



OPEN SESSION MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
Monday, November 27, 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, Assistant to Town Administrator & Select Board

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

OPEN FORUM

Paramedic, Patrick McKenna on behalf of Lieutenant, Philip Woolf was present to announce 13th year Toys for Tots program. EBFD will collect unwrapped new gifts and gift cards for newborn to 18 years of age and re distribute to East Bridgewater residents in need. Boxes will go out this week to the community center, town hall, library, YMCA, and the lobby of the FD open 24/7. You can contact LT Philip Woolf at the FD 508 378 2071 for assistance with gifts.

APPOINTMENTS

Thomas O'Brien and Padraic Lydon of Plymouth County Retirement were present to discuss and give a brief update on Plymouth County Retirement Association. He briefly went over East Bridgewater Retirement Assessments. He stated the association will be fully funded in 2029. Mr. O'Brien stated the 52 member units of the Plymouth County Retirement Association will have paid off all of its liability and be back down to normal costs which will result in significant savings.

Senator, Michael Brady, Plymouth County Commissioners, Jared Valanzola, Sandra Wright, Gregory Hanley and Plymouth County Treasurer, Thomas O'Brien were present to give ARPA check from Plymouth County for playground equipment for \$49,960. The commissioners thanked all involved with application process.

Mr. Jeff Bandini, Project Manager for McMahon, a Bowman Company representing the Town of Bridgewater was present to discuss proposed heavy vehicle truck exclusion along East Street, Hayward and High Street in East Bridgewater and Bridgewater. He stated that the exclusion would extend into the Town of East Bridgewater via Hayward Street and East Street. Mr. Bandini stated as part of MA DOT regulations an alternate route needs to be established which two alternative routes are being examined. Mr. Seelig stated the Town cannot exclude trucks on Whitman and Plymouth Street.

Mr. Frederick Sproule, 292 East Street, Mr. James Weidenfeller, 41 Leo Way, Mr. Eric Averill, 154 East Street, Mr. William Cuddahy, 297 East Street, Ms. Sylvia Averill, 154 East Street, Ms. Amy Horton, 79 Whitman Street, Ms. Lynne O'Sullivan, 335 East Street, Mr. & Mrs. John Cullinan, 75 East Street, Mr. Robert Hopkins, 75 Elmwood Way, Ms. Kelly Regan, 188 Whitman Street, were present to stress their concerns and feedback.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the heavy truck exclusion along East Street, Hayward and High Street contingent upon the results of the study and approval from the Town of Bridgewater. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 13, 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 November 13, 2023, Select Board Executive Session meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to release minutes of the following Select Board Executive Session Meetings. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Monday, May 23, 2022
Monday, November 28, 2022
Monday, September 12, 2022
Monday, September 25, 2023

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve for the EB Democratic Committee to place a Rubbermaid bin at Town Hall for a food drive the week of January 22, 2024. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Ms. Amanda Colligan, co-chair of the Democratic Committee was present and briefly went over food drive to help support food pantries in Town.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from National Grid for the Town to take over payment of a streetlight located on Patriot Circle. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Seelig stated the Town should take over and pay for streetlight.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve Select Board 2024 meeting schedule. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Monday, January 8 Monday, January 22	Monday, May 6 Monday, May 13 (Town Meeting) Monday, May 20	Monday, September 9 Monday, September 23
Monday, February 12 Monday, February 26	Monday, June 10 Monday, June 24	Monday, October 7 Monday, October 21
Monday, March 11 Monday, March 25	Monday, July 15	Monday, November 4 Monday, November 18
Monday, April 8 Monday, April 22	Monday, August 12	Monday, December 9

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve date and schedule for May 13, 2024, Annual and Special Town Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

December 4, 2023	Notification to all departments
January 11, 2024	Budgets from all departments due
January 11, 2024	All articles due including Capital articles

January – February	Finance Committee & Select Board Budget Hearings
January - February	Articles reviewed by Finance Committee, Treasurer, Town Counsel, Accountant, Town Administrator and Select Board
Week of April 15, 2024	Meeting of Town Counsel, Accountant, Town Administrator and Select Board to discuss any problems with articles
Week of April 15, 2024	ATM and STM Warrant closed and approved by Select Board
April 18, 2024	Deadline to submit Warrant to Town Clerk Moderator's Meeting. Meet with Town Clerk, Moderator etc. to go over warrant
April 22, 2024	Copy of articles available for distribution Last date to post warrant
May 13, 2024	Annual & Special Town Meeting
May 18, 2024	Town Election

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve to open the May 13, 2024, Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrant. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Melodye Cyr for the use of the Town Common and Town Hall Parking Lot for the Annual Christmas Parade on December 2, 2023 from 7:00 am – 3:00 pm. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

ANNOUNCEMENTS / STAFF REPORTS

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Seelig stated appropriation for the Central School Building Project in terms of doing a feasibility study was approved at October Town Meeting. He stated the committee is holding monthly meetings and organizing subcommittees. The Town cannot start the process of hiring a project manager until the MSBA allows the Town to do so. The Town is scheduled to be on February 28, 2024 MSBA Board Meeting.

Mr. Seelig gave a brief update on North Bedford Street Sewer Project. He stated that the Town is awaiting various approvals from the Federal Government prior to funding.

Mr. Seelig stated the Town did receive funding from One Stop for Growth Grant for Downtown Sewer Study. He stated an engineering firm will confirm if the Town could extend a line from where it is right now on Bedford Street, north to the Town Center. Possibly bring sewer and further develop properties in this area.

Mr. Seelig stated the Brownfield Application failed again. Brownfield program will not pay for the demolition of building. In another year or so, the Town can file a grant for site prep work. The Select Board will have to work with the Planning Board as to what will happen to parcel.

Mr. Seelig stated that the Town did not receive Open Space Plan Grant.

Mr. Seelig stated the Route 18 Corridor Study has been completed by OCPC. Meetings will be scheduled in 2024 regarding recommendations and incremental work with OCPC, MA DOT, and Town Officials.

Mr. Seelig stated the library would like to donate three portraits. Portraits of Judge Benjamin Winslow Harris, Samuel Angier, and Bass Odtis will be located at Town Hall.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to accept portraits. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Seelig stated the Police Department was awarded two grants. Edward J. Bryne Justice Assistance Grant program, \$43,000 and Municipal Road Safety Grant, \$29,998. He stated East Bridgewater Cinema received a grant as part of an effort to save independent movie theaters.

UPCOMING MEETINGS – 2023

BOS – Monday, December 11

BOARD DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Sheedy announced upcoming Bicentennial event. Lighting of The Common Thursday, November 30th at 6:30 pm and refreshments following at Town Hall.

Mr. Spagone Jr. thanked the schools, and all involved with food drive last week.

Ms. Julius announced the Christmas on The Common events, Lighting of The Common, Christmas Parade, Holiday Craft Fair and thanked The Kiwanis, Recreation Commission and Christmas Parade Committee for their works and efforts.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm

Select Board Clerk

Respectfully submitted as approved on January 8, 2024 meeting by Peter Spagone Jr., Clerk

/lmn