

MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD

Date of Meeting: January 9, 2024
Date of Transcription: January 11, 2024
Transcribed by: Karen Wilfert

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIR

2. ROLL CALL

Select Board members present: Judith Whiteside, Chair
Alan Slavin, Clerk Pro Tem
Ronald Besse

Also Present: Derek Sullivan, Town Administrator (7:01)
Richard Bowen, Town Counsel (7:01)

Not Present: Jared Chadwick, Clerk

MOTION: Mr. Besse moved to appoint Mr. Slavin Clerk Pro Tem. Seconded. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (unanimous)**

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. RESIDENT'S COMMENTS. NONE

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Whiteside reminded residents the census forms, which were mailed out, are due before January 10th. Dog licenses are available, and the tax bills have been sent. Also asked that people check local storm drains in anticipation of tonight's flooding rains and tides.

6. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/ INTERVIEWS

7. LICENSES AND PERMITS

- a. Application from National Marine Life Center for Annual polar plunge on February 4, 2024. **MOTION:** Mr. Slavin moved to approve the application from National Marine Life Center for Annual polar plunge on February 4, 2024. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Besse-yes, Mr. Slavin-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (unanimous)**
- b. Application from Wareham Garden Club, care of Peter LaBouliere, to place signs on Town property for the Wareham Garden Club Spring Sale. **MOTION:** Mr. Slavin moved to approve the application from Wareham Garden Club, care of Peter LaBouliere, to place signs on Town property for the Wareham Garden Club

Spring Sale. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Besse-yes, Mr. Slavin-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (unanimous)**

8. TOWN BUSINESS

- a. Discussion and possible vote regarding cannabis regulations and the impact on the Town. **Postponed to the January 23rd agenda.**
- b. Discussion and reassignment of liaisons to Boards and Committees. **Postponed to the January 23rd agenda.**
- c. Discussion and possible vote to appoint a new Select Board member to the Wareham Affordable Trust. **Postponed to the January 23rd agenda.**
- d. Discussion and possible vote regarding the holding of Barnacle Bob's, Inc. d/b/a BB's 2424 Cranberry Highway, Wareham liquor license. **Postponed to the January 23rd agenda.**
- e. Discussion and possible vote to accept a cash gift in the amount of \$89 from Wareham Pediatrics to the Wareham Free Library. **MOTION:** Mr. Slavin moved to accept a cash gift in the amount of \$89 from Wareham Pediatrics to the Wareham Free Library. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Besse-yes, Mr. Slavin-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (unanimous)**
- f. Discussion & possible vote to accept an anonymous gift in the amount of \$1000 to the Wareham Free Library. **MOTION:** Mr. Slavin moved to accept an anonymous \$1,000 gift to the Wareham Free Library. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Besse-yes, Mr. Slavin-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (unanimous)**
- g. Discussion and possible vote to approve a Conservation Restriction for the Sawyer property owned by the Wareham Land Trust. **Postponed to the January 23rd agenda.**
- h. Discussion and possible vote to hold a Special Election to fill the Select Board vacancy.
Ms. Whiteside stated that the Town Clerk has indicated it would cost between \$15,000 and \$20,000 to hold a Special Election, and that it would take at least 64 days to post, etc. **MOTION:** Mr. Slavin moved to NOT hold a Special Election to fill the Select Board vacancy. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Besse-yes, Mr. Slavin-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (unanimous)**
Discussion and possible vote to approve the 2024 contract between the Town and the Lakeville Animal Shelter. **MOTION:** Mr. Slavin moved to approve the 2024 contract between the Town and the Town of Lakeville, for the Lakeville Animal Shelter. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Besse-yes, Mr. Slavin-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (unanimous)**
- i. Discussion and possible vote to reaffirm the relationship with Wareham United Kingdom as a Twin City.

Before the board...Ms. Claire Smith, Ms. Angela Dunham. Ms. Smith spoke regarding her experience with Wareham UK a few years ago, when she visited on behalf of Wareham, MA. Ms. Dunham spoke about her experience visiting Japan, in honor of a celebration of Captain Kendrick's voyage there, to open trade. Both individuals strongly support 'twinning'

Mr. Slavin pointed out that the Historical Society is probably the perfect vehicle to accomplish 'twinning,' without creating another town committee, or, in fact costing the Town any money.

Ms. Whiteside will meet with Ms. Smith and Ms. Dunham to pursue 'how to' twin.

- j. Discussion and possible vote to approve Southern Plymouth County Public Health Excellence Collaborative Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) for the Public Health Excellence for Shared Services Grant. **MOTION:** Mr. Slavin moved to approve Southern Plymouth County Public Health Excellence Collaborative Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) for the Public Health Excellence for Shared Services Grant. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Besse-yes, Mr. Slavin-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (unanimous)**
- k. Discussion and possible vote to approve the Process for Calling a Town Meeting for the 2024 Annual Spring Town Meeting. **MOTION:** Mr. Slavin moved to approve the Process for Calling a Town Meeting for the 2024 Annual Spring Town Meeting. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Besse-yes, Mr. Slavin-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (unanimous)**
- l. Discussion and possible vote to continue the Senior Citizen Tax Work-off program. **MOTION:** Mr. Slavin moved to continue the Senior Citizen Tax Work-off program, with a limit of \$1,200 per household. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Besse-yes, Mr. Slavin-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (unanimous)**
- m. Any other Town business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the posting of this meeting. **NONE**

9. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Sullivan announced that Mr. Buckland, Town Planner, will be retiring from the Town effective February 29, 2024. Mr. Sullivan expressed his appreciation for all that Mr. Buckland has accomplished, especially in the area of acquiring grants for the Town.

Mr. Sullivan said that the Town will post Mr. Buckland's job, and that he is also contemplating creating the position of "Economic Director" for the Town, so that the work that Mr. Buckland has been handling is more appropriately addressed by two positions.

Mr. Sullivan reminded people of the high wind gust warnings for this evening, as well as the likely flooding at high tide. Mr. Sullivan stated that, if necessary, due to power loss, the Multi-Service Center will be opened as a shelter, as will the library during its regular hours.

Mr. Sullivan stated that part of our CDBG grant was used to replace windows at Redwood Park.

Mr. Sullivan said he had received communication from the State DOT regarding a 'Small Bridge contract' grant funding, which expired 12/31/2023. Unfortunately, because the Town has voted to remove the two dams above the Tremont Nail Factory site, the Town will not be using the balance of the funds. Original grant amount \$500,000, balance remaining \$381,539.

Mr. Sullivan suggested the Town think about celebrating its 300th anniversary, in 15 years. There are grant funds available from the State, starting at ten years before the anniversary....so it might be wise to start thinking about a celebration. The funds would be set up as a revolving account

Mr. Sullivan stated that he has adopted a 'flag policy' based on guidelines from MMA. The SB will have such a proposed policy on the agenda of the 23rd of January.

10. LIAISON/INITIATIVE REPORTS/BOARD'S COMMENTS

Mr. Besse spoke about Town real estate taxes, and suggested that residents speak with the Assessor's office for any questions.

Mr. Slavin praised the residents of the Shangri-la neighborhood who have done a great job of maintaining the playground.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of meeting minutes:
 - i. Select Board Meeting Minutes 12/12/23. **MOTION:** Mr. Slavin moved to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes for 12/12/23. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Besse-yes, Mr. Slavin-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (unanimous)**
 - ii. Select Board Meeting Minutes 12/19/23. **MOTION:** Mr. Slavin moved to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes for 12/19/23. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Besse-yes, Mr. Slavin-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (unanimous)**
 - iii. Select Board Executive Meeting Minutes 12/19/23. **MOTION:** Mr. Slavin moved to approve and hold the Select Board Executive Meeting Minutes for 12/19/23. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Besse-yes, Mr. Slavin-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (unanimous)**
- b. Approval to release Executive Session Meeting Minutes previously approved and held:
 - i. Executive Meeting Minutes 3/15/18
 - ii. Executive Meeting Minutes 10/22/19
 - iii. Executive Meeting Minutes 1/19/21
 - iv. Executive Meeting Minutes 2/2/21
 - v. Executive Meeting Minutes 2/9/21

- vi. Executive Meeting Minutes 7/20/21
- vii. Executive Meeting Minutes 7/27/21
- viii. Executive Meeting Minutes 9/9/21
- ix. Executive Meeting Minutes 11/2/21
- x. Executive Meeting Minutes 11/10/21
- xi. Executive Meeting Minutes 11/23/21
- xii. Executive Meeting Minutes 12/7/21
- xiii. Executive Meeting Minutes 12/14/21
- xiv. Executive Meeting Minutes 1/4/22
- xv. Executive Meeting Minutes 2/8/22
- xvi. Executive Meeting Minutes 2/15/22
- xvii. Executive Meeting Minutes 7/12/22
- xviii. Executive Meeting Minutes 9/19/23
- xix. Executive Meeting Minutes 10/10/23

MOTION: Mr. Slavin moved to release the Select Board Executive Meeting Minutes for 3/15/18, 10/22/19, 1/19/21, 2/2/21, 2/9/21, 7/20/21, 7/27/21, 9/9/21, 11/2/21, 11/10/21, 11/23/21, 12/7/21, 12/14/21, 1/4/22, 2/8/22, 2/15/22 7/12/22, 9/19/23, 10/10/23. Seconded. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (unanimous)**

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

M.G.L. 30A § 21 (Reason 2): To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel.

Re: Derek Sullivan, Town Administrator

MOTION: Mr. Slavin moved to go into Executive session. Seconded. Roll Call: Ms. Whiteside-yes, Mr. Besse-yes, Mr. Slavin-yes. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (unanimous)**

The Chair declared the necessity of holding this discussion in Executive session and stated that the Board would adjourn from the Executive Session.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair announced the Board would adjourn from the Executive Session. Meeting paused at 7:58 p.m.

14. SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Wilfert

Department Assistant

The foregoing minutes were submitted to the Select Board:



Attest:

Alan Slavin, Clerk Pro Tem

Date Signed: 1-29-2024

The foregoing minutes were submitted to the Select Board on: 1/23/24

DOCUMENTS REVIEWED AND/OR USED IN MEETING

1. Atlantic Seal Plunge application
2. Wareham Garden Club Spring Sale temporary sign application
3. Select Board Representative/Liaison list
4. BB's Bar and Grille CV license application
5. Wareham Free Library email re: \$89 cash gift and \$1000 anonymous gift
6. Lakeville Animal Shelter agreement between Lakeville and Wareham
7. Town Twinning communication
8. Southern Plymouth County Public Health Excellence Collaborative IMA for the Public Health Excellence for Shared Service Grant packet
9. Town Notice for 2024 Process for Calling a Town Meeting
10. Senior Citizen Tax Work-off Program Policy Packet
11. MGL c. 59 §5K
12. Select Board Meeting Minutes 12/12/23
13. Select Board Meeting Minutes 12/19/23
14. Select Board Executive Meeting Minutes 12/19/23
15. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 3/15/18
16. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 10/22/19
17. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 1/19/21
18. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 2/2/21
19. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 2/9/21
20. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 7/20/21
21. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 7/27/21
22. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 9/9/21
23. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 11/2/21
24. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 11/10/21
25. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 11/23/21
26. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 12/7/21
27. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 12/14/21
28. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 1/4/22
29. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 2/8/22
30. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 2/15/22
31. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 7/12/22
32. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 9/19/23
33. Executive Meeting Minutes (for release) 10/10/23