



## OPEN SESSION MINUTES BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, March 11, 2019

DAVID SHEEDY, CHAIRMAN  
WILLIAM DOWLING, VICE CHAIRMAN  
CAROLE JULIUS, CLERK

TOWN HALL, 1<sup>st</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM  
175 CENTRAL STREET  
EAST BRIDGEWATER, MASS.

*Members Present:* David Sheedy, William Dowling, Carole Julius

*Members Absent:*

*Others Present:* George Samia, Town Administrator, and Rebecca Johnson, Administrative Assistant

6:30 pm Chairman Sheedy called the meeting to order.

Chairman Sheedy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### OPEN FORUM

Town Clerk, Susan Gillpatrick was present to remind residents of the upcoming Annual Town Election that will take place April 6, 2019 from 11:00am – 7:00pm at the Jr. Sr. High School. Ms. Gillpatrick stated the Clerk's office will be open March 15<sup>th</sup> until 8:00pm for voter registration. Absentee ballots will be available this week, and the sample will be placed on the Town web-site. Please call the Town Clerks office with any questions 508-378-1606. Ms. Gillpatrick mentioned second notices will be going out for census forms so please return your form if you have not already done so. There are drop-off boxes located in Town Hall, the Public Library and The Center at Sachem. Residents can also drop census in the Tax Collector box located by the front entrance after hours.

### APPOINTMENTS

Senator Walter Timilty, Senator Michael Brady, Representatives Michelle Dubois, and Alyson Sullivan were present to give an update on legislation at the State House.

The Selectmen welcomed the Senators and Representatives to the meeting and thanked them for taking the time out of their busy schedules. Senator Timilty stated it was a privilege for him and his colleagues to represent such a wonderful Town.

Senator Timilty stated they're in the process of budget season. Senator Brady stated he was recently appointed to the chairman of Public Service, and also serves on the Veterans Committee. He stated, education funding has been increased, but it's not where they would like it to be. Mr. Brady mentioned they were able to get Home Rule Petitions passed such as the sewer district. Representative Dubois stated she's in her third term as State Representative. She mentioned securing funding for EB Hope.

There was a discussion in regards to current and future filing of legislation.

There was a discussion in regards to the opioid crisis. Senator Timilty mentioned how important this matter is to him. He stated he's been working with Police Chief Scott Allen and EB Hope for some time. He stated he sought an amendment for \$25,000 that has been adopted on the floor of the State Senate, and also supported by Senator Brady and Representatives Sullivan and Dubois. In 2018 he upped the amount to \$30,000.00. He plans to seek another amendment and try to exceed \$30,000.00 this year.

Representative Sullivan congratulated the EB cheerleaders for winning the State Championship and invited them to the State House for a tour.

Mr. Dowling asked if there would be any significant changes to the School funding, and the State formula. Senator Timilty stated that if the economy progresses they would be able to put more money in Chapter 70 which will mean more money would filter into the cities and towns. He stated the formula has been a problem since it began in 1993, he's taking action to change it but it does need a 2/3 vote. Senator Timilty, Brady, Representatives Dubois and Sullivan all agree the formula needs to be changed.

Melissa Morrissey, Treasurer / Collector was present for her contract signing. She gave a brief update on her background. The Selectmen wished her luck in her new position.

Mr. Samia stated that he's pleased they found someone with the background and experience and that Ms. Morrissey will be an asset to the Town.

M/Julius, s/Dowling, a unanimous vote, to approve the Employment Agreement between the Town of East Bridgewater, MA and Melissa Morrissey, Treasurer / Collector effective March 11, 2019.

The Sewer Advisory Committee, Peter Spagone Jr., Chairman, Board of Health ; Roy Gardner, Chairman, Planning Board; John Haines, Director, DPW, Chris Kenny, Town Council; and Steve Peterson, Weston Sampson Representative are present to give an update on the expansion of the Waste water treatment plant. Mr. Spagone explained that the Selectmen would now be the Board of Sewer Commissioners. The Selectmen will approve connections to the sewer. There was a discussion on how the plant would be run and how this is a great opportunity for the downtown area. Mr. Peterson explained the Allocation Policy Plan and Fees and stated the Sewer Committee were looking for the Board to approve these fees and policy.

### ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Julius, second by Dowling to approve to adopt the new Sewer Capacity Allocation Policy Plan and Fees as recommended by the Sewer Advisory Committee. Vote 3-0-0

Motion by Julius, second by Dowling to approve the Sewer Capacity Allocation fees as recommended by the Sewer Advisory Committee. Vote 3-0-0

Motion by Julius, second by Dowling to approve the Sewer Connection and User Fees as recommended by the Sewer advisory committee. Vote 3-0-0

Motion by Julius, second by Dowling to approve the minutes of February 25, 2019 6:30pm Board of Selectmen's meeting. Vote 3-0-0

Motion by Julius, second by Dowling to approve the request from Patrick Duggan, East Bridgewater Patriotic Activities Committee for permission to hold a Memorial Day Celebration to honor Veterans of all wars at the Town Common on Monday, May 27, 2019. Time of the event will be from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Vote 3-0-0

Motion by Julius, second by Dowling to approve the request from Patrick Duggan, American Legion Post 91 for permission to hold a Flag disposal, retirement of worn out American Flag event at the Town Common on Sunday, June 9, 2019. Time of the event will be from 5:30pm to 10:00pm. Rain Date if needed Sunday, June 16, 2019 or Sunday, June 23, 2019. Vote 3-0-0

Motion by Julius, second by Dowling to approve the amendment to employment agreement between the Town of East Bridgewater and Patrick Franey, Building Commissioner / Zoning Enforcement Officer effective March 11, 2019. Vote 3-0-0

Motion by Julius, second by Dowling to approve the request from Fire Chief, Timothy Harhen for the quarterly Ambulance Billing Abatements as of March 2019 in the amount of \$35,254.30. Vote 3-0-0

### TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Samia gave a brief update on the budget. He mentioned how he appreciates Senator Timilty's statements in regards to the budget at the State House level. Mr. Samia mentioned, one of the things they do at the State house and that he does at the Town level is take the revenues they have coming in and the budget they produce that's going to be given to the Towns, is predicated on that. Mr. Samia also mentioned how proud Senator Timility was of the State's high Bond rating.

Mr. Samia stated that the Town of East Bridgewater also just received a high Bond rating, due to the Town having a larger than average debt ratio, and has done a good job backing it up with revenues that have been put away.

### ADJOURN

Motion by Julius, second by Dowling to adjourn. Vote 3-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm



Clerk

Board of Selectmen