



Minutes
Tuesday, May 5th, 2021
Select Board Meeting – 5:00PM
VIRTUAL MEETING

Meeting Opened at 5:01PM by Chair, Bettina Schmidt

Reading of Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place.

"Public comment" portions of meetings will be temporarily suspended.

Select Board Members present: Bettina Schmidt, Clelland Johnson

Select Board Member absent: Larry Mandell

Others present: Stacy Stout, Michael Hoyer (homeowner), Ken Creigle (National Grid)

1. Minutes from 4/9/21 and 4/20/21

- Motion to approve minutes as written made by Mr. Johnson; 2nd by Ms. Schmidt
- Ms. Schmidt – Yes, Mr. Johnson – Yes

Ms. Schmidt made request to take Agenda out of Order, all in favor - Yes

2. Loan approvals from Treasurer

- a. Three existing loans need to be extended – paperwork prepared by Treasurer to be signed by Select Board
- b. This is known process and accounted for in budgeting at time of getting loans

Motion: Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the loan extensions

2nd by Ms. Schmidt

Ms. Schmidt – Yes, Mr. Johnson – Yes

3. 5:05PM Public Hearing opened – National Grid Pole hearing

- a. Propose installation of a pole across the street from 184 E Brimfield Rd. to support their service
- b. Installation cost is covered by National Grid because it is first-time service
- c. Stub pole will be used to brace the weight – guidewire across street

Motion: Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the request to install a new pole to bring service to 184 E Brimfield Rd.

2nd by Ms. Schmidt

Ms. Schmidt – Yes, Mr. Johnson – Yes

Action: Town Administrator (TA) to have paperwork signed by Town Clerk and then send to National Grid and Verizon

Public meeting closed at 5:07PM

4. 487 Mashapaug Rd. – noise and trash complaints

- a. Zoning Enforcement Officer has been out to speak with resident who submitted written complaints regarding noise
- b. Resident has recently been in contact with property owner and has said he is willing to continue to speak with owner directly on his plans for alleviating some of the noise during the overnight hours
- c. Town Administrator has discussed complaints of trash on Holland side of same property with BOH and ZEO; plan is to write a letter to the owner asking for the dumpster to be moved away from the edge of the property and the existing trash to be cleaned up

Action: Town Administrator to draft the letter on behalf of BOH, ZEO and BOS

5. Morse Rd. – No parking signs

- a. No parking and fire lane signs have been put up by unauthorized party or parties
- b. Police and Fire Department suggest the Town writes a letter to the residents who installed the signs asking them to remove them and letting them know they can petition the Town to install authorized signs
- c. Some time back, there were some restrictions posted for fire lanes and no parking

Motion: Ms. Schmidt made a motion to write a letter requesting removal of the signs and letting them know they can petition the town if they feel signs are needed

Discussion: Mr. Johnson commented that Town should consider putting up fire lane and/or some no parking signs without being petitioned; if PD, FD and Highway are in agreements, this plan will be included in the letter to show good faith to the residents that their concern is not being dismissed

2nd by Ms. Schmidt

Ms. Schmidt – Yes, Mr. Johnson - Yes

Action: TA to communicate with PD, FD and Highway to concur on a plan; TA to draft letter once plan is agreed upon

6. Wales / Holland shared road Naming

- a. Holland and Wales need to agree upon one name for Old County/Old Turnpike Rd.
- b. Joint meeting with Fire Chiefs, Police Chiefs, Select Board members and state needed

Action: Mr. Johnson to reach out to his contact on Wales Select Board to remind them this is time-sensitive and the meeting needs to happen soon

7. Warrant Articles for FY22

- a. TA has distributed Articles to Select Board with Town Council feedback

- b. There are 2 that needed to go through Planning Board and public hearing; those will need to be removed since Planning Board is just starting up again after losing multiple members

Action: TA to notify sponsors of the impacted articles that they are removed from the Warrant for ATM 2021 and will need to be re-submitted according to MA GL guidelines

8. Finance Board updates and ATM preparation

- a. Public Hearing May 11th at 6:30PM
- b. Finance Board has been putting together a slide presentation in preparation for hearing and ATM
- c. TA is working with BOH, PD and Town Clerk on plan for adhering to pandemic protocols at ATM

9. Sichol property update

- a. Received confirmation that Federal and State funds will be available with quick turn-around as all of our paperwork is in order; we need to have a closing date before we can apply for the funds to be released
- b. Financial analysis in preparation for closing was done by TA and reviewed with Accountant, Treasurer, Closing attorney and our advisor (Ed Hood)

10. LOC/Dam updates

- a. Dam inspection needs to be completed by June 30th; spillway clean up needs to be done by Highway department prior to inspection; spillway will be next after current sidewalk project outside Town Hall/Elementary school
- b. TA to schedule dam inspection on behalf of LOC and based on their recommendation of vendor
- c. RFQs for weed treatment needed to be revised to fit with correct procurement requirements (they were written to go out to bid but that is only for \$50k+ and not needed for this; redone using parameters for \$10-50k); letters were sent out to the 3 vendors selected by LOC last week by TA; deadline for accepting quote proposals is 5/28/21 and proposal reviews will happen week of June 1st

11. Opening Town Hall

- a. Ms. Schmidt and Ms. Stout have reached out to surrounding towns to gather information on how they are handling their operations and openings
- b. TA has asked Town Hall officers and employees to confirm their public hours for posting
- c. There is FEMA and CARES money that we should be able to use for additional cleaning; TA to work with Accountant to determine funds availability
- d. We need to have some kind of a check in system to track who and how many are in building at any given time
- e. Need to make and put-up new signs; mask mandates
- f. Target Open Date is June 1, 2021
- g. Mr. Johnson suggests senior work off resources to help with work related to opening; TA to find out who has hours available and how many hours

Ms. Schmidt made a motion to close meeting at 5:41PM;
2nd by Mr. Johnson; All in favor and meeting adjourned at 5:41PM

Respectfully submitted by Stacy Stout, Town Administrator