

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Date of Meeting: August 11, 2020
Date of Transcription: August 12, 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

Not Present: Richard P. Bowen, Town Counsel

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Sunday, September 13, 2020 from 9 am to 3 pm, South Coast Bikeway Alliance is having their third annual Pedal for the Path ride by bicycling from Horseneck Beach, Dartmouth, New Bedford, Fairhaven and Mattapoisett. This is for support for the South Coast Bikeway Project.

Board of Selectmen meeting minutes are being updated on the website.

Damien's Pantry is open from 9:30-3:30 on Thursdays and Saturdays.

St. Patrick's Food Pantry is open from 3-7 on Wednesdays.

Church of the Good Shepherd has a food pantry from 3-5 on the first Tuesday of every month and also offers a bagged meal every Thursday from 4-5.

Selectman Whiteside read a speech from Grace Cerrato, valedictorian from Wareham High School Class of 2020 emphasizing the Wareham's strong community and value of equality within the Town.

Hazardous Waste Day will be on August 22nd at the Municipal Maintenance Department and Benson Brood Road in Marion. More information is available online to see what is accepted and not accepted.

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES-8/11/2020 (CONT'D)

The Planning Board has a full time vacancy which will be published on the Town website and bulletin board.

5. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Present before the Board: Don Jepson

Mr. Jepson was following up on the hiring of a dredging consultant for the Wareham River. He was also seeking information about article 6 of the 2018 Fall Town Meeting warrant concerning the allocation of funds.

6. BOARD'S COMMENTS

Selectman Slavin wanted to respond to the complaints being made about the road on Route 6 and 28. He explained that there has been a conflict between the Town of Wareham and the Onset Water and Fire District road work. The Onset Water and Fire District contracted with the state to do the waterlines without any notification to the Board. He stated that this has had an adverse effect on businesses and reached out to Mass DOT. Mass DOT informed him that work would be done Monday through Thursday and if work needed to be done on Friday, it would be early in the morning in order to ease the financial impact on businesses during the summer. Selectman Slavin is also seeking authorization to submit a letter to the Mass DOT. In addition to his request, he suggested businesses write letters of complaint or issues. He also stated that the head engineer for the project is Michael McGrath.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to authorize Selectman Slavin to write an emergency letter to the Mass DOT. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

7. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/INTERVIEWS

a. Constables

- i. George Morse
- ii. Robert Short
- iii. Herve Vandal
- iv. Cynthia Follis
- v. Karen Blair
- vi. Gregory Kamon
- vii. Steven Coughlin
- viii. Charles Devlin
- ix. David DiCenso

Reappointments for the Constables have been postponed until the next meeting.

b. Wareham Historic Commission

- i. Carolyn McMorro

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to appoint Carolyn McMorro as a member to the Wareham Historic District Commission for a term to expire no later than June 30, 2023. Selectman Slavin seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES-8/11/2020 (CONT'D)

8. LICENSES AND PERMITS

a. Second Hand Dealers License

i. BPOE Wareham New Bedford Lodge of Elks #73

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to approve the Second Hand Dealers License for BPOE Wareham New Bedford Lodge of Elks #73. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

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

9. TOWN BUSINESS

a. COVID-19 Update.

A new document has been provided by the Commonwealth highlighting sections in color code showing the average daily case rate per 100,000.00. Wareham is in the lowest section color code white. There have been 212 confirmed cases to date.

b. Refuse Update.

Selectman Munise and Mr. Sullivan met with Carver and discussion continued about a possible agreement to continue the facility in Rochester on a trial basis. CMW sent a letter requesting any interest in equipment or property be submitted in writing. Selectman Munise stated that it may be in the Town's best interest to provide a letter of interest related to the Rochester Convenience Center.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to authorize Selectman Munise and Mr. Sullivan to provide a letter of interest and negotiations in the best interest of the Town of Wareham which may concern equipment and/or land. Selectman Slavin seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

c. Accept donation to the Wareham Free Library in the amount of \$100.00 from Carol Birch.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved accept the donation to the Wareham Free Library in the amount of \$100.00 from Carol Birch. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

d. Accept donation to the Wareham Free Library in the amount of \$10,000.00 from the Wareham Library Foundation for the purchase of books and materials with the intention of maintaining the library's certification with the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to accept the donation to the Wareham Free Library in the amount of \$10,000.00 from the Wareham Library Foundation for the purchase of books and materials with the intention of maintaining the library's certification with the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

e. Acceptance of bond for Patterson Brook Road Extension.

MOTION: Selectman Tropeano moved to accept the insurance bond for \$300,000.00 for Patterson Brook Road Extension in the industrial park for a project proposed by Coastal Cultivars with the understanding that the Board receive notification of who the

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES-8/11/2020 (CONT'D)

bond company is, if there is any intention to sell, and that the bond is not released until the Board of Selectman vote on releasing it. Selectman Whiteside seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

f. Request to replace a memorial bench in Besse Park.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to authorize the request to replace a memorial bench in Besse Park in memory of Janice Ellis. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

g. Vote to accept executive session meeting minutes previously accepted but not released: May 29, 2018.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to accept the executive session meeting minutes previously accepted but not released for May 29, 2018. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

h. Discussion and vote to execute a Marijuana Host Community Agreement with YouCanBeCo LLC, at 3065 Cranberry Hwy.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to approve the execution of the Marijuana Host Community Agreement with YouCanBeCo, LLC, 3065 Cranberry Hwy. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

i. Vote to change Precinct 4 and 5 from Decas School to the Redmen Hall for the elections on September 1, 2020 and November 3, 2020.

Selectman Teitelbaum explained that the temporary change is due to the school possibly not being available due to the rules of social distancing and the possibility of the gymnasium being utilized for classroom use.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to change Precinct 4 and 5 from Decas School to the Redmen Hall for the elections on September 1, 2020 and November 3, 2020. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

j. Warrant for State Primary.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to approve the warrant for the State Primary presented by the Town Clerk. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

k. Discussion and vote to accept the U.S. Census Bureau's proposed map of the Town of the 2020 Federal Census.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to accept the U.S. Census Bureau's proposed map of the Town of the 2020 Federal Census. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

l. Vote to establish dates for 2020 Fall Town Meeting and Notice of Intent. Selectman Teitelbaum read into record the process for calling the 2020 Annual Fall Town Meeting and the Notice of Intent. (see attached)

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to approve the process for calling the 2020 Annual Fall Town Meeting and the Notice of Intent. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES-8/11/2020 (CONT'D)

- m. Vote to ratify hiring Diana Patten as COA Outreach worker.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to ratify the appointment of Diana Patten as COA Outreach worker. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

- n. Vote to ratify hiring of Amber white as Assistant to the Municipal Maintenance Department.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to ratify the hiring of Amber White as Assistant to the Municipal Maintenance Department. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

- o. Vote to ratify hiring Tracy Pina as Bookkeeper to the Municipal Maintenance Department.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to ratify the hiring of Tracy Pina as Bookkeeper to the Municipal Maintenance Department. Selectman Slavin seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

- p. Continued discussion regarding towing from Town property and public ways.

Selectman Slavin talked about the complaints from residents regarding beach visitors parking in front of homes without a sticker. He recommended the possibility of towing the vehicles in addition to the fine particularly in Onset Village area and the beaches. Selectman Teitelbaum stated that two out of the four beaches did have tow zone signs and suggested that all four should have signs to keep it consistent. He also stated that other areas would involve modifying their recommendations to the Road Commission.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to authorize the placement of towing signs in places that appear to be the most abused and that the discretion of the public safety officers will be used when they authorize the towing of the vehicles. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

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

10. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Sullivan reminded residents that the fiscal year 2020 real estate personal property tax and motor vehicle excise taxes must be paid by August 17th in order to avoid the \$15.00 demand fee. Demands will be sent out. Fiscal year 2020 first quarter real estate and personal property bills were due August 3rd and fiscal year 2021 sewer bills will be mailed by the end of August. Mr. Sullivan also stated that residents can drop their payments off at the drop box outside the Town Hall or pay personal property taxes online.

- a. Update on RFP for Tremont Dam, Weweantic River, West Wareham alternative energy study.

Mr. Sullivan provided an update on proposals for a feasibility analysis of the Tremont Dam property as an energy generation facility. (*see attachment*)

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES-8/11/2020 (CONT'D)

11. LIAISON REPORTS/INITIATIVE REPORTS

Selectman Slavin stated that the Community Events Committee will be meeting on August 17th. He will be mentioning using CEC funds possibility of having two dumpsters for Onset Pier.

Fall sports are still not available.

Outdoor gatherings have gone from 100 to 50. Indoor gatherings are limited to 25 with some exceptions.

Phase III Step 2 is indefinitely postponed.

Restaurants violating state guidelines will result in fines, closings, or suspension of licenses.

The Planning Board is having a hearing on the Wareham Master Plan proposal before the public for comments and reviews.

12. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Authorize payment to the Law Office of Richard P. Bowen.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to authorize payment to the Law Office of Richard P. Bowen. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

b. Approval of meeting minutes: July 14, 2020; July 28, 2020

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to approve the meeting minutes for July 13, 2020 and July 28, 2020. Selectman Slavin seconded.

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

c. Authorization to sign bills and documents, etc.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Selectman Slavin moved to adjourn at 8:58 pm. Selectman Munise seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0 (Unanimous)

14. SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

Respectfully submitted
Cassandra Slaney
Department Assistant

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES-8/11/2020 (CONT'D)

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

Attest: 
Judith Whiteside, Clerk

Date Signed: 12-15-20

Date sent to the Town Clerk: 1-19-21