

Select Board Minutes

February 23, 2021

Tuesday, February 23, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.
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 6:36 p.m. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Present, Corey Evans-Present, Diane Kennedy-Present, Paul Schubert-Present, Keri Thompson-Present.

Chairperson Kennedy asked for a motion to go into Executive Session Exemption #6-To consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real estate, if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body. The Board will discuss Crocker Lane. Motion moved by Select Member Thompson, seconded by Select Member Schubert. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans, Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:37 p.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session and back into Open Session at 7:13 p.m.

Community Update-Health Director Pam Fahey stated the Town will be receiving 100 doses of vaccines on Thursday. They have 90 people receiving the shot on Thursday and they have 10 home visits. She thanked the employees at the Senior Center, Library, Police and Fire that have helped tremendously with the seniors in town. They have confirmed with the State the town will receive second doses. Unfortunately, they may not be receiving more vaccines for first doses. The State is focusing on mass vaccine sites instead of towns, which is disappointing. The Board had a brief discussion about drafting a letter to the State.

Post-Employment Benefits (PEB)-Annual Report-Chairman Tim Davis, Katie Dugan, Mark Maggi, Donna Collins, and Paul Carlson were present. Katie Dugan reviewed the Fiscal 2022 Goals including establishing the Committee as a permanent committee, developing an FAQ for the community, evaluating potential benefits of transitioning OPEB Trust Fund to MGL provision under Municipal Modernization Act and reviewing and evaluating the Town's OPEB & Norfolk County Retirement System liabilities. She reviewed the Net OPEB liability, year over year comparison and the funding and investment policies.

PEB Committee Charge-The Board reviewed the changes to the proposed charge. **Motion by Select Member Evans to approve the updated Post-Employment Benefits Committee charge as presented, seconded by Select Member Thompson. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye. Annual Report**-Katie Dugan reviewed the Fiscal 2022 Goals, the OPEB liability, year over year comparison and funding policy.

The Advisory Committee called their meeting to order at 7:59 p.m.

FY21 Budget Update-Finance Director Don Piatt stated overall the General Fund, Sewer Fund and Water Fund are in good shape and trending in the right direction. There is 69% of the General Fund Revenues

collected through 1/31/2021, 57% of the budget has been expended through 1/31/2021, The Sewer Fund revenues are 69% collect and 68% of the budget is expended, The Water Fund revenues are 62% collected and 72% of the budget is expended though 1/31/2021. The Board had a brief discussion.

FY22 Budget Review-Finance Director Don Piatt stated there is no change in State Aid this year, it is the same as last year. The Local Receipts have gone down a little basically because of timing for betterment assessments for Sewer projects that were paid for out of the General Fund. The Norfolk County Pension has increased 22% this year. This is the result of a valuation that is done every two years. They will need to move some funds from free cash to help cover this increase. Mr. Piatt reviewed shared costs. The Health Insurance has come in lower than they expected this year. The next increase for year over year is \$1.4M or 3.04%. The Select Board and Advisory Committee had the opportunity to ask questions.

Proposed Uniform Speed Limits-Chief Quigley advised the Board he is recommending 25 mph speed limit town wide. They can separately address streets that may need lower limits. He discussed information regarding citations from the last 5 years. The Board had a brief discussion. **Motion by Select Member Evans to adopt the universal speed limit of 25 mph with a follow up request that the Chief come back to the Board with a proposal of streets that should have a higher speed limit and that the deployment of the universal speed limit start on May 1st, seconded by Select Member Schubert. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Nay, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.** Chairman Kennedy stating the Board heard from some residents a few weeks ago and received some emails about putting "Go Slow" signage around the Common and Village Area. **Motion by Select Member Evans to task the Town Manager, Police Chief and Fire Chief to develop a safety plan for downtown including signage or other traffic calming measures to bring back to the Board as soon as possible, seconded by Select Member Creighton. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.**

Committee Appointments-Harbor Committee-Motion by Select Member Schubert to appoint Eric Crews to the Harbor Committee as the Yacht Club Representative to fill an unexpired term until 6/30/2022, seconded by Select Member Creighton. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.

Community Preservation Committee-Motion by Select Member Creighton to appoint Michael Dickey to CPC as a Citizen at Large for an unexpired term until June 30, 2023, seconded by Select Member Schubert. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.

Chairperson Kennedy stated they may need to stagger the terms for the 3 citizen-at-large members of CPC. The Board agreed. Mr. Senior will speak with town counsel.

Chairperson Kennedy stated the Board will need to appoint a member to the Weir River Water Advisory Committee to represent the Town. Anyone interested should apply. They are also still in need of a member on the Advisory Committee.

Renewal Operating Agreement CCTV-Chair of CCTV Corey Evans stated they are still looking for a couple of people to join the committee. He and Member Peter Richardsson reviewed the Annual Report for 143TV for 2020. They reviewed the challenges and successes over the past year, the current programming highlights, the 2020 Year End Financials, and upcoming projects. They discussed relocating the studio to Town Hall to increase access for the community. The Board had a brief discussion. **Motion by Select**

Member Schubert to extend the agreement between the Town of Cohasset and Cohasset Community Television until July 1, 2024, seconded by Select Member Thompson. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye. Corey Evans abstained from the vote.

Chair Evans asked if the Board would also consider separating the Cable Advisory Board and the 143TV Board of Directors. He said running the PEG station and negotiating cable contracts are substantively different. The Cable Advisory Committee should just be a “as needed” board. The 143TV Board can operate more effectively as a Non-Profit Board. The Board had a brief discussion. Mr. Evans will reach out to other communities and see how they deal with the Board of Directors and Cable Board.

Town Manager Update-Mr. Senior stated they will take a deep dive into the Warrant at the next meeting. There are some articles from last year that were pulled off that will be on this year’s warrant, mostly zoning articles. March 10th is the deadline for Citizens Petition.

Select Board Comments-Select Member Creighton asked about money given to the Town from the Toll Bros. project. He asked Mr. Senior to look into and see where it should be spent. Select Member Evans stated he put out a quick 10-minute video for residents to look at for the Town Hall building. He reminded everyone to be safe and strong. Select Member Schubert stated a year ago today Cohasset had the first Covid-19 case and since then many have died, and it has been a brutal year. He thanked everyone in town, police, fire, and town government that have stepped up. There is a bright light at the end of the tunnel. Select Member Thompson offered to help anyone that may be struggling to get an online to get a vaccine appointment. She is willing to help anyone out. Chairperson Kennedy stated the next meeting is March 9th. The next couple of months will be fast paced for preparation of Annual Town Meeting. She thanked all the working groups.

Topics not reasonably anticipated within 48 hours-Chairperson Kennedy stated she would like the Board to send a letter to the state advocating for local vaccines clinics. The Board reviewed a sample letter.

Motion by Select Member Creighton to put forth the letter and have it sent by Chris Senior expressing concern with vaccines, seconded by Select Member Schubert. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.

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 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Kennedy, Chair

Documents

- PEB Update
- FY22 Budget Review
- FY21 Budget Update
- Uniform Speed Limit
- Committee Applications
- Operating Agreement-CCTV

