

Tuesday, March 9, 2021 @ 7:00 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 7:00 p.m. Roll Call Vote: Corey Evans-Present, Diane Kennedy-Present, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.

Pledge-Recited.

Public Comment-Chief Silvia advised the Board there will be a first dose clinic at 60 Elm Street for the members of the senior housing and staff that live there. As part of that clinic there will be extra doses. He asked that any residents of the town that are 75 years old or older reach out to Elder Affairs to register for the clinic.

Select Member Creighton joined the meeting. The Advisory Committee and Water Commission called their meeting to order.

Joint Meeting w/Advisory Committee & Water Commission-FY22 Budget Review & Rate Increase-Field Engineer Jason Federico reviewed the Water Rate Study. He discussed the current Capital Recovery Fee/Base Service Charge, the Capital Improvements needed to maintain service levels/regulations and adding a third usage tier for more equitable distribution costs. He reviewed the 10-year Capital Improvements Plan. He talked about existing debt trending down but operation costs increasing due to regulatory requirements and labor & maintenance costs, and the proposed rates for the next five years. Finance Director Don Piatt added that the rate increase is heavily driven by capital needs. Mr. Federico reviewed the proposed FY22 Budget with the increase in rates. The Board had a lengthy discussion.

Joint Meeting w/Advisory & Sewer-FY22 Budget Review & Rate Increase-The Sewer Commission called their meeting to order. Chairman Bill McGowan advised the Board they have be working with Don Piatt on their budget for about a month now. They are looking at an increase, but they have not voted as a commission on it yet. There are several factors that are determining an increase. When they switched over from Suez to Woodard & Curran, their operation costs have gone up as well as the electrical costs. The are working on data to bring back to the Board to explain the increases. They have also looked at other towns and what they are charging for sewer per cubic feet and there is a big disparity. The last increase was in 2017 for about 10%. They have been running a deficit for the last few years and they incurred capital costs the last few years. Don Piatt, Select Members and Commissioners discussed recent completed capital projects done at the plant and future projects. The Commission will continue to work with Mr. Piatt and come back in a couple of weeks with more data and information.

Motion by Select Member Schubert to move the next agenda item of Town Meeting Preparations up to discuss earlier than posted, seconded by Select Member Thompson. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.

Town Meeting Preparation-ATM Draft Warrant and ATM Calendar-Mr. Senior reviewed the draft warrant with the Board. There are currently 30 articles. Tomorrow is the deadline for Citizen Petitions. As of today, there have not been any submitted. Mr. Senior reviewed the updated FY22 Budget & Town Meeting Planning Calendar which includes joint meetings with the Advisory Committee for budget review. **Planning Board Articles-Vote to send to Planning Board for Public Hearing**-Planning Director Lauren Lind stated the Planning Board voted to submit 10 zoning articles to the Select Board to request being place on the 2021 ATM Warrant. The Planning Board will be pulling one article from the list regarding Large Home Review after speaking with town counsel. Ms. Lind reviewed the articles. **Motion by Select Member**

Evans to refer articles P1-P10 (except for P6-Large Home Review) to the Planning Board for public hearings, seconded by Select Member Thompson. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.

Committees & Appointments-Committee Recruitment & Appointment Next Steps-Chairperson Kennedy stated she and Select Member Thompson reviewed the Committee Handbook and it has almost everything needed except for the appointment process. She asked the Board to look over the book and bring up anything that needs updating. Select Member Thompson stated they are working on ways to recruit new people.

Review Harbor Committee Governance Working Group Proposal-Chairman Kennedy stated she spoke with Harbor Committee Member Lisa Hewitt Dick and made some edits to the charge. She sent the revised charge out to the Board earlier and asked that the Board review and send any changes to Tracey Connors and will put on the agenda for a vote next week.

Cohasset Harbor Committee-Motion by Select Member Thompson to appoint Sean Kenealy to the Harbor Committee as the Sailing Club Representative until 6/30/2022, seconded by Select Member Schubert. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Schubert-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.

Cohasset Harbor Infrastructure Planning Work Group-Appointments-Motion by Select Member Creighton to appoint Mike Sardina and George Baumgarten to Cohasset Harbor Infrastructure Planning Working Group for one-year, 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 reminded everyone there is still one citizen-at-large position open.

Motion by Select Member Creighton to appoint Harbormaster Lorri Gibbons and Harbor Committee Chair Tim Davis to the Cohasset Harbor Infrastructure Planning Working Group 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.

Chairperson Kennedy advised the Board they have received one application for the Weir River Water System Representative. If anyone else is interested they should apply. The Board will make the appointment at the next meeting.

Town Manager-Update-Mr. Senior stated All Facilities Stickers are now available. The current stickers expire on 3/31/2021. They can be bought online or in person at the DPW. The hours are on the website. The Town has been awarded a Cyber Security Grant. It is not monetary but, training opportunities for staff. CIO Ron Menard is working with the State on rolling this out. They hope to be able to include Boards and Committees as well. Mr. Senior stated he, Brian Joyce and others have been working internally to discuss the Treats Pond drainage issue. They are working to hold a public meeting with a facilitator over the next couple of weeks. They are looking at 3/24 possibly 5 p.m. He thanked everyone that has worked on this issue and help get to a resolution.

Select Board Comments-Memorial Policy-Chairperson Kennedy stated last week the Board discussed developing a memorial policy. She has researched it and got a lot of information from other towns and forwarded it to Select Member Thompson to take the lead. She asked if any other member is interested in getting involved to reach out to Select Member Thompson. They will discuss at a future meeting. There will also be a discussion about fields in town and groups that are looking for upgrades and potentially CPC funding. Select Member Creighton stated it is nice to see things move forward especially the Teen Center and now Treats Pond. It is good when people work together. Select Member Evans stated there was a language barrier with a resident at a meeting recently. He asked Mr. Senior if the Town has access to any type of translator. Mr. Senior will look into. Select Member Schubert reiterated that All Facilities Stickers are available. He reminded everyone to try and get vaccinated. He believes the volume of vaccines will increase soon. He asked everyone to continue to be safe. Select Member Thompson is working with others on June diversity events for Pride, Loving Day & Juneteenth. She asked for anyone to email her if

they would like to get involved. Chairperson Kennedy asked Mr. Senior if the Town needs to take any action on the Emergency Declaration they voted on last year. Mr. Senior responded not until the State does. Hopefully, they will get to that point soon. The Elm Street Corridor Working Group is moving along. They have a consultant and are planning for public meetings soon. There is a WEMO workshop on 4/30/2021. She will send out info to the Board.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Kennedy, Chair

Documents

FY22 Water Budget
Water Rate Increase Presentation
FY22 Sewer Budget
Town Meeting Calendar
Planning Board Articles
Draft Harbor Governance Charge
Harbor Committee Applications