

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Date of Meeting: October 20, 2020
Date of Transcription: October 21, 2020
Transcribed by: Cassandra Slaney

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN

2. ROLL CALL

Selectmen Present: Peter W. Teitelbaum, Esq., Chairman
Judith Whiteside, Clerk
Alan H. Slavin
Patrick G. Tropeano
James M. Munise

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

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 21st is breast cancer awareness. Employees have been asked to wear pink to show support.

The Wareham Garden Club will be selling cookbooks for \$14.00. This is a fundraiser for scholarships as well as maintaining the gardens around Town. The recipes are from club members and will be sold at St. Patrick's Hall, November 5th from 11-1 or call 774-766-0045 to place an order.

There will be a virtual craft fair to benefit the Upper Cape Tech Parent Teacher Organization until October 31st. Visit www.uppercapetech.com for details. Curbside pick-up for items ordered will be November 21st and 22nd from 9-4.

The Gleason Family YMCA is hosting a Trunk or Treat event on October 31st from 2-4. Donations of non-perishable foods are welcome.

The Church of the Good Shepherd is having a craft fair in the parking lot on October 24th from 10-1 (rain date October 25th). Items at the craft fair include wreaths, Christmas arrangements, and knitted items. Social distancing and wearing masks are required.

The Church of the Good Shepherd is also offering free meals every Thursday from 4-5 in the parking lot.

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The Food Pantry is the first Tuesday of each month from 3-5.

Registration for the Presidential Election will be October 24th in the Town Hall parking lot between 2-4 and 7-8.

The Friends of the Wareham Free Library is participating in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. For a donation of \$25.00, a child can be sponsored and receive a free book each month from birth to 4.5 years old. Applications are available at the Town Clerk's office, Onset Bay Association, or call the Library at 508-295-2343 to pick up an application.

Early voting is taking place at the Town Hall auditorium and ballots by mail can still be requested.

The Town has not cancelled Halloween as of this date. The Board of Health has independent jurisdiction from the Board of Selectmen when it comes to health issues. Chairman Teitelbaum encouraged if any trick or treating takes place to take the necessary precautions such as wearing a mask.

5. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Present before the Board: Don Jepson

Mr. Jepson was present to provide a timeline of the dredging project.

Present before the Board: Kristina Lisa Burbank

Ms. Burbank, spoke on behalf of voting rights.

6. BOARD'S COMMENTS

None.

7. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/INTERVIEWS

None.

8. LICENSES AND PERMITS

- a. Application from Kristina Lisa Burbank, 211 Onset Ave., Onset, MA. for a Fortune Teller License.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to approve the application from Kristina Lisa Burbank, 211 Onset Ave., Onset, MA. for a Fortune Teller License under MGL Chapter 140, section 185. Selectman Slavin seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

9. TOWN BUSINESS

- a. COVID-19 Update.

Mr. Sullivan stated that since October 5th, there have been twenty-two new cases. Since September 1st, there have been a total of forty-seven new cases with nineteen recoveries and no deaths.

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- b. Refuse Update.

There will be a CMW meeting October 21st. Plans are in motion and progress is being made.

- c. Discussion regarding BOS policy for committee appointments.

Selectman Teitelbaum suggested presenting the Board with a Selectmen's Policy and Checklist at the next meeting inclusive for all Boards (not including Appointing Authority) and office staff in order to have more efficiency processing memberships.

- d. Discussion regarding earth removal permit notice and enforcement during land use permit process.

Selectman Munise stated that the process for earth removal should be improved and the bylaws should be implemented regarding the permitting process. Attorney Bowen suggested meeting with the Planning Director on how this can be circulated.

- e. Vote to approve license agreement with Eversource for Decas at Minot Forest Elementary School project.

MOTION: Selectman Tropeano moved to approve the license agreement with Eversource for Decas at Minot Forest Elementary School project. Selectman Whiteside seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

- f. Vote to ratify hiring of Gerald Meleedy-Laborer at WPCF, Sean O'Brien-Lab Technician at WPCF, and John Zajac- Paramedic at EMS.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to ratify the hiring of Gerald Meleedy-Laborer at WPCF, Sean O'Brien-Lab Technician at WPCF, and John Zajac-Paramedic at EMS. Selectman Tropeao seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

- g. Continued discussion and votes to recommend warrant articles.

No articles were discussed at this meeting.

- h. Any other Town business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the posting of this meeting.

Vote to require masks to be worn in public meetings.

MOTION: Selectman Slavin moved to require masks to be worn in public meetings. Selectman Whiteside seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

Request Board of Health to consider a refuse regulation.

MOTION: Selectman Tropeano moved to request the Board of Health to consider a refuse regulation. Selectman Whiteside seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

10. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Sullivan attended the Mayflower Municipal Health Group Steering Committee meeting and announced for the third year in a row the rates will be held stable and after reviewing the assets for next year he is confident the rates will remain stable. He stated that this is one of the best investments made and is pleased with the overall savings for the Town as well as employees and retirees.

MOTION: Selectman Slavin moved to authorize the Chairman and Town Administrator to provide a letter of appreciation to the Mayflower Municipal Health Group. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

Mr. Sullivan stated that with the numerous mail in ballots requested, he is still expecting a tremendous turnout for voters during the elections on November 3rd. He is encouraging citizens to vote ahead of time. With the anticipated turnout he also said this may have an effect on the operational services within the Town Hall and may give employees the option of taking paid time off. He will let the Board know what he would like to propose.

11. LIAISON REPORTS/INITIATIVE REPORTS

The EastCoast Greenway Group and the Southcoast Bikeway Alliance and will be meeting with Solomon Group regarding their grant program for assistance with the bikepath in Wareham that has been approved for 2024.

The State has put a plan in place to provide three million vaccinations a year.

Selectman Teitelbaum asked for input from the Board regarding the possibility of adjusting the Liquor License fees for establishments that closed during the beginning of the pandemic. Mr. Sullivan suggested that businesses look into the Rockland Regional Micro Enterprise Grant Program found on the Town's website under News & Announcements. Selectman Slavin also suggested businesses reach out the local Chamber of Commerce and stated that there are loans and possible programs offered through SEED as well. It was determined after discussion that with the federal relief funds offered and the various programs offered to businesses, the liquor license fees would not be adjusted for the year.

12. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Authorization to sign bills and documents, etc.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Selectman Slavin moved to adjourn at 8:33 pm. Selectman Whiteside seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

14. SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES-10/20/2020 (CONT'D)

Respectfully submitted
Cassandra Slaney
Department Assistant

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

Attest: 
Judith Whiteside, Clerk

Date Signed: 10-27-20

Date sent to the Town Clerk: 10-28-20