything is completed.

Mr. Sheedy commended Mr. Burek for the good faith effort that has been shown. Mr. Dowling asked if there is an estimated time when all of the sand will be removed. Mr. Burek stated approximately 12-14 months to be totally removed, some has been moved from the base and around the pile.

Appointment

The Selectmen went over the Articles for the Special Town Meeting that is scheduled for Monday, October 30, 2017. Town Counsel, John Clifford was present to give explanation of the following articles and give the vote needed for each article to pass: Article 7-If this Article passes, it will still have to go to a Special Election; Article 9-the Planning Board will be having their Hearing in regards to this Article right before Town Meeting; and Article 10- Since there is limited capacity for sewer treatment this is needed to develop a very small sewer district which can be expanded later and is to help promote economic development. This Article will have to go to the Legislature if approved at Town Meeting.

Action Items

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve to the minutes of the October 2, 2017 meeting.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2017 meeting.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2017 meeting.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve, with regret, the resignation from Diane Carey from the Recreation Commission effective immediately.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve to discontinue using AccuVote ballot scanning voting equipment and to authorize the Town Clerk to purchase IMAGECAST scanning tabulation voting equipment and to use EMAGECAST voting equipment beginning April 7, 2018, Annual Town Election and all elections and primaries federal, state and local from that date forward.

Mr. Samia explained that all of the new equipment has been approved and purchased, the Selectmen now have to give the Town Clerk the authority to stop using the old equipment and start using the new equipment.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve the recommendation from the Library Trustees to appoint Catherine Lea Holbrook as a member of the Library Trustees to fill a vacancy effective October 23, 2017 until April 7, 2018.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve the request from Shaina Deane for the use of the Town Common on October 31, 2017 from 4:40 pm-6:00 pm for a wedding ceremony.

Town Administrator Report

Mr. Samia stated that the focus has been on preparing for the Special Town Meeting.

Board Discussions

Mr. Dowling read a letter that was received commending the Fire Department. The letter was from a resident that called the Fire Department for after falling in their home. The resident stated that the ambulance showed up promptly and the staff was professional, polite, attentive and will skilled to handle the task at hand. She wanted to thanks and acknowledge the wonderful service provided by these professional men.

Mr. Margie thanked the members of the Finance Committee for attending the meeting tonight in preparation for the Special Town Meeting that will be taking place next Monday at the Jr/Sr High School.

M/Sheedy, s/Dowling, motion to adjourn.

NOTE: Yes – Margie, Sheedy, Dowling a unanimous vote in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm


Clerk
Board of Selectmen