

Select Board Minutes 7/18/22

Chairperson Erin Underhill called the meeting to order at 7pm. The following persons were present: Vice Chair Craig Schultze, Clerk Ellen Rosenfeld, and Town Administrator Mike Guzinski, Assistant Town Administrator/HR Director Karen Bouret Demarzo.

Announcements:

Director of Dept. of Public Works James McKay announced the paving of public roads for FY23 will begin shortly. Paving and milling will continue through August and into September.

22-157 Approval of Millis Boosters' Back to School Run

Millis Boosters representative Allison Maher announces 5th annual 5k community fun-run set for Sunday, Sept. 25th. The 5k begins at 9:00am and the mile run begins at 9:30am, both starting and ending at the MHS Track.

Chair. Underhill made a motion to approve the Millis Boosters Back to School Fun Run for Sunday, Sept. 25th as detailed. Sel. Schultze seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

22-148 Appointments

Director of Dept. of Public Works James McKay asked the board to confirm the appointment of two new Heavy Equipment Operators, and recommended Jesse Chamberlain for one of the positions, with his start date being 7/19/22. Town Admin. Mike Guzinski asked the board to confirm his appointment.

Sel. Craig Schultze made a motion to ratify the appointment of Jesse Underhill as Heavy Equipment Operator for the Dept. of Public Work with the contingency that he obtains a CDL-B drivers license with airbrake endorsement and a 2B Hoisting license within 6 months of employment and T1 and D1 water licenses within one year. Sel. Ellen Rosenfeld seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. McKay recommended Michael Prescott for the other HEO Laborer Position. Town Admin. Mike Guzinski asked the board to confirm his appointment.

Sel. Craig Schultze made a motion to ratify the appointment of Michael Prescott as Heavy Equipment Operator for the Dept. of Public Works with the contingency that he completes a physical and drug screen, obtains a CDL-B Driver's license with airbrake endorsement within 6 months. Sel. Ellen Rosenfeld seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Town Administrator Mike Guzinski asked the board to confirm his appointment of Katherine Farrar as a Temporary Department Assistant I for the Executive Office until from now to September 2nd.

Sel. Craig Schultze made a motion to ratify the appointment of Katherine Farrar as a Temporary Department Assistant I for the Executive Office. Sel. Ellen Rosenfeld seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sel. Erin Underhill said the ZBA asked the Select Board to appoint two Zoning Board of Appeals Members, to fill the vacancies.

Sel. Craig Schultze made a motion to appoint Michael Giampietro as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. Sel. Ellen Rosenfeld seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sel. Craig Schultze made a motion to appoint Robert Fogarty as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. Sel. Ellen Rosenfeld seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

22-149 Presentation of Final Enterprise Funds Study Report/Allocation Policy.

Project Consultant Carl Valente presents the final report to wrap up the Analysis of Enterprise Funds for the DPW. The Board hopes to take an aggressive approach, in the form implementing a plan to close the \$81,000 gap in the span of two years.

Sel. Craig Schultze made a motion to implement a financial plan not to exceed two years' time to fully balance indirect costs related to the enterprise funds. Sel. Ellen Rosenfeld seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

22-150 Continuation off FY23 Water/Sewer/Stormwater Rate Hearing

There was a discussion, led by Mr. McKay, regarding the overtime funds and licensing for snow and ice DPW staff. McKay also discusses budgeting for the DPW in terms of Water, Sewer, and Stormwater rates.

Sel. Craig Schultze made a motion to close the FY23 hearing. Sel. Ellen Rosenfeld seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sel. Craig Schultze made a motion to increase Water and Sewer rates as requested, and the stormwater rate will be reevaluated at a hearing to be held during the next meeting on 8/22/22. Sel. Ellen Rosenfeld seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

22-151 Review and Approval of Application for Financial Assistance - Drinking Water and Lead Service Line Inventories & Replacement Plans

Mr. McKay asks for a grant of \$139,000 to pay for the replacement of lead service lines. The DPW will work with MassDEP and an outside consultant to complete this project.

Sel. Craig Schultze made a motion to accept the grant of \$139,000 to proceed with this program. Sel. Ellen Rosenfeld seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

22-152 Discuss the Possible Adoption of M.G.L. c. 59 §5, Clause 22H for Gold Star Families & Reduce Residency Requirements for Local Property Tax Exemptions for Veterans from 2 Years to 1 Year.

Millis Veteran Services Officer John Moore proposed reducing the Veteran Residency Requirements for local property tax exemption and payments. This would reduce the two year wait for tax abatements for new residents that are disabled veterans down to one year. He also asked the board to consider adopting clause 22H of M.G.L. c. 59 §5, for veteran services and tax abatements. This would benefit the parents of deceased Gold Star veterans.

Sel. Craig Schultze made a motion to add an article to consider the vote for Clause 22H and the issue of Veterans Residency waitlist reduction for veterans who are paraplegics or have a 100% disability for service connected blindness and spouses or surviving spouses of veterans entitled to exemption under Clause 22F on the next town meeting warrant. Sel. Ellen Rosenfeld seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

22-153 Permanent Building Committee (PBC) Presentation: Review Proposed Senior Center Options

Chair of the PBC Wayne Klocko presents the data that the PBC and the Council on Aging polled surrounding the building of a new Senior Center. The data shows that citizens prefer the Cassidy Farm option, which would cost \$21mil. There was a spirited debate about whether to put the vote for this in the fall or spring town meeting.

Sel. Erin Underhill decided to push the decision as to whether or not to include an article at the November 2022 Town Meeting to the next meeting on Aug 22, 2022.

22-154 Review/Approval of Bond Anticipation Note

Sel. Mike Guzinski presents information from the Town Treasurer pertaining to a General Obligation Bond Anticipation Note for 1.47 million dollars.

Sel. Erin Underhill made a motion to adopt the vote prepared by Bond Counsel for the sale and approval of the town's August Bond Anticipation Notice. Sel. Craig Schultze seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

22-155 Discuss/Extend Sewer Moratorium

Sel. Erin Underhill led a discussion about extending the existing sewer moratorium by 2-3 months. Due to the ongoing discussion regarding a sewer policy, the Board decided to extend the existing moratorium.

Sel. Craig Schultze made a motion to extend the sewer moratorium to 11/1/2022. Sel. Erin Underhill seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

22-156 Discuss Select Board Goals

The Select Board discussed their FY2023 goals regarding financial management, enterprise funding, town infrastructure improvement, and the expansion of town services and programs.

Sel. Craig Schultze made a motion to accept these goals as the official selectboard goals for fiscal year 23. Sel. Erin Underhill seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

22-158 Approval of Scrap Metal Drive

The Board reviewed a request for a scrap metal drive at the Lansing Millis Train station parking lot to benefit the Charles River Chorale Group on Sunday, Aug 7th.

Sel. Craig Schultze made a motion to approve the Scrap Metal Drive from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm on Sunday, August 7th. Sel. Erin Underhill seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

22-159 Board/Committee Liaison Updates

The selectboard discusses updates from the Permanent Building Committee and Energy Committee.

22-160 Approval of Minutes 7/11/22

Sel. Craig Schultze made a motion to approve the minutes from the elect Board meeting on 7/11/22. Sel. Erin Underhill seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Enter Executive Session at 9:40 pm

Sel. Craig Schultze made a motion to enter an executive session with the purpose of conducting strategy sessions in preparation of negotiations with union and nonunion personnel (SEIU and AFSCME & Town Administrator) and also to discuss strategy with respect to litigation of site investigation. Chair Underhill seconded the motion and polled the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Sel. Schultze made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:15pm. Sel. Rosenfeld seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:
Katherine Farrar