

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Date of Meeting: September 8, 2020
Date of Transcription: September 9, 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
James M. Munise

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

Not Present: Patrick G. Tropeano

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mass DOT District 5 had a meeting with the contractor regarding the issues on the repair work on Cranberry Highway. These issues have been addressed and will be resolved.

The Charter Review Group will have a workshop via zoom on September 14th at 6:30 p.m.

The Warrant for the 2020 Annual Fall Town Meeting opens on Friday, September 11th and will close on Tuesday, September 22nd.

5. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Present before the Board: Don Jepson

Mr. Jepson provided the comparison between the fixed rate and variable rate from the program offered through Eversource. (See attachment)

Present before the Board: Sandy Slavin

Ms. Slavin questioned the last day to submit articles for the warrant. Selectman Teitelbaum confirmed that the last to submit is September 22nd.

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES-9/8/2020 (CONT'D)

6. BOARD'S COMMENTS

Selectman Slavin stated that HUD does not have enough data to change the FMR designation for the Wareham housing market from the Boston metropolitan area to New Bedford. This will be reevaluated when the 2020 Census is analyzed in 2022.

There will be a presentation on September 22nd on the Southcoast Rail project in New Bedford. There will be a new station in Middleboro which will replace the station in Lakeville.

7. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/INTERVIEWS

a. Constables

i. Steven Coughlin

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to appoint Steven Coughlin as Constable for the Town of Wareham for a term to expire no later than June 30, 2021. Selectman Munise seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0 (Unanimous)

ii. Charles Devlin

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to appoint Charles Devlin as Constable for the Town of Wareham for a term to expire no later than June 30, 2021. Selectman Munise seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0 (Unanimous)

iii. Joseph Latimer

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to appoint Joseph Latimer as Constable for the Town of Wareham for a term to expire no later than June 30, 2021. Selectman Munise seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0 (Unanimous)

b. Council on Aging

i. Lynn Wheatley-Beaupre

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to appoint Lynn Wheatley-Beaupre as a member to the Council on Aging-Board of Directors for a term to expire no later than June 30, 2024. Selectman Slavin seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0 (Unanimous)

8. LICENSES AND PERMITS

a. Second Hand Dealers License

i. Wesley United Methodist Church

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to approve the Second Hand Dealers License for Wesley United Methodist Church. Selectman Slavin seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0 (Unanimous)

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES-9/8/2020 (CONT'D)

9. TOWN BUSINESS

a. COVID-19 Update.

Mr. Sullivan could not provide the actual updated number of cases to date, however, he did state that the Town's category changed from white to green which is still considered a low risk.

b. Refuse Update.

Selectman Munise stated that there is progress being made. There will be a meeting in Carver on September 9th and a meeting at the Town Hall on Thursday, September 10th at 9 a.m. regarding Marion's proposed withdrawal.

c. Accept donation from Paul Wright in the amount of \$50.00 to the Wareham Free Library.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to accept the donation from Paul Wright in the amount of \$50.00 to the Wareham Free Library. Selectmen Slavin seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0 (Unanimous)

d. Vote to ratify hiring of Christopher Emswiler – EMT/Paramedic and Odane Murphy - Paramedic.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to ratify the hiring of Christopher Emswiler as an EMT/Paramedic. Selectman Slavin seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0 (Unanimous)

The hiring of Odane Murphy as paramedic was not ratified because he did not accept the position.

e. Update from Charter Review Group.

Present before the Board: Jacqui Nichols

Ms. Nichols stated that there will be a workshop on September 14th via zoom at 6:30. This workshop will cover all of the Charter changes and provide an opportunity for any input or inquiries. Outlined proposed changes can also be viewed on the website.

f. Review and confirm Selectmen's fee schedule.

This will be reviewed and confirmed at a later meeting.

g. Review and adopt new application forms and fees for appointment and reappointments of Constables.

Selectman Munise recommended adding an approval from the Police Department to the applications as well as sending the remittance forms once a year as opposed to quarterly. Selectman Whiteside recommended a \$50.00 fee for reappointment applications and a \$100.00 fee for new applicants.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to adopt the new application forms and fees for appointments and reappointments of Constables. Selectman Slavin seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0 (Unanimous)

h. Review and adopt new application forms for a One-Day Liquor License.

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES-9/8/2020 (CONT'D)

MOTION: Selectman Munise moved to adopt the new application forms for a One-Day Liquor License. Selectman Whiteside seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0 (Unanimous)

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

Selectman Munise is seeking permission from the Board of Selectmen to allow the Affordable Housing Trust to have Town Counsel draft the Deed of Restriction for the Lathem Center in order to submit an application to HUD.

MOTION: Selectman Munise moved to access Town Counsel on behalf of the Affordable Housing Trust. Selectman Slavin seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0 (Unanimous)

10. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Sullivan stated that Attorney Bowen drafted a complaint being filed in the Plymouth Superior Court regarding Donald McMullen of Wareham Avenue. The Health Agent issued an enforcement order against him giving him fourteen days to clean up the properties on Wareham Ave.

11. LIAISON REPORTS/INITIATIVE REPORTS

Selectman Slavin attended a meeting with the Wareham Veterans' Council regarding the Veteran's Day Parade where there was discussion of having a virtual parade with static displays in Wareham and Onset.

MMA is working on providing diversity programs for all board members, municipalities, and local elected officials.

The MMA meeting will be virtual this year.

Non-profits are allowed to hold annual meetings remotely.

Police accountability is in legislation. There is a lot of support for defunding police. MMA is supporting legislation while the police union is strongly opposing it.

There are concerns pertaining to the Massachusetts budgets for fiscal year 2020 and 2021 and there will be no action until October.

July and August tax collections are \$124 million dollars above last year. However, state meals tax is down 40% and the lottery is down 10%.

The Cannabis Control Commission is revising buffer zones which will conflict with the current zoning by-laws.

MMA will be sending out a cyber security survey. This survey will be due by early October.

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES-9/8/2020 (CONT'D)

The Community Compact program is accepting applications from September 15th through October 15th. There is three million dollars available.

MEMA has a federal program for infrastructure called BRIC. Details to apply are on the MEMA website.

The state is providing online classes for grades 8-12 at no cost to cities or towns.

State colleges are expecting half of the students to attend classes which is expected to cause extreme financial distress to colleges this year and for fiscal year 2021.

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 Munise seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0 (Unanimous)

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

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to adjourn at 8:20 pm. Selectman Munise seconded.

VOTE: 4-0-0 (Unanimous)

14. 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: 
Judith Whiteside, Clerk

Date Signed: 9-15-20

Date sent to the Town Clerk: 9-21-20