

# Select Board Minutes

February 9, 2021

Tuesday, February 9, 2021  
Virtual Meeting – 143TV and Zoom

**Select Board:** Diane Kennedy, Chair  
Keri Thompson  
Paul Schubert  
Jack Creighton  
Corey Evans

**Others Participating:** Christopher Senior, Town Manager

Chairperson Kennedy called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Roll Call Vote; Corey Evans-Present, Diane Kennedy-Present, Paul Schubert-Present, Keri Thompson-Present.

Pledge-Recited.

Public Comment-None.

Community Update-Chief Silvia stated the Town had two very successful vaccine clinics last week. If they continue to get vaccines, they will be ready. As of this week, all first responders will have received two doses per Chief Quigley. They are currently vaccinating 75-year-old folks and up. Chief Silvia stated anyone that does not fall into that category can still register however, if they are able to get a vaccine elsewhere, they should. Select Member Creighton joined the meeting at 6:40 p.m. Select Member Creighton stated he has received feedback about the way the registration was handled. Some people were showing up that did not have an appointment but were able to receive a shot. Also, he has heard that some town officials were given the vaccine ahead of time. Chief Silvia stated the pre-registration link was sent out to the first 80 people that pre-registered and the link was shared with others. They had to reach back out to the original 80 people and postpone the clinic from Thursday to Friday. As for other people that received the vaccine, they were first responders, DPW, employees that volunteered to work the clinic and CERT members. Anyone that has questions about who has received the vaccine should contact Chief Silvia as he has been managing the process.

**Motion by Select Member Evans to move the Small Business Regional Grant to the next item on the agenda, seconded by Select Member Thompson. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.**

Small Business Regional Grant-Review & Vote on Letter of Support-Planning Director Lauren Lind described the Regional Grant partnering with the Town of Hull. They would like to expand on the e-gift card program used in Cohasset to Hull, and to link a local delivery service to purchases from stores and restaurants in the two towns. The added delivery component would continue support for local businesses, support vulnerable seniors who prefer to minimize trips to stores and restaurants and provide delivery jobs to local teenagers whose job opportunities have been reduced during the pandemic. **Motion by Select Member Creighton to authorize the Chair to sign off on a letter of support for the Small Business Regional Grant, seconded by Select Member Thompson. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.**

Committee Appointments-Joint Meeting with Sewer Commission-Chairperson Kennedy stated John Beck resigned and they are looking to appoint someone to fill the unexpired term until the spring election. Applicant Paul Kierce-39 Old Coach Road gave an overview of his experience and why he is interested in the position. He plans to run in the spring election. Bill McGowan called the Sewer Commission meeting to order. The Board and Commission had a brief discussion. Both Chairman Bill McGowan and Member Wayne Sawchuk voiced their support of the applicant. **Motion by Select Member Thompson to appoint Paul Kierce to the Sewer Commission to fill an unexpired term until June 2021, seconded by Select**

**Member Schubert. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye, Bill McGowan-Aye, Wayne Sawchuk-Aye.**

**FY20 Annual Audit Review-Powers & Sullivan**-Jim Sullivan thanked Cohasset town employees for their help in what has been an interesting and challenging year. He reviewed the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), the Management Letter and Reports on Federal Award Programs for Cohasset. Mr. Sullivan answered the questions of the Board.

**Cohasset Master Plan Working Groups-Elm Street Corridor**-Planning Director Lauren Lind reviewed the project goals, process overview and identified concepts. They will continue with public engagement. Tonight, they are asking the Board to approve the reallocation of \$35,550 from one of the existing Toll Bros. gift accounts to begin Engagement & Conceptual Design work with Weston & Sampson. **Motion by Select Member Creighton to approve the reallocation of existing funds totaling \$35,550 with the understanding that the Town will visit the need for improvement in the Hammond Street area for transportation related improvements, seconded by Select Member Evans. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.**

**Affordable Housing Trust-Proposed Amendments to Bylaw Language**-Vote to ask for Town Counsel review for Warrant-Steve Gaumer & Tom Meade, Members of AHT reviewed the proposed changes to the bylaw. **Motion by Select Member Thompson to accept the proposed language changes to the bylaw, seconded by Select Member Schubert. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.**

**Harbor Committee- Infrastructure Update & Discussion of proposed working group**-Procurement Manager Michelle Leary reviewed the current projects going on in the harbor. They are focused on the Government Island wharf conveyor system, Parker Avenue ramp, cement docks, and the Harbormaster office. Chairman of Harbor Committee Tim Davis thanked everyone that has worked to get to this point. **Motion by Select Member Schubert to agree to the Harbor Subcommittee Infrastructure Working Group charge with the wordsmithing as discussed, seconded by Select Member Thompson. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.** Chairperson Kennedy stated anyone interested in the working group should apply online.

**Youth Center Proposal**-Community Services Team-Director of Safe Harbor Nicole Balaschi and Recreation Director Ted Carroll gave an overview of the Proposed Youth Center. They reviewed the survey results, locations that were considered, staffing/operations, budgeting, programming, and timeline. The goal is to open in September 2021. The Board had a lengthy discussion. **Motion by Select Member Creighton to move forward on the proposal for the Youth Center seconded Select Member Schubert. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye. Moton by Select Member Creighton that they approve in principle the expenditure of \$50,000 of town funds to fund the initial startup, seconded by Select Member Thompson. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.**

**RFQ for Legal Services**-Vote to waive conflict for Town Counsel to review form-Motion by Select Member Schubert to make a determination that the financial interest disclosed is not so substantial as to be deemed likely to affect the integrity of the services which the municipality may expect from Town Counsel and further to authorize the Chair to sign the form on behalf of the Select Board, seconded by Select Member Creighton. **Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.**

**Employment Contracts-Vote to Ratify**-Finance Director-Motion by Select Member Schubert to approve the contract for Finance Director Don Piatt, seconded by Select Member Thompson. **Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye. Motion by Select Member Creighton to approve the Cohasset Police NEPBA contract for one-year, seconded by Select Member Schubert. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.**

**Town Manager Update-Proposed funding for Sandy Beach Parking Lot Management**-Mr. Senior advised the Board the Sandy Beach Association (SBA) is looking to partner with the Town again this year and run the parking lot. The management worked well last year. He wondered if the Board had any thoughts of possibly putting a surcharge on the existing all facilities stickers and have that money put in a separate account to pay the SBA. After a brief discussion, the Board was not interested in putting a surcharge on stickers. Mr. Senior will look into other ways it may work and get back to the Board. **ATM Warrant Update**-Mr. Senior advised the Board there are currently about 30 articles on the ATM Draft Warrant. Some are placeholders. The citizen petition deadline is March 10<sup>th</sup> He will talk to Town Counsel Paul DeRensis in assisting with warrant articles. All meetings in March will have some discussion about the Warrant.

**Select Board Comments**-Select Board Member Creighton congratulated the Select Board, town government, Chris Senior and everyone that worked hard to get the Youth Center to this point. Select Member Evans thanked DPW and the plow drivers for their work during the storm. He thanked everyone that reached out to speak with him about speed limits in town. There is a citizen's petition going around for speed limits. Select Member Schubert stated today is the first day to pull papers for the Annual Town Elections. He encouraged anyone interested to get involved. Select Member Thompson reminded everyone to pre-register for vaccines. Chairperson Kennedy stated it is frustrating that the doses are not being given to Cohasset. The Town is advocating.

**Approval of Minutes-Motion by Select Member Evans to approve the minutes of 1/25/2021 and 1/26/2021, seconded by Select Member Schubert. Roll Call Vote; Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye. Select Member Creighton abstained from the vote.**

**Motion by Select Member Creighton to adjourn, seconded by Select Member Schubert. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Kennedy, Chair

**Documents**

- Sewer Application-P. Kierce
- FY20 Audit Info
- AHT Bylaw Language
- Legal Counsel Waiver
- Youth Center Proposal
- Employment Contracts
- Minutes