

MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD

Date of Meeting: October 17, 2023
Date of Transcription: November 6, 2023
Transcribed by: Karen Wilfert

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIR

2. ROLL CALL

Select Board members present: Judith Whiteside, Chair
Jared Chadwick, Clerk
Ronald S. Besse
Alan Slavin
Patricia Wurts

Also Present: Bernie Pigeon, Chair Sewer Commissioner
Richard Bowen, Town Counsel
Derek Sullivan, Town Administrator

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. RESIDENT'S COMMENTS Comments on non-agenda items shall be limited to 2 minutes, and there will be no more than 10 minutes per meeting. Based on past practice, the Select Board will not respond or comment

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Wurts suggested residents watch the WCTV video regarding the zoning articles to be presented at town meeting.

Mr. Slavin said the weekly meeting regarding the highway improvements on routes 6 and 28 was not held.

Mr. Slavin thanked the Elks for their continued very generous support of local charities, as recently announced at a celebratory meeting. Mr. Slavin reminded residents that the Rail road owns the tracks and virtually all surrounding parallel real estate. They are in the process of placing fencing along Merchants Way, to prevent individuals from crossing the tracks.

Mr. Besse reminded people that Halloween is around the corner and urges all to be extra wary of pedestrian traffic.

Mr. Chadwick announced that Town Tap and Tavern will be holding a job fair on the weekend of the 25th and 26th. He reminded people that wearing purple shows support for LBGT (is that right) and is taking a stand against bullying

Ms. Whiteside reminded people about the Veterans Day parade on November 11th.

6. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/ INTERVIEWS

a. Council on Aging

- i. Carolyn McClure – Member - term to expire June 30, 2024

MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved to appoint Carolyn McClure as a Member to the Council on Aging – term to expire June 30, 2024. Seconded. **VOTE: 5-0-0**

- ii. Judy Jinson-Riggle – Member - term to expire June 30, 2026

Judy Jinson-Riggle not present. **No action taken.**

7. LICENSES AND PERMITS

- a. Hearing at 7:15 p.m. to grant a new Class II License, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 140 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to A1 Auto Unlimited LLC, d/b/a/ A1 Auto Unlimited LLC at 58 Sandwich Road, Wareham MA 02571. **MOTION:** Mr. Chadwick moved to open the hearing. Seconded. **VOTE: 5-0-0**

Presentation by John Bastian, owner of A1 Auto Unlimited LLC, d/b/a/ A1 Auto Unlimited LLC at 58 Sandwich Road, Wareham MA 02571. Mr. Bastian has owned a towing business for 5 years and wants to transition to auto repair, sales and service. His business has been located in New Bedford, but he has grown out of it. Mr. Slavin asked about the size of his current operation. Mr. Bastian has two flatbed trucks and no city or state towing contract, but would like to eventually get a contract with a city or the state. Mr. Bastian's (silent) business partner is his 74 year old uncle who is also a veteran. Mr. Besse questioned whether or not he had sales experience. Mr. Bastian commented that he worked in Dorchester for his family's auto body/sales business for years. Mr. Slavin wanted to know how many cars would be for sale on the property and where they would be parked. Mr. Bastian commented that the previous owner had a permit for 23 cars and he would like to have the same amount of cars for sale on the property. He would like to arrange them the way the previous owner did – one or two up front and most of them at the side of the building. Mr. Slavin expressed his concern about handicap parking space(s) and if inspectional services had been by to inspect the property. Ms. Whiteside requested that Mr. Bastian return to Mr. Turner's office and confirm that a site plan is not required. Mr. Bastian said he would. **MOTION:** Mr. Chadwick moved to grant a new Class II License, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 140 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to A1 Auto Unlimited LLC, d/b/a/ A1 Auto Unlimited LLC at 58 Sandwich Road, Wareham MA 02571, with the stipulation that there be no display of vehicles out front, and that the applicant double check with the building inspector for need of a site plan. Seconded. **VOTE: 5-0-0**

MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved to close the hearing. Seconded. **VOTE: 5-0-0**

8. TOWN BUSINESS

- a. Presentation of 3 petitioned articles for Town Meeting. **The petitioner did not appear.**
- b. Discussion and possible vote to approve a donation in the amount of \$2500 from Reign Car Wash LLC to the Police Department. **MOTION:** Mr. Chadwick moved to approve a donation in the amount of \$2500 from Reign Car Wash LLC to the Police Department. Seconded. **VOTE: 5-0-0**
- c. Discussion and possible vote to approve the Wareham Village Association (Christmas Parade) Use of Town Property application for 12/2/23. **MOTION:** Mr. Chadwick moved to approve the Wareham Village Association (Christmas Parade) Use of Town Property application for 12/2/23. **VOTE: 5-0-0**
- d. Discussion and possible vote to approve the Wareham Committee for the Homeless 5K Walk/Run Use of Town Property application for 12/2/23, with a rain date of 12/3/23. There were discussions about the problems with the logistics of closing Main Streets for more than one event. **MOTION:** Mr. Chadwick moved to deny Wareham Committee for the Homeless 5K Walk/Run Use of Town Property application for 12/2/23, with a rain date of 12/3/23. Seconded. **VOTE: 5-0-0.** Ms. Whiteside will let applicant know, and urge them to apply for a different day.
- e. Discussion and possible vote to approve the opt-out and reduction fees applications for Curbside Billing FY24 in the amount of \$5,234.99. **MOTION:** Mr. Chadwick moved to approve the opt-out and reduction fees applications for Curbside Billing FY24 in the amount of \$5,234.99. Seconded. **VOTE: 5-0-0.**
- f. Discussion and possible vote to recommend action on any Fall 2023 Town Meeting articles.
MOTION: Ms. Whiteside moved to recommend favorable action on Article 5 – Union Contracts. Seconded. **VOTE: 5-0-0**
MOTION: Ms. Whiteside moved to reconsider votes on Article 26 - Construction Cost for WPCF Projects – Clarifier and Headworks Upgrades Seconded. **VOTE: 5-0-0**
MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved for favorable action on Article 26 - Construction Cost for WPCF Projects – Clarifier and Headworks Upgrades Seconded. Roll call: Mr. Besse-no, Mr. Slavin-abstain, Mr. Chadwick-no, Ms. Whiteside-yes, Ms. Wurts-yes. **VOTE: 2-2-1**
MOTION: Ms. Whiteside moved to reconsider votes on Article 14 - Easement Agreement with NStar-Eversource/Hammond School. Seconded. **VOTE: 5-0-0**
MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved for favorable action on Article 14 - Easement Agreement with NStar-Eversource/Hammond School. Seconded. Roll call: Mr. Besse-yes, Mr. Slavin-yes, Ms. Wurts-yes, Mr. Chadwick-no, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 4-1-0**
- g. Any other Town business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the posting of this meeting.

9. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Sullivan reported that he has investigated how to follow up on the question of illegal earth removal in the Town. It requires topographical analysis for seasonal GIS, historical

and current topographical surfaces, comparative analysis between date sources and record outline changes in volume between current and historical and current lydar data sets about earth removal. This was originally a petitioned article, then the Select Board forwarded the article for funding and it was solicited for some quotes. One quote was solicited from an engineering firm in Rhode Island. The engineering firm of Graziano is qualified to do such research as necessary. Mr. Sullivan asked if the Board was interested in moving forward to have the work done in accordance with the permit.

MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved to authorize the Town Administrator to execute the contract. Seconded. **VOTE: 5-0-0.** The vote will go not the agenda of the 7th for a confirmatory vote.

Mr. Sullivan reported that the Commonwealth will be holding a meeting on Nov 28th, at 2pm in Room 27, to discuss the TMDL issues which the Cape is already facing, as is our own wastewater treatment plant.

Mr. Sullivan reported that there are bi-weekly meetings with the state, as well as representatives from the Town regarding the immigrants placed in two Wareham motels. The Commonwealth has asked for Federal aid, which probably is not forthcoming, as the Commonwealth has announced that there will be a cap of 7500, as there is no more capacity. Mr. Sullivan is gathering data for the Chair to add to the letter the Board has authorized her to send to the Commonwealth, regarding the immigrant situation.

10. LIAISON/INITIATIVE REPORTS/BOARD'S COMMENTS

Mr. Besse informed the public the Assessors office is busy with its annual revaluation. Mr. Slavin stated the MMA has a video library available to all select board members, to aid them in learning 'how to' be a select board member, what are the responsibilities, etc.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Authorization to sign bills and documents, etc.
- b. Approval of meeting minutes:
 - i. Select Board Meeting Minutes 9/26/23 **MOTION:** Mr. Chadwick moved to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes of 9/26/23. Seconded. **VOTE: 5-0-0**
 - ii. Executive Session Meeting Minutes 10/10/23. Mr. Chadwick moved to approve and release the Select Board Executive Meeting Minutes of 10/10/23. Seconded. **VOTE: 5-0-0**

12. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Slavin moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded. **VOTE: 5-0-0.** Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

13. SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Wilfert

Department Assistant

The foregoing minutes were submitted to the Select Board:

Attest: 
Jared Chadwick, Clerk

Date Signed: 11/14/23

The foregoing minutes were submitted to the Board of Selectmen on: 11/7/23

DOCUMENTS REVIEWED AND/OR USED IN MEETING

1. A1 Auto Unlimited, LLC Presentation packet
2. Town Meeting petitioned articles (3)
3. Fall 2023 Town Meeting Articles 5, 14 and 26
4. Votes of FinComm/Select Board Fall 2023 Town Warrant grid
5. Copy of \$2500 check from Reign Car Wash LLC to the Police Department
6. Annual Christmas Parade Special Events Application
7. Magical Miles 5K Special Events Application
8. Curbside Billing – FY24 Abatement Recommendation letter and list
9. Graziano Earth Removal Contract
10. 9/26/23 Select Board Meeting Minutes
11. 10/10/23 Executive Session Meeting Minutes
12. Town Meeting Warrant
13. Council on Aging Committee Application from J Jinson-Riggle
14. Council on Aging Committee Application from Carolyn McClure