



OPEN SESSION MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
Monday, September 25, 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: 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

The Old Bridgewater Historical Society Board of Directors, Mary O'Connell, President and Katherine Wolfe, Treasurer were present to prize draw and congratulate Team Joppa Sticks who won the Grand Prize in the East Bridgewater Bicentennial Scavenger Hunt. Runner-up teams Slush-Puppies and Pimapage also won prizes in drawing. Twelve (12) teams finished the hunt and were eligible for prize drawings. The Select Board thanked all involved with event.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Spagone Jr. read the following. Notice is hereby given that the Select Board will conduct a public hearing regarding the application for a Class II license transfer filed by Kevin Thompson, 26 N. Central Street, East Bridgewater, MA 02333. The public hearing will be held at the Town Hall, First Floor Conference Room, 175 Central Street, East Bridgewater, MA on Monday, September 25, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Spagone Jr.: Aye, Ms. Julius: Aye, Mr. Sheedy: Aye. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Kevin Thompson of 48 Waverly Street, Brockton, MA was present and briefly went over business. He stated that he has been in the auto collision since 2018 and that he has two other businesses located in Brockton and Stoughton.

Selectman Spagone Jr. made a motion to close public hearing. Seconded by Selectman Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Selectman Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve Class II license transfer to Kevin Thompson for 26 N. Bedford Street pending \$25,000 surety bond and workers' compensation insurance affidavit submittal. Seconded by Selectman Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Michael Bankson, STEM Coordinator and Adjunct Biology Faculty at Massasoit Community College and Ken Reale of Community Gardens were present to discuss expanding the Community Garden. Currently 100' X 100' and would like to extend 32' out on south facing side. This addition would be used for cooperative effort with Massasoit Community College Stem Program. Mr. Reale stated no cost to the Town. Dr. Bankson briefly went over Massasoit Community College STEM program.

The Select Board commended Community Gardens for their works and efforts.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to expand the community garden 32' out on south facing side and support the Massasoit Community College STEM Program managed by Dr. Michael Bankson.

The Board passed over meeting with Town Moderator, Town Clerk to go over the STM Warrant

Superintendent, Liz Legault, Central School Principal, Kate Byrne and Town Facilities Manager, Brian Kiely were present to discuss the feasibility study for the Central Elementary School. Ms. Legault thanked all Central School Building Committee members for their works and efforts. She briefly went over feasibility study, prior projects, and CORE Program Statement of Interest. Ms. Legault stated a Feasibility Study will carefully examine potential solutions to the issues identified at the Central School and help develop the most cost-effective plan to either renovate or a total reconstruction.

Town Facilities Manager, Brian Kiely briefly went over Central School Building status. He stated the building is seventy-two (72) years old and needs a lot of work. Mr. Keily went over mechanical systems, plumbing, electrical and safety issues. He stated this is an opportunity for the Town to partner with Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) that would fund 50% of project.

Central School Principal, Kate Byrne briefly went over physical constraints of the building and how it impacts the educational process and occupants of the building. She stated ultimately she wants all East Bridgewater students to learn, grow and play in a healthy safe facility.

Ms. Legault briefly went over similar districts for Feasibility costs and MSBA guidance on how much funding a Feasibility Study may cost, (\$1 – \$1.5 million). Ms. Legault would like the Town to move forward and approve funding (2/3 vote) at Town Meeting on October 2nd.

The Select Board had a series of questions which gave insight as to why the Feasibility Study should move forward. Mr. Spagone Jr. stated his only concern was the timing of information getting out to the voters, the Board agreed. Ms. Legault stated 12/29/23 is the last day to complete eligibility period deliverables. Lauren Foster, School Committee Chair was present to stress her concerns regarding possible postponement for Feasibility Study vote in November / December. She stated the benefit of waiting may not be worth the risk of losing the deadline in the end. Mr. John Margie was present and stressed / supported public forum prior to Feasibility Study public vote. Fire Chief, Tim Harhen wanted to know where the money would come from. Finance Committee Chair, Dan Picha stated Stabilization Fund or has to be borrowed. Ms. Julius stated the Town Administrator recommended Stabilization Fund and not borrow.

ARPA Committee Chair, John Margie and Town Accountant, Melanie Dean were present to discuss the twenty-seven (27) projects that were submitted from Town departments, residents, businesses, and non-profits for projects that met the objectives of the ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds and were aligned with the Town of East Bridgewater's spending priorities. Ms. Dean stated there were two sources of ARPA funding, State Funds totaling around \$1.5 million and Plymouth County Funds totaling around \$2.6 million.

There was a brief discussion on joint meetings to discuss and approve final projects and getting the information out to applicants.

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. As a result, the Heavy Vehicles would be re-routed along Route 104, Spring Street, and Bedford Street (Route 18) in Bridgewater and Route 18 East Bridgewater.

Director of Public Works, John Haines was present and stated that East Bridgewater has already done traffic analysis working with Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC) and confirm that there is significant level of heavy truck traffic on East Street. He is certainly not opposed to what the Town of Bridgewater is trying to accomplish, restricting the truck traffic on Hayward and East Street, and warned that the traffic is likely to occur on East Bridgewater Route 106. The Select Board will take it under advisement and have further discussion with safety department heads.

ACTION ITEMS

The Select Board passed over contract for Deputy Police Chief, Michael McLaughlin.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve to use ARPA funds in the amount of \$12,843.06 for 16' x 9' complete Pro Outdoor Movie System. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the Change of Manager Club All Alcohol License, Common Victualler, Automatic Amusement Device. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

From: Commercial Club of East Bridgewater
Janet Brooks, Manager
1 Neilson Avenue

To: Deborah Polito, Manager

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the following Entertainment License with addition that licensee pay \$25 for a three (3) month license from September 25, 2023 to December 31, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Commercial Club of East Bridgewater
Deborah Polito, Manager
1 Neilson Avenue
Band, Karaoke, DJ

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 11, 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 September 11, 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 Paul Hallinan plaque to be placed on crosswalk pole at the Mitchell Middle School, pending plaque wording from David Sheedy. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Danielle Veneau, EBBA to display a banner at Town Common until October 7, 2023. Banner will be 3X8 and will have the EBBA logo, event photos and EBBA Business Expo Family Day information. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Veterans Service Officer, Chris Buckley for the use of the Town Common and Town Hall Parking Lot for Tri-Town Veteran's Parade on November 11, 2023 from 8:00 am – 1:00 pm. 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 Kiwanis Club of East Bridgewater for the use of the Town Common for the Annual Lighting of the Common and Town Tree on Thursday, November 30, 2023, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

ANNOUNCEMENTS / STAFF REPORTS

Ms. Rebecca Johnson announced the following,

- October 2, 2023 Special Town Meeting:
7:00 pm at the Jr/Sr High School Auditorium, 143 Plymouth Street
- Community Shredding, Prescription Drug, Needle, Oil Based Paint, and Large Battery Take Back Event:
The East Bridgewater Council on Aging, the East Bridgewater Police Department, the East Bridgewater Fire Department, and the East Bridgewater Department of Public Works are sponsoring a Community Shredding, Prescription Drug Take Back, Needle Disposal, Oil Based Paint, and Large Battery Disposal on Saturday, October 28 from 10:00am to 1:00pm at The Center at Sachem Rock, 355 Plymouth Street in East Bridgewater. This event is for East Bridgewater residents only. Please remain in your vehicle during the drop-off.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

BOARD DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Sheedy gave an update on Bi-Centennial events.

As part of the Scout Jamboree (a gathering of all Scout groups in East Bridgewater) at the Community Center at Sachem Rock, 355 Plymouth Street, on Friday, September 29 and Saturday, September 30, the camps will be open to the public from 10:00am to 2:00pm on Saturday, September 30 with displays, memorabilia, and demonstrations.

The Brockton Symphony Orchestra Chamber Players will present A Musical Retrospective with the BrSO Flutissimo and Bailey Street Brass on Saturday, September 30, 2023 in the East Bridgewater Jr/Sr High School Auditorium at 7pm.

Trolley Tour Part Two on October 14th - Vintage-style trolley tour of the west side of East Bridgewater's picturesque streets and historical landmarks. Tickets and information will be on-line.

October 21st from 7:00pm to 10:00pm - Bicentennial Bash with Four in A Row at Commercial Club.

Mr. Spagone Jr. commended the Fire and Police for holding golf tournament event last week.

UPCOMING MEETINGS – 2023

BOS - Monday, October 16	BOS - Monday, October 30	BOS - Monday, November 13	BOS - Monday, November 27	BOS – Monday, December 11
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ADJOURN

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to close open meeting and enter executive session and not 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, Ms. Julius: Aye, Mr. Sheedy: Aye. All were in favor, 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

Respectfully submitted as approved at October 16, 2023 meeting by Peter Spagone Jr., Clerk.

/lmn