



OPEN SESSION MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
Monday, August 7, 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. Leon S. Jr. Litchfield of 788 Bridge Street was present to discuss Select Board's approval on guardrail. He stated another accident occurred and wanted an update on installation. Mr. Litchfield stated he spoke with Director of Public Works, John Haines who indicated that he hopes to have it completed by August 31st.

APPOINTMENTS

HEARING

6:35 pm Mr. Spagone Jr. read the following notice. 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 August 7, 2023, at 6:30 pm on the petition of MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRIC COMPANY D/B/A NATIONAL GRID, request permission to locate poles, wires and fixtures, including necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way:

Pine Street – Install one SO Pole on Pine Street. Beginning at a point approximately 450 feet West of the center line of the intersection of Pine Street and Cedar Mill Lane. Install new Pole 180 – 50 at Approximately 42.059137, - 70.936702.

Ms. Johnson stated abutters have been notified of hearing. Mr. Rob Proude of National Grid was present to answer any questions regarding permit. He stated the pole was necessary as equipment mounted on the pole is essential.

Ms. Julius closed the hearing at 6:37 pm.

ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve for Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a NATIONALGRID to install one SO Pole on Pine Street. Beginning at a point approximately 450 feet West of the center line of the intersection of Pine Street and Cedar Mill Lane. Install new Pole 180 – 50 at Approximately 42.059137, 70.936702. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve for Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a NATIONALGRID to erect and maintain poles and wires, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as it may find necessary, said poles to be erected substantially in accordance with the plan filed here with marked – Pine Street – East Bridgewater, Massachusetts. No.#30814991. Also, permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables, and wires in the above or intersecting public ways for the purpose of making connections with such poles and Buildings as each of said petitioners may desire for distributing purposes. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 12, 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 June 12, 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 May 22, 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 May 22, 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 July 17,2023, 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 July 17, 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 date and schedule for 2023 Special Town Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

TIME FRAMES FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

August 07, 2023	Vote to schedule STM & Open Warrant
August 08, 2023	Notification to Departments
August 18, 2023	Deadline to submit articles to Selectmen
August 21, 2023	Articles reviewed by Finance Committee, Treasurer, Town Counsel, Accountant, Town Administrator and Selectmen
September 11, 2023	Meeting with Town Counsel, Accountant, Town Administrator and Selectmen to discuss any problems with Warrant
September 11, 2023	STM Warrant closed and approved by Selectmen
September 12, 2023	Deadline to submit Warrant to Town Clerk
September 18, 2023	Last day to post Warrant
September 19, 2023	Copy of articles available for distribution
September 25, 2023	Meet with Town Clerk, Moderator etc. to go over Warrant
October 2, 2023	Special Town Meeting

Mr. Seelig stated that Fall Town Meeting is needed for a number of reasons. Some of it will be housekeeping and significant appropriations. For instance, a feasibility study for Central Elementary School. He briefly went over process and working with MSBA (Massachusetts School Building Authority). Ms. Julius is the Board's representative to serve on Building Committee.

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

Mr. Seelig stated the deadline to submit articles will be August 18th.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to appoint John Haines as Town's representative and Jason Trepanier as alternate to the OCPC Regional Water Study RFP Advisory Group.

Mr. Seelig stated that OCPC received a grant for regional water study. They will work together with a consulting firm and would like representation from various communities in the region.

Ms. Julies stated Action Items 12 & 13 will be discussed in Executive Session.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve a One Day Liquor License and Event Permit for a Car Show at the EB Commercial Club August 5, 2023, from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve surplus request from IT Director, Ryan McGonigle. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

HP	ProLient ML350 G6	MXQ21203G7	HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QHY
HP	ProLient ML350	USE625N9FP	HP	ELITEDESK 705 G3	2UA7192GFD
HP	DC5700	USH72001X	HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QHM
PANASONIC	TOUGHBOOK	CF-19RFRC66M	HP	PRODESK 600	2UA41511NJ
PANASONIC	CF-33	CF-33LE-00VM	HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QH6
PANASONIC	CF-33	CF-33LE-00V4	HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151D4R
PANASONIC	CF-33	UNKNOWN	HP	ELITEDESK 705 G3	MXL724332V
PANASONIC	CF-33	CF-19KHRAX2B	HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QHX
PANASONIC	CF-33	CF-19KHRAX1F	HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QHJ
GETAC	V100	RCB63V0088	HP	PRO 6300	2UA3372D5P
HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QH5	HP	PRODESK 600	2UA41514NG
HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QHB	HP	PRODESK 400 G3	MXL6422CFM
HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QHT	HP	PRODESK 400 G3	MXL6422CB1
HP	PRODESK 800 G1	2UA5291VPK	HP	PRODESK 400 G3	MXL6422CCS
HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QHD	HP	PRO 6300	2UA3372D5Q
HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QHL	HP	PR 6300	2UA32500675
DELL	OPTIPLEX 7010	B1LCTW1	HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QHF
LENOVO	TS130	1S1105CT0MJ08HE4	HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QHV
HP	PRODSK 600	2UA4151QHG	HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151D4Q
HP	ELITEDESK 705 G3	2UA7192GFK	HP	PRODESK 600	2UA41511NK
HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QHW	HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QHN
HP	PRO 6300	2UA3140QGG	HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QH8
HP	PRO 6000	2UA0280LS5	HP	PRODESK 600	2UA4151QHQ

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to the request from Fire Chief, Timothy Harhen for the quarterly Ambulance Billing Abatements through June 2023 in the amount of \$16,966.55. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to accept MGL Chapter 90, Section 17C and declaration of a Pond Street or a portion of it as "Thickly Settled" with a designated speed of 25mph. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Seelig stated that the first step in being able to go down to 25 mph under thickly settled is the acceptance of the statue. Previous statutes approved several years ago by the legislature, thickly settled was 30 mph. He stated simply accepting this statue the Board can designated road or section of road to be thickly settled/25 mph. There was a brief discussion on Pond Street. Mr. Seelig stated that Pond Street would meet the criteria for thickly settled. Once the statute is accepted by the Board, he suggested to direct Director of Public Works to put up appropriate signage on Pond Street that meet the criteria thickly settled. All agreed this is the appropriate step.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve for the Town Administrator to contact the State Legislature regarding the Bottle Bill and draft Town by Law banning miniature bottles. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Seelig stated that the Board agreed to contact state legislature about various bills that would expand the bottle bill. He stated that a few residents came into his office for an update. He wanted to know if the Board would like a Town by Law drafted and present it at Town Meeting to ban miniatures. The Board agreed to present by law at Town Meeting.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to appoint Lois Sullivan as a member to the Council on Aging effective August 7, 2023 through June 30, 2026. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from the East Bridgewater Business Association to use the Town Hall Parking lot for the Car Show portion of the EBBA Expo, from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm October 7, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. James Stoffel, president of EBBA was present to give an update on event. The Board commended him for his works and efforts.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Angeline Punwani of Angelic Bravery Tinker & Play for the use of Sachem Rock Farm on Wednesdays for additional Tinkergarten Based Classes in 2023 starting September 13, 2023 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

ANNOUNCEMENTS / STAFF REPORTS

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Update on Donation of Land Located on Highland Street – Mr. Seelig stated donation of land located on Highland Street was approved at Town Meeting in May. He stated the deed work is complete and recorded at the Registry of Deeds.

Update on Green Communities – Mr. Seelig stated that the lighting project for the Library, Council on Aging, Fire Station, and Town Hall is complete. Final report on project was completed with OCPC. Town is awaiting approval from the state. He stated the total grant amount was little over (\$150,000) one hundred fifty thousand dollars. Mr. Seelig stated completion of the work and submission of the final report allows facilities manager to work with OCPC and consultant Chris Collins to submit a Competitive Grant Application this fall.

Update on Opioid Finances – Mr. Seelig stated the Financial Staff met with MA Division of Local Services. He stated the monies the town appropriated at previous town meetings for opioid remediation and prevention went

into free cash due to state rules. Upcoming town meeting will reappropriate the monies into the stabilization fund which allows it to remain and does not turn into free cash until the town is ready to appropriate the money for those efforts.

Digital Equity Survey and Workshop – Mr. Seelig stated this project is being funded by state and federal dollars. The concept is that there are Massachusetts residents that does not have access to the internet. This survey will help inform the Commonwealth’s investment of historic funding to provide improved connectivity for all residents of Massachusetts, increasing access to education, healthcare, civic engagement, economic, and other opportunities. A workshop will be held on Tuesday, August 15th at the Council on Aging at 7:00 pm to discuss the challenges that residents have in using the internet (lack of devices, lack of access to high-speed broadband, lack of knowledge about how to use it) and what steps the Town and other entities can take to eliminate these barriers.

Work with OCPC on Grants for Economic Recovery Effort and Marketing of Businesses – Mr. Seelig stated there are monies available for Economic Recovery Effort and Marketing of Businesses. He is working with OCPC and will have an update on contract agreement.

Update on Heavy Vehicle Exclusion for Cottage Street – Mr. Seelig stated that submission of necessary paperwork has been submitted to the state for approval. He stated currently there is no timetable for installation.

Update on Pedestrian Crossings on Route 18 by Library – Mr. Seelig stated he is working with Director of Public Works and OCPC on various grant programs at the state and federal level to help town qualify for signals at the library crossings.

Update on State Budget and Earmarks – Mr. Seelig stated the state budget is before the governor. He briefly went over earmarks which included, (\$25,000) twenty five thousand dollars for main repairs at the library; (\$40,000) forty thousand dollars for water proofing and sealing the library; (\$21,000) twenty one thousand dollars for digital radio pagers for the fire department; (\$10,000) ten thousand dollars for grab and go meals at the Council on Aging; (\$15,000) fifteen thousand dollars for EB Hope to help with substance abuse.

Mr. Seelig announced Police Chief, Paul O’Brien’s resignation / retirement notice effective Saturday, August 5th. The Select Board wished him the best in retirement.

BOARD DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Sheedy announced upcoming bicentennial event. The YMCA will be holding a Family Fun Day on Saturday, August 12th, 635 Plymouth Street from 11am to 1pm. He briefly went over activities and event.

Ms. Julius announced State Representative Alyson Sullivan-Almeida safely delivered baby girl, Aleena Theresa Almeida last week. All are doing well.

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 move into Executive Session and 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, vacation policy for nonunion personnel (Chris Buckley, Megan Crosby, Rebecca Johnson, Alex Welch).

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm

Retuned to open meeting at 7:32 pm

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion for nonunion employees with (5) five years of service not on the wage grid to receive (20) twenty vacation days each year. Each year shall be able to carry over (5) five vacation days into subsequent year. The total accumulation days of vacation carried over cannot exceed (5) five days at any time. Each year shall be able to buy back (5) five days. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm

Clerk

Select Board

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