

## Select Board Minutes

October 19, 2021

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Virtual Meeting – 143TV and Zoom

**Select Board Present:** Keri Thompson, Chair  
Corey Evans  
Diane Kennedy  
Jean Healey Dippold  
Jack Creighton

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

Chairperson Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked for a Roll Call Vote; All present. Chairperson Thompson asked for a motion to go into Executive Session Exemption #3 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. The Board will discuss Bound Brook. **Motion moved by Select Member Evans, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:33 p.m.  
The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:10 p.m.

**Public Comment**-None.

**Licenses/Permits/Events**-South Shore Community Center-Santa's Coming to Your Neighborhood Event-Motion by Select Member Kennedy to approve the Santa's Coming to Your Neighborhood event on December 4, 2021, at 10 a.m., seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote; All aye.

**Friends of Holly Hill-Farm to Table Harvest Dinner**-One-Day Liquor License-Motion by Select Member Creighton to approve the Farm to Table Harvest Dinner at Holly Hill on November 6, 2021, from 6-10 p.m., seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote; All aye.

**Board/Committee Appointments**-Open Space & Recreation Committee-Motion by Select Member Dippold to appoint Chris McIntyre to Open Space & Recreation as the Conservation Commission representative until June 30, 2022, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote; All aye.

**Alternative Energy Committee**-Motion by Select Member Evans to appoint Josh Staunton to Alternative Energy Committee for a two-year term ending June 30, 2023, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote; All aye.

**Fire Chief Recruitment Process/Timeline**-Mr. Senior stated Chief Silvia will be retiring no later the April 30, 2022. He reviewed the process for recruiting. They will review the current position and highlight any changes, gather feedback from the firefighters/paramedics via survey for key areas to be assessed, post the position no later than mid-November and put out a press release and post on social media accounts, screen resumes, set up initial interviews with the Town Manager and one department head and select five candidates for an Assessment Center. The Assessment Center will interview the top three candidates with a panel of key managers and present the final candidate to the Select Board for approval. At that point, they will make/negotiate an offer and start date contingent upon the Select Board approval and present a contract for the Select Board approval. After a lengthy discussion the

Board agreed to send their ideas about the process and what they are looking for in the next fire chief. They also asked Mr. Senior to develop a chart with clear dates and reach out to some consultants that administer assessment centers.

**Field Study Update**-Contracts & Procurement Manager Michelle Leary reviewed the proposal from Activitas for Athletic and Recreation Facility Needs Assessment and Master Planning Services. The Board discussed the proposal and agreed to have the Town Manager execute the contract.

**Special Town Meeting Articles-Article #1-Amendments to the Fiscal 2022 Operating Budget**-Finance Director Don Piatt reviewed the article. **Motion by Select Member Kennedy to recommend Article #1-Amendments to the Fiscal 2022 Operating Budget to STM, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

**Article #2-Unpaid Bills from Previous Fiscal Years**-Mr. Piatt reviewed the unpaid bills. **Motion by Select Member Evans to recommend Article #2-Unpaid Bills from Previous Fiscal Years to STM, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

**Article #3-Stabilization Funds**-Mr. Piatt reviewed with the Board. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to recommend Article #3-Stabilization Funds to STM, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

**Article #4-Allocation of Funds for One-Time Costs**-Mr. Piatt reviewed the projects for one-time costs. The Board discussed the individual projects. **Motion by Select Member Evans to recommend Article #4-Allocation of Funds for One-Time Costs for all items except \$750,000 for the Town Hall Project, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

**Motion by Select Member Evans to recommend Article #4 Allocation of Funds for One-Time Costs for the Town Hall Project, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote; Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye. Jack Creighton and Jean Healey Dippold abstained.**

**Article #6-Acquisition of Real Property**-Treasurer/Collector Paula Linhares stated the Town was asked to accept a gift of property from the owners of the Rice Lot. The tax title attorney cannot locate a clean title; therefore, the Town cannot accept the gift at this time. The owners will try and get a clean title. The Board will decide at the next meeting whether to take the article off the warrant.

**Article #11-Draft Article Field Lease Authorization**-Mr. Senior discussed a proposed article drafted by counsel to see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, management, and control of the parcels of town-owned land (Barnes field complex) to allow the Select Board the ability to enter a lease for 10 years or longer. The Board discussed the length of the lease. Mr. Senior will forward to the Advisory Committee for their review and recommendation.

**All Facilities Stickers Process Review**-Chairman Thompson stated the Board has talked about reviewing the current process for All Facilities Stickers after receiving calls and emails from residents. She asked the Select Board members to think about the current process and come back with any ideas to improve it. She will schedule for an upcoming meeting.

**FY22 Select Board Goals Update-BRIC Grant Update**-Mr. Senior advised the Board the notice of intent for the BRIC grant was filed on Friday. They are waiting to get a contact point with MEMA. Once they get that, the formal submission to MEMA will in December.

**Zoning**-Mr. Senior reviewed Goal #2 for Planning/Zoning-working with Zoning Bylaw Group and Master Plan Implementation Committee, finalize and present to Town Meeting a comprehensive zoning bylaw revision. The Planning Department will coordinate a joint meeting on 11/9/2021 with Planning, Zoning, MPIC, Select Board and the public will participate. He reviewed the timeline for the RFQ process.

**Town Manager Update**-Mr. Senior stated there is a scheduled water shut down in the Beechwood area tomorrow night at 9 p.m. to fix a leak and remove an old valve. A code red call is going out tonight to any residents that will be affected. The quarterly real estate taxes are due November 1<sup>st</sup>. There is a water main replacement project on Elm Street that has begun and could take up to 7 weeks. There will be intermittent detours and delays.

**Select Board Comments**-Select Member Dippold reminded everyone that due to the water main replacement on Elm Street there are kids on either side of the street trying to get to the bus stop and riding bikes. She reminded drivers to be careful. Also, there are vehicles that are driving fast around stop signs in town and they should be more careful. Lastly, she reminded residents that Halloween is coming up and to watch out for children. Select Member Evans thank the Board of Health for the recent flu clinics. The process was a smooth easy way for people to protect themselves. There are three more clinics coming up. Select Member Creighton thanked residents and said they should be proud for keeping the character of the town and keeping it a special place. Select Member Kennedy asked Mr. Senior for an update on the boutique at the next meeting. She has had some comments from residents. She asked if there was any consideration for in person meetings. Lastly, resiliency is a big issue that she has been hearing a lot about. She knows AEC, Harbor and Master Plan have been talking about it but, she would love to see the town work on a summit. Chairperson Thompson stated she also has heard from residents about speeding in certain areas and they do need to remind everyone to slow down especially around bus stops and schools.

**Minutes-Motion by Select Member Kennedy to approve the minutes of 9/21/2021 and 10/5/2021, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote; All aye. Jack Creighton abstained from the vote.**

**Motion by Select Member Creighton to adjourn, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keri Thompson, Chair

### **Documents**

Event Applications

Committee Applications

Fire Chief Recruitment Process

Field Study draft contract

Draft STM Warrant

Minutes

