



OPEN SESSION MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, May 23, 2022

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

TOWN HALL, 1st FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
175 CENTRAL STREET
EAST BRIDGEWATER, MASS.

Members Present: Peter Spagone Jr. and David Sheedy

Members Absent: Carole Julius

Others Present: Charles Seelig, Town Administrator, Rebecca Johnson, Assistant to Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen

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

Mr. Sheedy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reorganization of Board

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to nominate Peter Spagone Jr. as Chairman; Carole Julius as Vice-Chairman and David Sheedy as Clerk. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 2-0

OPEN FORUM

Veteran Service Agent, Christopher Buckley was present to give a Memorial Day update. Services will be at the Town Common on May 30th at 10:00 am, concluding at the East Bridgewater Commercial Club.

APPOINTMENTS

ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to approve minutes of the May 2, 2022, 6:00 pm Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 2-0

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to approve contract agreement with Melanson to perform the audits for FY22, FY23 and FY24. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 2-0

Mr. Seelig stated this is logistic paperwork to award the contract.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to approve FY23 pay rate for Public Health Nurse. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 2-0

Mr. Seelig stated the position was overlooked for the 2 percent increase.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to accept the resignation of Kevin M. Reilly from the Finance Committee effective May 16, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 2-0

Mr. Sheedy commended Mr. Reilly for his works and efforts on committee. He stated there are three vacancies on the Finance Committee and if anyone is interested to please give the Selectmen's Office a call for paperwork.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to review signage request form from the East Bridgewater Garden Club. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 2-0

Mr. Sheedy stated request will be approved. He stated the DPW Matrix Sign is currently being used on Plymouth Street until Friday for repaving. Mr. Sheedy stated any requests going forward will be approved by the Selectmen, contingent upon availability.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to review signage request form from Community Coalition for Change. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 2-0

Mr. Sheedy stated request will be approved, contingent upon availability.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to discuss of 40B endorsement and possible Local Initiative Program. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 2-0

Mr. Seelig stated this is simply a letter of support for the developer to submit along with other documentation to the State regarding the 40B affordable housing project near the Whitman town line on the west side of North Bedford Street/Route 18.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion that the Board vote to support the Chapter 40B affordable housing project proposed by JSC Holdings LLC which is known as "Residences at Meadow Brook" and will be located at 848-906 North Bedford Street, East Bridgewater, MA, with 160 rental units (120 market rate and 40 affordable units) and 80 home-ownership units (60 market units and 20 affordable units), under the Department of Housing and Community Development ("DHCD") Local Initiative Program ("LIP"); and to request the Town Administrator to prepare a letter of support that contains the information required by DHCD for issuance of a LIP Project Eligibility Letter, and to authorize the Chairman of the Board to execute the LIP letter of support for the Project and to forward it forthwith to DHCD. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 2-0

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to discuss Juneteenth policy. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 2-0

Mr. Seelig stated he talked with Town Counsel regarding Juneteenth. Town Counsel recommends the Selectmen give official recognition of Juneteenth being observed on Monday, June 20th. All town buildings, (Town Hall, Library, Council on Aging, Department of Public Works) will be closed with compensation for employees. Public safety and a few DPW services such as water testing, etc. will be providing services.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion for the Town of East Bridgewater warrant Juneteenth on June 20, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 2-0

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to approve one day alcohol request from The Sangria Lady, for a 6/16/2022 pony town parties event that will take place from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm. Pending receipt of payment. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 2-0

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to accept the resignation of Crystal Hudson from the Finance Committee effective May 23, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 2-0

Mr. Sheedy commended Ms. Hudson for her works and efforts on committee.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to discuss input on proposed amendments to the fiscal 2023 state budget. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 2-0

Mr. Seelig briefly went over amendments to the fiscal 2023 state budget. He wanted to bring this to the Selectmen and inform State Senators as to the Boards views/concerns on amendments. Selectmen agreed to

send a letter of support on extension of remote meeting procedures and early voting reimbursement excluding cola adjustment.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to send a letter of support on extension of remote meeting procedures and early voting reimbursement. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 2-0

There was a brief discussion on local aid and the letter sent awhile back to State Representatives and State Senators.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / STAFF REPORTS

Ms. Johnson stated Town Hall will be closed Monday, May 30th.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Seelig stated Mr. Sheedy met with Katherine Mullen of State Representative Alyson Sullivan's Office to transfer the official seal documents regarding street acceptance statue, withdrawal from civil service and creation of the district.

Mr. Seelig stated the Selectmen received correspondence from a concerned resident regarding 18 wheelers and dump trucks using Central Street as a pass-through running all through the night. He stated a solution will be unlikely. Mr. Sheedy recommends having OCPC (Old Colony Planning Council) to do a traffic study.

Mr. Seelig stated ARPA Committee first meeting 6:00 pm 5/31/2022, second floor conference room at Town Hall. He stated the Office of Inspector General is offering training for ARPA members.

Mr. Seelig stated the Town is still awaiting response from the State regarding Winter Recovery Assistance Program. The State set aside funds for pothole repairs, etc. He stated the Town submitted a letter confirming the Town is interested in funds.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monday, June 13

Monday, July 11

BOARD DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Sheedy commended the choir who sang the National Anthem at Town Meeting. The students were Cassidy Jordan, Jordan Weljkovic and Michael Coles.

Mr. Spagone Jr. congratulated Mr. Sheedy on his election. Mr. Sheedy thanked everyone who voted. The Selectmen commended the Town Clerk's Office for their works and efforts at Town Elections.

There was a brief discussion on stormwater regulations. Mr. Seelig stated the by-law stills needs to be approved at the State level.

ADJOURN

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to move into Executive Session and not return to open session. Pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, § 21 (a)(2) To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel; Firefighters, Superior Officers, Clerical, DPW, Dispatchers, COA Director, Fire Chief. Mr. Spagone Jr. seconded. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Spagone Jr: Aye, Mr. Sheedy: Aye. All were in favor, 2-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm

Board of Selectmen Clerk