



OPEN SESSION MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
Monday, October 16, 2023

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

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

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

Others Present: Charles Seelig, Town Administrator and Rebecca Johnson, Assist. to the Town Admin./Select Board

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

OPEN FORUM

JOINT MEETING / PUBLIC HEARING

The Select Board and Board of Assessors held a public hearing on property tax classifications on Monday, October 16, 2023 at 6:30 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. Director of Assessor, Paula Wolfe with member of the Board of Assessors, David Phillips reviewed the presentation. Ms. Wolfe stated the recommendation of the Board of Assessors is to not split the tax rate and keep it at a single rate. Ms. Julius closed the public hearing.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to adopt a residential factor of 1 after review and recommendation by the Board of Assessors. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Seelig stated that the Town will receive approximately \$3 million dollars economic development administration grant to help fund the sanitary sewer project on North Bedford Street. He thanked all involved with application process. Mayor Robert Sullivan, City of Brockton (virtual), Deborah Bevan, Economic Development Administration (virtual), Mary Waldron, Executive Director Old Colony Planning Council, Don Sullivan, Director Economic Resiliency and Housing Equity, Representative from Senator Ed Markey and Senator Michael Brady were present for support on funding and project. The Select Board commended all.

JOINT MEETING

Kevin Reilly, Planning Board Chair with other members of the Planning Board were present to discuss and appoint Yvonne Macrae as an associate member of the Planning Board. Ms. Yvonne Macrae was present and gave a brief background of herself. The Select Board welcomed Ms. Macrae and thanked her for serving the community.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to appoint Yvonne Macrae as an associate member of the Planning Board for the period 10/16/2023 through 6/30/2026. Seconded by Mr. Reilly. Select Board 3-0; Planning Board 4-0. All were in favor.

Ms. Johnson announced that the Planning Board is currently accepting letters of interest to fill a vacancy as a regular member until next town election.

ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2023, Select Board's Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve but not release the minutes of the September 25, 2023, Select Board's Executive Session Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2023, Select Board's Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to appoint Kathleen Cavanagh as Registrars of Voters as of July 1, 2023, no designated term. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to appoint Kathleen Cavanagh as Record Access Officer as of July 1, 2023, no designated term. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve event and signage request from Steve Meigan of Kiwanis Club of East Bridgewater for use of the Town Hall Parking lot for Christmas Tree Sales. The event will start November 18, 2023, through December 15, 2023. Hours are Monday through Friday 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday 9:00 am – 8:00 pm. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Dianne Kennedy Warkel of the Kiwanis Club of East Bridgewater to decorate the Town Common for the Annual Lighting of the Common and Town Tree in late November and take down by early January with the stipulation that there will be a sign stating that the display is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of East Bridgewater. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

There was a brief discussion on ARPA grant applications and scheduling public forum. The Select Board agreed to have a public forum at their next meeting on Monday, October 30th at 5:00 pm.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve for Town Administrator, Charlie Seelig to draft a Mass Save outreach letter to send to residents. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Seelig briefly went over Mass Save Home Energy initiative to save homeowners energy and money. He stated there is no obligation for residents and no cost to the Town.

Mr. Seelig stated at a previous department head meeting there was discussion about changing the hours of operation for Town Hall. Currently Town Hall is open until 8:00 pm on Mondays, the concept is to open until 6:00 pm with a reduced lunch to ½ hour, 35 hours work schedule remains the same. There was a brief discussion on pros and cons. The Select Board agreed to receive further statistics in order to make decision, possibly next fiscal year.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the sale of a \$4,078,215 4.50 percent General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (the "Notes") of the Town dated October 27, 2023, and payable July 26, 2024, to Piper Sandler & Co. at par and accrued interest, if any, plus a premium of \$5,179.33.

Voted: We hereby determine, in accordance with G.L. c. 70B, that the cost of the Central Elementary School Roof Replacement project authorized by vote of the Town passed on June 23, 2020 (Article 36) being financed with proceeds of a portion of the Notes defined below, together with all other bonds and notes of the Town previously issued to pay costs of this project, does not exceed the portion of the total cost of the project that is not being paid by the school facilities grant and we hereby approve the issuance of notes and bonds to finance this project under G.L. c. 70B.

Further Voted: to approve the sale of the \$4,078,215 4.50 percent General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (the "Notes") of the Town dated October 27, 2023 and payable July 26, 2024, to Piper Sandler & Co. at par and accrued interest, if any, plus a premium of \$5,179.33.

Further Voted: that in connection with the marketing and sale of the Notes, the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Sale and Preliminary Official Statement dated September 27, 2023, and a final Official Statement dated

October 5, 2023, each in such form as may be approved by the Town Treasurer, be and hereby are ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted.

Further Voted: that the Treasurer and the Select Board be, and hereby are, authorized to execute and deliver a significant events disclosure undertaking in compliance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 in such form as may be approved by bond counsel to the Town, which undertaking shall be incorporated by reference in the Notes for the benefit of the holders of the Notes from time to time.

Further Voted: that we authorize and direct the Treasurer to establish post issuance federal tax compliance procedures and continuing disclosure procedures in such forms as the Treasurer and bond counsel deem sufficient, or if such procedures are currently in place, to review and update said procedures, in order to monitor and maintain the tax-exempt status of the Notes and to comply with relevant securities laws.

Further Voted: that any certificates or documents relating to the Notes (collectively, the "Documents"), may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be regarded as an original and all of which shall constitute one and the same document; delivery of an executed counterpart of a signature page to a Document by electronic mail in a ".pdf" file or by other electronic transmission shall be as effective as delivery of a manually executed counterpart signature page to such Document; and electronic signatures on any of the Documents shall be deemed original signatures for the purposes of the Documents and all matters relating thereto, having the same legal effect as original signatures.

Further Voted: that each member of the Select Board, the Town Clerk and the Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing votes.

I further certify that the votes were taken at a meeting open to the public, that no vote was taken by secret ballot, that a notice stating the place, date, time and agenda for the meeting (which agenda included the adoption of the above votes) was filed with the Town Clerk and a copy thereof posted in a manner conspicuously visible to the public at all hours in or on the municipal building that the office of the Town Clerk is located or, if applicable, in accordance with an alternative method of notice prescribed or approved by the Attorney General as set forth in 940 CMR 29.03(2)(b), at least 48 hours, not including Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, prior to the time of the meeting and remained so posted at the time of the meeting, that no deliberations or decision in connection with the sale of the Notes were taken in executive session, all in accordance with G.L. c.30A, §§18-25 as amended. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

ANNOUNCEMENTS / STAFF REPORTS

Ms. Johnson announced a Community Shredding/Prescription Drug/Needle/Oil Based Paint, and Large Battery Disposal event Saturday, October 28th 10:00am - 1:00pm at Sachem Rock Community Center / COA 355 Plymouth Street.

ARPA Public Forum, Monday October 30th at 5:00 pm immediately followed by Select Board meeting.

UPCOMING MEETINGS – 2023

BOS - Monday, October 30	BOS - Monday, November 13	BOS - Monday, November 27	BOS – Monday, December 11
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TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan Grant - Mr. Seelig stated that the Town will receive \$50,000. This will allow the Town to do a survey of its buildings and programs to determine compliance with the ADA and identify any barriers to accessibility.

Plymouth County Retirement assessment – Mr. Seelig stated that the Town has to be fully funded in 2029 and that the Town will see 7-9% increases over the next few years. He stated that surrounding communities are doing various approaches. He suggested the Select Board meet with Plymouth County Retirement Board to extend the payment period for assessment.

BOARD DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Spagone Jr. announced the Grand Opening of new pickleball and basketball courts, at the Church Street fields on Saturday, October 28, 2023 from 1pm to 4pm with a grand opening. The event will include an East Bridgewater Youth Basketball Scrimmage, Opening Remarks from State Representative Alyson Sullivan-Almeida, and the Perfectly Flav'd Food Truck.

Mr. Spagone Jr. thanked Kathleen Cavanagh for her works and efforts as Interim Town Clerk.

Mr. Sheedy briefly went over Trolley Tour Part Two - Vintage-style trolley tour of the west side of East Bridgewater's picturesque streets and historical landmarks. Ms. Cavanagh went over historic cattle tunnel on Elm Street in 1870.

Mr. Sheedy announced upcoming Bicentennial Bash with Four in A Row at Commercial Club on October 21st from 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm. Tickets \$10 or Table \$100, available online, at door, and the Town Clerk's Office.

Ms. Julius announced Field of Flags event Saturday November 4th .

ADJOURN

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to close open meeting and not return to open session Pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 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, Police Chief, Deputy Police Chief.

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; Firefighters, Superior Officers, Clerical, DPW, Dispatchers, Superior Officers, Patrol Officers, Library.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Spagone Jr.: Aye, Mr. Sheedy: Aye, Ms. Julius: Aye. All were in favor, 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm

Clerk
Select Board

Respectfully submitted as approved on October 30, 2023 meeting by Peter Spagone Jr., Clerk

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