

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD

Date of Meeting: August 1, 2023
Date of Transcription: August 19, 2023
Transcribed by: Nora Bicki

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER BY CHAIR

Remote meeting due to COVID 19

2. ROLL CALL

Select Members Present: Judith Whiteside, Chair
Jared S. Chadwick, Clerk
Alan H. Slavin
Ronald S. Besse
Patricia A. Wurts

Also Present: Richard Bowen, Town Counsel
Not Present: Derek Sullivan, Town Administrator

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. RESIDENT'S COMMENTS

None.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Slavin announced his appreciation for citizens who attended the Special Town Meeting and voiced frustration at not getting answers from Sewer Commissioners that were asked about future needs. He also reported on a meeting with state representatives concerning infrastructure funding.

Mr. Chadwick announced that the Wareham Tigers were starting a Youth Wrestling Program in association with Wareham High School as a feeder program. He refers anyone interested to the Tigers website or Facebook page.

Chair Whiteside asked everyone to be cautious on the road this weekend for the Pan Mass Challenge bicycle riders. They are riding to raise funds for cancer, a good cause and she asks for patience when encountering the bicyclists.

6. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/INTERVIEW

a. Board of Registrars

Select Board members request more time to review applications. Appointments held until 8/15.

b. Wareham Cultural Council

Andrea Ericson appeared before the Board and presented her qualifications.

MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved to appoint Andrea Ericson to the Wareham Cultural Council with a term to expire June 30, 2026. Second by A. Slavin. Roll call vote taken. **VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)**

c. Council on Aging

Because of the change in the number of members in the Council on Aging, the Board will postpone this appointment until after conferring with the Council on Aging Board of Directors.

d. Wareham Affordable Housing Trust

MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved to reappoint Missy Dzikczek to the Wareham Affordable Housing Trust. Second by R. Besse. Roll Call Vote: A. Slavin, No. R. Besse, No. J. Chadwick, No. P. Wurts, Abstain. J. Whiteside, No. **VOTE: 0-4-1**

e. Recycling Committee

The Recycling Committee has requested a hold on the appointment until it can submit a letter of recommendation for the applicant. The appointment will be rescheduled.

7. LICENSES AND PERMITS

a. Application from Robyn Lafleur to place temporary Perennial Plant Sale signs on Town Property.

The application was withdrawn. Mr. Slavin noted that only nonprofit organizations are allowed to request permission to place signs on Town Property, and this applicant is not a nonprofit. He also noted many business signs appearing around town property that will be confiscated. Mr. Chadwick stated that he has been deputized by the Director of Inspectional Services to officially remove illegally placed signs.

8. TOWN BUSINESS

a. Discussion and possible vote to authorize the chair to negotiate the WCTV contract on behalf of the Board.

Chair Whiteside stated that the contract has expired.

MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved to authorize the chair to negotiate the WCTV contract on behalf of the Board. Second by A. Slavin. Roll call vote was taken. **VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)**

b. Discussion and possible vote to reduce the number of Council on Aging Board members from nine to seven, as well as adding two non-voting associate members.

Chair Whiteside stated that reducing the number of members of several boards is due to the difficulty of getting a quorum for meetings. She stated that she discussed the issue with the chair of the COA Board and the Director of the COA and both were in favor.

MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved to reduce the number of Council on Aging Board members from nine to seven, as well as adding two non-voting associate members. Second by R. Besse. Roll call vote was taken. **VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)**

c. Discussion and possible vote to reduce the number of members of the Board of Library Trustees from nine to seven.

Chair Whiteside stated that she spoke to the chair of the Board of Library Trustees who was in favor.

MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved to reduce the number of members of the Board of Library Trustees from nine to seven. Second by R. Besse. Roll call vote was taken. **Vote: 5-0-0- (Unanimous)**

d. Discussion and possible vote to reduce the number of members of the Open Space Board from seven to five.

Chair Whiteside stated that she spoke with the chair of the Open Space Board who was in favor.

MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved to reduce the number of members of the Open Space Board from seven to five. Second by R. Besse. Roll call vote was taken. **Vote: 5-0-0- (Unanimous)**

e. Discussion and possible vote regarding reconstitution of the Wareham Youth Advisory committee suggested by Mr. Chadwick to encourage youth participation.

The Board discussed reaching out to youth programs and organizations in order to encourage participation in an advisory committee. Possible options were mentioned and will be brought back on 8/15 for further discussion and possible vote.

f. Discussion and possible vote regarding the Veterans Council.

Chair Whiteside summarized the current situation that the Council had 9-11 members in the past but now has 2 and cannot meet without a quorum. Due to an aging population of active veterans, all organizations including the VFW and American Legion find diminishing membership. Younger veterans from the last three conflicts are less active. The Board agreed that it wished to assist the Veterans Council, and the issue will be brought back on 8/15. Mr. Slavin will reach out to the Elks. The Chair will reach out to the COA director. Ms. Wurts will reach out to the new Air Force Recruitment Station.

g. Discussion and possible vote to approve the opt-out fees applications for Curbside Billing FY24 in the amount of \$1095.00.

MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved to approve the opt-out fees applications for Curbside Billing FY24 in the amount of \$1095.00. Second R. Besse. Roll call vote was taken. **VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)**

h. Discussion and possible vote to establish the "Alternative Energy Committee."

This will be put on hold until 8/15 at the request of Sherry Quirk from the "Alternative Energy Committee" exploratory group.

i. Discussion and possible vote to appoint a Select Board Member as a member of the Community Events Committee.

Passed over.

j. Discussion and possible vote to recommend Candle Paper Lane for acceptance as a Town road for October Town Meeting.

Chair Whiteside read into the record the recommendation from Mr. Buckland, from the Planning and Community Development Department. She stated that on May 8, the Planning Board voted in favor. Town Counsel stated that before the Select Board votes, it needs to have a "Layout Hearing."

k. Discussion and possible vote regarding Select Board Liaisons.

Ms. Wurts stated she did not have the current list of Liaisons that the rest of the Board had and asked that the discussion be postponed. The Chair will resend list and move discussion to 8/15.

l. Discussion and possible vote to clarify the Senior Tax Work Off Program parameters.

Chair Whiteside explained that the clarification is that the total allowance for fiscal 2024 is not to exceed \$40,000. There are many applicants this year for up to \$1200 in forgiveness on real estate taxes on a primary residence.

MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved to clarify the Senior Tax Work Off Program parameters. Second by P. Wurts. Roll call vote was taken. **VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)**

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

9. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

10. LIASON/INITIATIVE REPORTS/BOARD'S COMMENTS

Mr. Chadwick announced that the roof project for the school was progressing and should be done by the time school begins in the fall. He also announced that he and Mr. D'Andrea, the superintendent, is working with Cape Cod Community College to bring an EMT program to the High School for seniors interested in that field. A meeting is planned at the end of August, and he will update in the future.

Chair Whiteside announced that she has been working with the chairs of committees who need help to operate meetings and procedures correctly and legally.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Authorization to sign bills and documents, etc.

b. Approval of meeting minutes: June 27, 2023; July 11, 2023; July 24, 2023

MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved to approve meeting minutes of June 27, 2023; July 11, 2023; July 24, 2023. Second by R. Besse. Roll call vote was taken. **VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)**

c. Amend the Minutes of 2/7/2023 to include Mr. Sullivan's recommendation that the total allowance not to exceed \$40,000.

Chair Whiteside explained that this appeared under the Tax Write Off section and was clear on the video.

MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved to amend the Minutes of 2/7/2023 to include Mr. Sullivan's recommendation that the total allowance not to exceed \$40,000. Second by R. Besse. Roll call vote was taken. **VOTE: 5-0-0**

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Slavin moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by R. Besse. Roll Call Vote: A. Slavin, Yes. R. Besse, No. J. Chadwick, No. P. Wurts, Yes. J. Whiteside, Yes. **VOTE: 3-2-0**

13. SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

Respectfully submitted,

Nora Bicki

The foregoing minutes were submitted to the Select Board:

Attest: 
Jared Chadwick, Clerk

Date Signed: 9/7/23

DOCUMENTS USED OR REVIEWED IN MEETING

1. Applications from Board of Registrars applicants
2. Application from Andrea Ericson, Wareham Cultural Council
3. Application from James Munise, Council on Aging
4. Application from Missy Dziczek, Wareham Affordable Housing Trust
5. Application from Andrew Gallagher, Recycling Committee
6. Application from Robyn LaFleur, Temporary Sign Permit
7. Recommendation letter from Kenneth Buckland for Candle Paper Lane
8. List of Select Board Committee Liaisons
9. Select Board Minutes for June 27, July 11, and July 24, 2023
10. Select Board Minutes for February 7, 2023
11. Curbside opt-out/abatement recommendation letter
12. Senior Tax Work Off Program policy