

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Date of Meeting: August 23, 2022
Date of Transcription: September 12, 2022
Transcribed by: Cassandra Slaney

Meeting took place remotely due to Covid-19

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN

2. ROLL CALL

Selectmen Present: Judith Whiteside, Chairman
Patricia A. Wurts, Clerk
Ronald Besse
Jared S. Chadwick
Alan H. Slavin

Also Present: Richard Bowen, Town Counsel
Derek Sullivan, Town Administrator

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Selectman Chadwick thanked the Onset Fire Department and Wareham Fire Department for an amazing job dealing with the fire at the Mattapoisett Boatyard.

There are two days left for registration to the Wareham Girls Softball league. All divisions are in need of players.

There will be a presentation at the Onset Foursquare Church on Friday, August 26th that will educate parents about child abduction, what to do and how to protect their children.

5. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/INTERVIEWS

a. Wareham Affordable Housing Trust-term to expire June 30, 2023

i. Patricia A. Wurts

MOTION: Selectman Slavin moved to appoint Patricia A. Wurts to the Wareham Affordable Housing Trust to a term to expire June 30, 2023. Selectman Chadwick seconded. Roll Call: Selectman Slavin-yes, Selectman Besse-yes, Selectman Chadwick-yes, Selectman Wurts-yes, Selectman Whiteside-yes.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

6. LICENSES AND PERMITS

7. TOWN BUSINESS

a. Presentation explaining the Imagination Library Programs. (Presented by Priscilla Porter)

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Ms. Porter explained that the Imagination Library Program is available all children who reside in Wareham. The program is free and forms to sign up are available at the Town Clerk's office, Spinney Memorial Library, Wareham Free Library, The Onset Bay Center and Wareham Pediatrics. Children ages birth to his/her fifth birthday who participate will receive a free book every month. Friends of the Wareham Free Library sponsors this program through the Dollywood Foundation originated by Dolly Parton.

b. Discussion and possible vote regarding Lot Determination Fee.

MOTION: Selectman Wurts moved to approve the Lot Determination Fee up to \$150.00 as presented by Mr. Turner, Building Commissioner with an amendment to allow the applicant to choose either an attorney or other designee to prepare the documentation effective October 1, 2022. Selectman Chadwick seconded. Selectman Chadwick seconded. Roll Call: Selectman Slavin-yes, Selectman Besse-yes, Selectman Chadwick-yes, Selectman Wurts-yes, Selectman Whiteside-yes.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

**c. Appointments for Forest Warden, MGL Ch. 48, sect 1:
Wareham District-John Kelley
Onset District-Jeff Osswald**

MOTION: Selectman Wurts moved to appoint John Kelley-Wareham District and Jeff Osswald-Onset District as Forest Wardens under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 48, Section 1. Selectman Chadwick seconded. Roll Call: Selectman Slavin-yes, Selectman Besse-yes, Selectman Chadwick-yes, Selectman Wurts-yes, Selectman Whiteside-yes.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

d. Discussion and possible vote regarding assignment of police officers at the precincts per State regulations.

Selectman Whiteside explained that currently the State requires the Board of Selectman to assign police officers to the precincts. However, the Board can delegate authority to the Police Chief to make the appropriate determination by a law enforcement professional and this delegation can be withdrawn at any time.

MOTION: Selectman Wurts moved to delegate the authority under the election advisory 2020, 20-01, the changes to the State Election Laws to the Chief of Police of the Town of Wareham for appointing and assigning police officers during any election per state regulations. Selectman Chadwick seconded. Roll Call: Selectman Slavin-yes, Selectman Besse-yes, Selectman Chadwick-yes, Selectman Wurts-yes, Selectman Whiteside-yes.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

e. Discussion and possible vote regarding the Marijuana Delivery Establishment quota.

Selectman Slavin explained that there are proposed changes to the number of marijuana delivery establishments. These changes have not been finalized. He suggested discussing this item at the meeting of September 13th when more detailed information will be available. He also suggested discussing the approval of marijuana cafes which has recently passed as well.

f. Review and approve request regarding the Harvest Moon Festival, from the Onset Bay Association.

Present Before the Board: Kat Jones, Onset Bay Association

Ms. Jones is seeking approval for the Harvest Moon Festival to take place Saturday, September 24, 2022 with a rain date of September 25, 2022 from 10am to 5pm. The festival will consist of 25-30 craft vendors, food trucks, a car show, kid's activities and bands playing from noon to 5. There will be a fireworks display as well in the evening.

MOTION: Selectman Wurts moved to approve the request regarding the Harvest Moon Festival subject to amending the permit for the event to begin at 10am. Selectman Besse seconded. Selectman Chadwick seconded. Roll Call: Selectman Slavin-abstained, Selectman Besse-yes, Selectman Chadwick-yes, Selectman Wurts-yes, Selectman Whiteside-yes.

VOTE: 4-0-1 (Selectman Slavin abstained)

g. Discussion and possible vote regarding use of Town Buildings.

Mr. Sullivan proposed a concept regarding the Multi-Service Center, the Town Hall and the Decas building. He suggested that part of the Decas building would be large enough to dedicate to the Council on Aging and the rest of it could be used to serve as the municipal operations. The Town Hall could serve as the new Police Station. The location work well being closer to the schools. The Multi-Service Center could utilized as the Community Center. Mr. Sullivan explained that this would be a good use of resources and assets at hand. Selectman Whiteside asked that Mr. Sullivan create an in depth presentation to propose for the next meeting.

MOTION: Selectman Slavin moved to authorize the Town Administrator to move forward on his proposal plans for the reuse of the Town Hall, Decas Building, and Multi-Service for municipal purposes. Selectman Besse seconded. Roll Call: Selectman Slavin-yes, Selectman Besse-yes, Selectman Chadwick-yes, Selectman Wurts-yes, Selectman Whiteside-yes.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

h. Vote to release executive session meeting minutes previously approved and held: October 5, 2021, November 9, 2021 and November 16, 2021.

MOTION: Selectman Wurts moved to approve and release the executive session meeting minutes previously approved and held for October 2, 2021, November 9, 2021 and November 16, 2021. Selectman Chadwick seconded. Roll Call: Selectman Slavin-yes, Selectman Besse-yes, Selectman Chadwick-yes, Selectman Wurts-yes, Selectman Whiteside-yes.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

i. Any other Town business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours Prior to the posting of this meeting.

8. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

10. LIAISON/INITIATIVE REPORTS

Nothing to report.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Authorization to sign bills and documents, etc.

b. Approval of meeting minutes: July 26, 2022.

MOTION: Selectman Wurts moved to approve the meeting minutes of July 26, 2022. Selectman Chadwick seconded. Roll Call: Selectman Slavin-yes, Selectman Besse-yes, Selectman Chadwick-yes, Selectman Wurts-yes, Selectman Whiteside-yes.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

c. Approval of executive session minutes: August 9, 2022.

MOTION: Selectman Wurts moved to approve and hold the executive session minutes of August 9, 2022. Selectman Chadwick seconded. Roll Call: Selectman Slavin-yes, Selectman Besse-yes, Selectman Chadwick-yes, Selectman Wurts-yes, Selectman Whiteside-yes.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

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12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Selectman Slavin moved to adjourn at 8:16 pm. Selectman Besse seconded. Roll Call: Selectman Slavin-yes, Selectman Wurts-yes, Selectman Besse-yes, Selectman Chadwick-yes, Selectman Whiteside-yes.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

13. SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

Respectfully submitted
Cassandra Slaney
Department Assistant

The foregoing minutes were submitted to the Board of Selectmen on:

Attest:


Patricia A. Wurts, Clerk

Date Signed: 10/18/22

DOCUMENTS REVIEWED AND/OR USED IN MEETING.

1. Appointment to the Wareham Affordable Housing Trust-Patricia Wurts.
2. Lot Determination Fee update.
3. Forest Warden appointments.
4. Police Officer assignment-State regulations.
5. Harvest Moon Festival permit.
6. Donations to the Council on Aging.
7. Executive session minutes to be released: October 5, 2021, November 9, 2021, November 16, 2021.
8. Meeting minutes for July 26, 2022.
9. Executive session minutes for August 9, 2022.

Date sent to Town Clerk: 10-25-22