




OPEN SESSION MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, November 16, 2020

 **COPY**

CAROLE JULIUS, CHAIRMAN
DAVID SHEEDY, VICE CHAIRMAN
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.

Members Absent:

Others Present: Brian Noble, Town Administrator and Rebecca Johnson, Assistant to Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen

6:00 pm Carole Julius called the meeting to order.

Ms. Julius led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN FORUM

APPOINTMENTS

Ms. Johnson announced that the East Bridgewater Fire Department will be sponsoring the Toys for Tots program again this year. She stated a collection box will be placed at the Town Hall. Pending approval, other boxes will be placed located at the Senior / Community Center, Library, YMCA and Fire Department. Updated information will be posted on Town's website.

Department of Public Works Director, John Haines was present to discuss DPW staffing. Mr. Haines is requesting consideration to fill an open laborer position in the Highway & Grounds division. There was a brief discussion of open position and potential candidate.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to allow Department of Public Works Director, John Haines to fill the open laborer position in the Highway & Grounds division. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve but not release minutes of the September 28, 2020 6:30 pm Executive Session Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve minutes of the October 5, 2020 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve minutes of the October 19, 2020 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve minutes of the November 2, 2020 5:00 pm Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to appoint Eric Cardoza as an Associate member of the Historical Commission to fill a vacancy November 16, 2020 through June 30, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Cardoza was present to give a brief background of himself which gave more insight of how he would be a qualified associate member on the Historical Commission.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to accept and sign agreement with Energy Conservation for energy saving lighting improvements at the East Bridgewater Jr/Sr High School pending funding at Town Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Noble stated the project consists of replacing all 1st floor lighting to LED's. Request is dependent on funding at Town Meeting on December 7th. Since the project is over \$50,000 Town Administrator is seeking Board approval initially.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to appoint Peter Spagone Jr. to serve as a signatory member on the Old Colony Metropolitan Planning Organization (OCPC) November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to appoint Jason Trepanier to the Central Plymouth County Water District Commission Advisory Board. 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 East Bridgewater Kiwanis Club for the use of the Town Common from November 23, 2020 through December 3, 2020 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm for Tree Decorating Contest and the Lighting of Town Common Tree. These events will not be open to the public this year. Participants shall follow state guidelines on social distancing and safety. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

There was a brief discussion regarding participants following COVID-19 state guidelines on social distancing and safety during event.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Noble stated the Department of Revenue has approved the Town's tax classification. He thanked Town Account, Phyllis Tirrell, Treasurer/Collector, Melissa Morrisey and Director of Assessing, Paula Wolfe for their work and efforts.

He stated The House of Representatives has reviewed the Governor's budget and some changes were made to the forecast. If the House budget passes, the state aid will increase by \$8,400.00.

Mr. Noble stated the Town updated and revised their "Return to Work" and "Mandatory Face-Coverings" policy to comply with the Governor's orders.

Mr. Noble presented a proposal from MIIA to lock insurance rates for the next two fiscal years. He stated this year the property/casualty and workers compensation insurance increased 0.26%, \$382,950.00. In FY22, MIIA offered a zero increase and in FY23 a 2.5% increase. The only agreement is that the Town must maintain a favorable loss ratio for all lines of coverage.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the three-year contract with MIIA for the property & casualty insurance. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

BOARD DISCUSSION

There was a discussion regarding Mr. & Mrs. Brett Hardy owners of East Bridgewater Cinemas entertainment license. Mr. Spagone Jr. stated the Selectmen received an email on November 4th requesting approval. Mr. Noble stated this will have to be discussed with Town Counsel.

Mr. Sheedy thanked the Town Clerk, office staff and volunteers for all their work and efforts on the "day of elections".

There was a discussion on FY21 Senior Tax Work-off Program. Mr. Sheedy requested to have a Town Hall Greeter in place. Their responsibilities would consist of visitor temperature checks at kiosk when entering Town Hall.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Selectmen held a Public Hearing under the provisions of Chapter 166 of General Laws and any additions thereto, or amendments thereof, the Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing on November 16, 2020 at 6:30 pm on the petition of NATIONAL GRID and VERIZON, covering joint NATIONAL GRID - VERIZON pole location(s). To relocate pole 41 & install new pole 41-1 Oak Street. The hearing will be held at the East Bridgewater Town Hall, 175 Central Street East Bridgewater, MA 02333.

Abutters were not present for the hearing. A representative / engineer from National Grid was remotely participating and explained why they chose the area to install new pole. Ms. Johnson stated resident at 559 Oak Street is in favor of the pole being relocated.

Ms. Julius closed the hearing.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to relocate pole 41 & install new pole 41-1 Oak Street covering joint NATIONAL GRID - VERIZON pole location(s). Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Selectmen's meeting Monday, December 14th

Selectmen's meeting Monday, December 28th

Mr. Spagone Jr. announced the Selectmen were entering into Executive Session Pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, § 21 (a)(3) To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation (Bourne v. Town of EB/Roy Gardner) and (Ridder Farm MGL 21E) if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body and not return to open session.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to move into Executive Session and not return to open session, Mr. Sheedy seconded. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Spagone Jr: Aye, Mr. Sheedy: Aye, Ms. Julius: Aye. All were in favor, 3-0

ADJOURN

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm


_____ Clerk

Board of Selectmen