



OPEN SESSION MINUTES  
**SELECT BOARD**  
Monday, October 30, 2023

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

TOWN HALL, 1<sup>st</sup> 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

5:00 pm Ms. Julius called the meeting to order.

OPEN FORUM

ARPA COMMUNITY PUBLIC FORUM

Ms. Julius explained how the ARPA Community Public Forum will be handled. She stated applications and comments from the public will be discussed and no votes taken by the Select Board at meeting. The Select Board reviewed the twenty-seven applications. Mr. Seelig stated that the town received about \$4.1 million, the Town already approved the ambulance, engineering costs for sanitary sewer, and police body worn cameras. Town Accountant, Melanie Dean stated the Select Board approved funding for social and emotional salaries at the schools and permitting software, the Town has about \$2.6 million available. There were a series of questions which gave more insight of how proposals will have community impact.

Electronic Signage for Town Hall	\$50,000.00
Sidewalks on Union Street ~ Howard Wilber	\$660,000.00
Economic Impact ~ Kaey's Trucking	\$46,725.00
Sachem Rock and Bennett Safety Improvement Plan	\$75,000.00
60X40 Pavilion	\$625,000.00
Offsite Backup System for Town and Schools	\$31,000.00
Budget Software	\$14,500.00
Permitting Software	\$60,000.00
Premium Pay	\$47,500.00
Foul Ball Netting at Strongs Field	\$69,745.00
Church Street Shed repairs	\$61,419.00
Church Street Lighting	\$80,413.55
Renovation of Two Courts Church Street	\$146,694.00
Replace Scoreboard at Strongs Field	\$17,420.38
Outdoor Movie System	\$12,900.00
Leland Farms Feasibility Study	\$20,500.00
Roof Replacement for Youth Sports Buildings	\$16,800.00
Purchase of land on Robins Street	TBD
Inclusive Playground Equipment	\$49,960.00
Mental Health and Social Emotional Funding	\$600,000.00
High School baseball field backstop and netting	\$92,250.00
Pickup Truck	\$35,000.00
Turf Installation ~ Softball Field	\$200,000.00
Mitchell and Central Security enhancement	\$300,000.00
2 Snowblowers/Salt Spreaders	\$34,823.88
Central Electronic Signage	\$54,475.00
Mitchell Electronic Sign	\$60,525.00

## ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2023, Select Board's Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Approve but not release the minutes of the October 16, 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 contract between the Town of East Bridgewater and Greenwood Industries, Inc. for the RTU & Roof replacement at the East Bridgewater Public Library. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Seelig stated that additional funding was approved at Town Meeting and recommends board's approval.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to appoint Kathleen Cavanagh to the Conservation Commission as a regular member effective October 30, 2023, through June 30, 2026. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to accept the resignation of Robert Sturtevant from the Arts Council effective October 30, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Lauren Tavares-Mulhern and Nadia Clancy of Community Coalition for Change for the use of the Town Common for the 4th Annual Celebration of Multiculturalism. An event with food, vendors, music, speakers, and performers supporting diversity. Event will be on June 9, 2024, from 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Dalphina Rogers of American Legion Post 91 for the use of the Town Common for a ceremony to dispose of torn and unusable U.S. Flags on Friday, June 14, 2024, from 6 pm – 9 pm. Rain date June 15, 2024. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Professional Bartending Services for a One Day Liquor License for The Center at Sachem Rock for a Memorial Gathering on November 4, 2023, from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Fire Chief, Timothy Harhen for the quarterly Ambulance Billing Abatements through September 2023 in the amount of \$18,603.21. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve to prorate the fee for South Shore Cinemas LLC / East Bridgewater Cinemas Wine and Malt License, \$83.00 for the remaining two months in the 2023 year. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

The Select Board pass overed the Side Letter of Agreement between the Town of East Bridgewater and East Bridgewater Fire Fighters Union, Local 2768.

There was a brief discussion regarding Stop sign located on Tardie Terrace and Tower Hill. Police Chief, Michael Jenkins stated there are no accidents at location. The stop sign is in the middle of residential neighborhood. Adding speed bump will cause more problems. Director of Public Works, John Haines stated that majority of traffic in area are residents. The Select Board agreed to have area monitored on an on/off basis.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to approve the ADA Self – Evaluation and Transition Plan with UMASS Collins Center. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Seelig stated that the Town received a grant from the State under Community Compact Program for \$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.

There was a brief discussion on EDA grant administration agreement with Old Colony Planning Council. Mr. Seelig stated that conversations need to happen before Board approves agreement with OCPC to get a better understanding of grant requirements. This will be discussed and voted on November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Approve for the Town to notify National Grid to turn on the Street Light, Pole #6, located on Northridge Drive and to take over payment for the Street Light pending Town Counsel recommendation. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Director of Public Works, John Haines had concerns regarding streetlights on Northridge Drive. He stated there is two streetlights pole #5 & #6, should the Town consider pole #5 as well since it is part of subdivision plan. Ms. Johnson stated there was a recommendation not to turn on pole #5 as it is approximately 500 feet from area and would have no benefit.

Library Trustee Chair, Leah Herrmann and Library Director, Jessica Henderson were present for Ms. Henderson's contract signing. Ms. Hermann commended her work and how much Ms. Henderson has done within a year. She stated the Trustees drafted a three-year contract. The Select Board agreed and commended Ms. Henderson for her works at efforts at the library.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the Library Director, Jessica Henderson three-year contract. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

#### APPOINTMENTS

Veterans Agent, Chris Buckley was present to discuss the Veteran's Day Parade and other Veteran's Day activities. Mr. Buckley presented the Board with a Veteran Banner. There was a brief discussion on Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 installation scheduling and program. He thanked the Patriotic Activities Committee and DPW for their works and efforts. Mr. Buckley went over 2023 Tri-Town 11/11/2023 Veterans Day Parade route. The parade will assemble at the former Shaw's Warehouse beginning at 9 AM, step off time will be promptly at 10 AM and arrive to The Common by 11 AM.

He stated that there will be a Veterans Breakfast at the YMCA, Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> 11 AM – 1 PM right after the Field of Flags event on The Common, same day 10 AM. Mr. Buckley announced a clothing drive in November. You can drop off long sleeve shirts, jackets and coats, sweatshirts, socks, hats, and gloves at the Veterans' Service Office in the East Bridgewater Town Hall. Clothing will be donated to the Brockton VA for local Veterans. He also announced a food drive in November. Food will be donated to local food pantries for East Bridgewater residents. Needed items include boxed food items, cereal, potatoes, mac and cheese, and soup. Items can be dropped off at the Veterans' Service Office in East Bridgewater Town Hall.

Mr. Buckley stated the census data says the Town has 743 Veterans in Town and his office contacted over 850. He either talked to Veterans in person, sent letter / survey and received feedback.

Police Chief, Michael Jenkins, and Fire Chief Timothy Harhen were present to go over the composition of the Public Safety Building Committee and what they would like to accomplish in the upcoming months. Chief Harhen stated that the Committee's charge is to examine the Town's current public safety (fire and police) facilities, current and future staffing levels, spaces for vehicles, equipment, and storage, and the programs and services provided by each department and develop a list of options to meet the needs for facilities for these departments in the future. Their thoughts for the committee would be made up one representative from each of the following, Planning Board, Finance Committee, Capital Committee, Police Department, Fire Department and two members at large. Both Chiefs will also serve on the committee as non-voting members. He stated possibility to add two members, one from facilities, and another member at large, maximum voting members will be nine. Chief Harhen stated the committee is currently looking for two members at large. Applicants background should include building / planning or construction project management. Last date to apply is November 9<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Chief Jenkins briefly highlighted the project benefits. To modernize police and fire services in one complex, realizing operational efficiencies and costs savings, etc. He stated possibility of having an open house for the public to see working conditions. He stated the committee will meet twice a month and looks forward to making a difference in Town's future.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS / STAFF REPORTS

Ms. Johnson announced that the Select Board's Office won the pumpkin decorating contest at town hall.

At 6:18 pm Ms. Delilah Goncalves, co-owner Kaey's Trucking entered the meeting to discuss ARPA Project Request. The request is seeking financial assistance based on the Covid-19 impact on the business. She went over project information. The Select Board wanted to know if the business received any federal or state assistance during the pandemic. Ms. Goncalves stated the business transferred in December 2021 to their own authority and received no federal or state assistance.

#### 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

#### BOARD DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Spagone Jr. thanked the Recreation Commission for their works and efforts on the Grand Opening of Church Street Fields Pickleball and Basketball Courts event on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Julius thanked the Key Club for their works and efforts on the Trunk or Treat event in the high school parking lot and Halloween party in the high school cafeteria.

#### ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm

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Clerk  
Select Board

Respectfully submitted as approved on November 13, 2023 meeting by Peter Spagone Jr., Clerk

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