



OPEN SESSION MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
Monday, September 11, 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.

Ms. Julius led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN FORUM

Mr. William Butts of 575 Pond Street was present to get an update on Pond Street safety measures. Mr. Seelig stated the Board did approve 25 mph for portion of Pond Street and that the Department of Public Works is working on funding for signage. Director of Public Works, John Haines stated there is an article for upcoming October 2nd Town Meeting for Pond Street signages. Mr. Haines stated the process to cut / remove vegetation is still in the works due to property line determination.

Chief of Police, Michael Jenkins stated police officers have been in the area to add traffic enforcement and determine speed. Mr. Butts stated Mr. Spagone Jr. advised he would talk with other towns / organizations that may have similar problems and how they addressed it. Mr. Spagone Jr. stated a meeting is scheduled with Old Planning Council (OCPC) to discuss. Mr. Butts wanted status on identifying right of way on Pond Street. Mr. Seelig stated Mr. Butts filed a septic plan with the Board of Health (BOH) around 1999 that showed the boundary of Mr. Butt's property. He stated Mr. Butts could use that plan to determine safety measure work on property versus right of way.

ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve plaque for Bob McCarthy and for plaque to be placed at the Town Common for a date to be announced. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Diane Warkel and Chuck Horan of Kiwanis Club were present to discuss Bob McCarthy plaque. Ms. Warkel gave a brief background of Mr. McCarthy which gave more insight of the tribute. There was a brief discussion on date and time of ceremony, possibly in November.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve Common Victualer License for South Shore Nutrition, 649 Oak Street. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

South Shore Nutrition
Kerri MacPherson, Manager
649 Oak Street

Ms. Kerri MacPherson was present and gave a brief background of her business. She stated she will be serving protein shakes and energizing teas.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the Sewer Easement Agreement between the Town of East Bridgewater and JSC Holdings LLC. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Seelig stated that as part of the sanitary sewer project the affordable housing project near the Whitman town line of North Bedford Street needs to run lines through the property and connect to town sewer lines.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve contract to install generator at Town Hall and Police Station by Fall River Electrical Associates for the sum of \$271,142.00. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Seelig stated that this project was approved at Town Meeting. He stated the Town went through the procurement process and went with lower bidder and recommends contractor.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve Maternity Leave Request from Dispatcher, Amanda Jordan. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Chief of Police, Michael Jenkins stated newly hired dispatcher has not been employed long enough to qualify for Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) but due to the Massachusetts Parental Leave Act (MPLA) she qualifies for eight weeks and requested twelve weeks. Chief Jenkins approves her request of twelve weeks without pay.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2023, Board of Selectmen'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 August 7, 2023, Board of Selectmen'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 August 14, 2023, Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2023, Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve and close the Special Town Meeting Warrant for the October 2, 2023, Special Town Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Seelig went over the Articles on the Town Meeting Warrant for Monday, October 2nd.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to appoint Police Chief Michael Jenkins as Public Records Officer for the Police Department. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Zach Michonski to use the Town Hall Parking Lot 9/16/2023, rain date 9/17/2023 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm for a 3rd annual Mums fundraiser to support East Bridgewater Youth Lacrosse. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the Event Permit and One-Day Liquor License Applications from Commercial Club of East Bridgewater located at 1 Neilson Avenue for a Chili Chowda Fest on September 30, 2023, from 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve for HUGS to place a donation box at Town Hall from September to mid-October for a GOT SNEAKERS fundraising drive. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Seelig stated collection of used sneakers will be recycled or reused, each pair of sneaker HUGS will receive money.

There was a brief discussion on pursuing Community Compact grants. Mr. Seelig stated the areas he would like to pursue were Public Accessibility Best Practices and Equity Audit. The Select Board agreed for Mr. Seelig to pursue.

There was a brief discussion on Plymouth County Retirement Assessment. Mr. Seelig stated that Plymouth County Retirement Assessment will increase in the next five years. The Board has mention to discuss with Plymouth County and / or other communities regarding the possibility of extending the payment schedule. He went over the downsize of extending payments. The Board agreed for Mr. Seelig to communicate with other cities / towns regarding payment extensions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / STAFF REPORTS

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Multi-Factor Authentication, General Cybersecurity, and Training Requirements – Mr. Seelig stated that all employees need to participate in training programs in the upcoming months.

Earmarks – Mr. Seelig stated that the final process has been completed. The Town will receive earmarks that came out of the conference bill. He stated that later this Fall he will hear from various departments of the State agencies that will be dealing with the earmarks.

North Bedford Street Sanitary Sewer Project – Mr. Seelig gave an update on project and accomplishments. He thanked everyone involved. Especially City of Brockton, Mayor Robert Sullivan for their assistance.

ARPA - Status of Applications, Possible Scheduling of Public Forum, Possible Decisions on Applications – Mr. Seelig suggested a public forum on September 25th and make decisions on applications. The Board agreed to have a public forum to help move applications along and fund.

FY24 MIIA Grant Award – Mr. Seelig state that MIIA has an annual grant program for risk management. Money is available to help the Town make improvements in its programs and services that might reduce the chances of a loss. The Town received \$2,000.00 for work safety equipment for the water department and \$5,400 for uninvent inspections at the middle school.

BOARD DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Spagone Jr. wanted an update on Farren Cottage. Mr. Seelig stated he will go out to bid and bring to Town Meeting in May.

Mr. Sheedy thanked all that were involved with the Bicentennial Softball Tournament on Saturday, September 9th. He suggested the Recreation Commission make tournament annually. He announced upcoming Bicentennial Event - Remembering East Bridgewater's African American and Native American History at the Community Center at Sachem Rock at 7:00 pm. On October 14th - Trolley Tour Part Two. On September 29th and 30th - Scout Jamboree at the Center at Sachem Rock and on September 30th - Brockton Orchestra at the East Bridgewater Jr/Sr High School.

UPCOMING MEETINGS – 2023

BOS—Monday, June 12	BOS—Monday, July 17	BOS—Monday, August 14	BOS—Monday, September 11	BOS - Monday, September 25
BOS - Monday, October 16	BOS - Monday, October 30	BOS - Monday, November 13	BOS - Monday, November 27	BOS – Monday, December 11

ADJOURN

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to close open meeting and enter executive session and may 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 7:40 pm

Retuned to open meeting at 8:06 pm

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the compensation for Police Chief Michael Jenkins as agreed upon with Town Council and all the other associated provisions of the contract. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Motion by Sheedy, second by Spagone Jr. to adjourn. All were in favor, 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm

Clerk
Select Board

/lmn