

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 18, 2017 AT 6:30PM  
TOWN HALL, MEETING ROOM 3**

**CALL TO ORDER/OPENING**

Chairman Brooks called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Chairman Harry Brooks, Vice-Chair Dianna Provencher, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair Sandra Wilson, Selectman Douglas Belanger, Selectman Brian Green, Town Administrator David Genereux, Assistant to the Town Administrator Kristen Forsberg and Student Liaisons Alyssa Pupillo and Robert Kemp were in attendance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

No members of the public provided comment

**1. SCHEDULED**

**a. 6:30pm – Cultivate Marijuana Dispensary Update & Recreational Host Community Agreement Discussion**

Rob Lally with Cultivate, a medical marijuana grow and dispensary located at 1764 Main Street, noted the business has been open for two weeks and 3 days and everything is running smoothly. The business is seeing 40-50 patients per day consistently throughout the day so there have been no parking issues. No complaints have been received from the neighbors. Mr. Lally added that Cultivate has the larger discount for veterans in the State. Mr. Brooks noted Cultivate has been very easy to work with and he appreciates the great relationship. Mr. Belanger said they have lived up to everything they promised and more. He added it is a quality operation run with great security and professionalism and is an asset to the community. Sam Barber, manager of Cultivate noted they are planning on contributing to local events and are asking their staff to volunteer a minimum amount per year. Mr. Barber added that there are 5 Leicester residents out of the 17 total employees including 5 from surrounding Towns and others are looking to move to the area. When fully operational, Cultivate expects to have 50 employees.

Mr. Genereux sought the permission of the Board to start working on an agreement with Cultivate for the sale of recreational marijuana. The agreement would not be finalized until the regulations are complete but he would like to have the agreement in the pipeline and ready to go. A motion was made by Mr. Belanger and seconded by Ms. Provencher to direct the Town Administrator to enter into negotiations with Cultivate for the sale of recreational marijuana. The motion carried unanimously.

**2. CORRESPONDENCE**

**a. Student Liaison Reports**

None

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Resignations**

None

**b. Appointments**

**i. Dennis Griffin – CMRPC Alternate, LEPC Highway Rep., Keep Leicester Green Committee, Road Conversion Committee**

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Ms. Provencher to appoint Dennis Griffin to the committees as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**c. 2018 Annual License Renewals**

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Ms. Provencher to accept the 2018 annual license renewals as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**d. Kang & Associates Amendments – CDBG Grant– Town Hall Accessibility Improvements**

Ms. Forsberg presented 2 amendments with Kang & Associates to implement the Town Hall Accessibility Improvements through the CDBG grant. Improvements include the elevator and accessible bathrooms. This was put out to bid back in 2014 through the original grant. The consultant had an option in her contract to add additional tasks should the grant be successful in order to undertake the project. A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Belanger to accept amendments 4 and 5 to the Kang & Associates contract for the Town Hall Accessibility Project. The motion carried unanimously with Ms. Provencher abstaining.

**e. Remote Meeting Participation**

Mr. Genereux noted he included regulations regarding remote meeting participation in the packets as certain boards and committees are looking to have this adopted. A quorum is still required for each meeting and every vote must be a roll call vote. For executive session, the board/committee must certify that no one who is not allowed to be there is in the room. A landline would be required to be installed in the meeting rooms. If approved, every board/committee including the School Committee would be allowed to use remote participation. Mr. Green asked if someone can participate remotely on a cell phone and Mr. Genereux responded in the affirmative. Mr. Belanger recommended the Select Board be notified when remote meeting participation happens and it be included in the Town Administrator's report. Mr. Genereux recommended taking the law and putting it into an adopted policy for the Board to review and vote on.

**4. DISCUSSION/OLD BUSINESS**

**a. January Meeting Dates**

The Select Board meeting dates for January were set at January 8<sup>th</sup> and January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**b. Saturday FY'19 Budget Meeting Date (February)**

The Select Board discussed and decided to have a budget meeting with Department Heads, the Finance Advisory Board and the School Committee on February 10<sup>th</sup> at 9am at the Senior Center.

**c. Select Board Conference Room Renovations**

The Board discussed paint and carpet options for the renovation of the Select Board conference room. The room will be 2 feet by 2 inches larger. Furniture will be designed for the room. LCAC is paying for this upgrade. The use of maroon carpet and paint color as well as LED lighting and a Town Seal on the wall was discussed along with having seating for 10.

**d. Surplus Property Discussion**

This item was passed over.

**e. Fire Station at 15 Water Street**

The Board discussed declaring the Center Fire Station at 15 Water Street as surplus property. Mr. Genereux noted there are several interested buyers and Mr. Belanger recommended getting the property back on the tax rolls. Town Meeting will have to authorize the sale of the building should the Board declare it surplus.

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Belanger to declare the former Center Fire Station at 15 Water Street as surplus property. The motion carried unanimously.

## **5. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

The Town Administrator presented highlights from his written report.

## **6. MINUTES**

None

## **7. BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORTS**

Mr. Brooks discussed the successful Town Tree Lighting ceremony and the Parks & Rec Christmas party at the Senior Center and thanked all involved. Last Sunday there was a soft opening for the Fire & EMS Headquarters but there will be a real opening in the Spring. The Economic Development Committee had an energetic and productive meeting and their next meeting will be December 28<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. On Wednesday, MSBA voted unanimously to allow the Town to proceed to completing the feasibility study for the Middle School. Mr. Brooks wished everyone a merry Christmas, happy new year and happy holidays.

Ms. Provencher wished everyone a merry Christmas, happy new year and happy holidays.

Ms. Wilson thanked Father Rob for blessing the Fire Department Sunday at mass then blessing in the new Fire & EMS Headquarters. The EMT's love their new space compared to being in the back of Station 3. Both Fire & EMS have responded to numerous calls out of the new station with no issues getting in and out of the building and the driveway. The Opticom is working well and final occupancy will occur January 5<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Wilson reminded residents to be careful on the ice because it is not really safe.

Mr. Green thanked the highway department for their cleanup during the storm and stated residents were happy. Mr. Green added that new Highway Superintendent Dennis Griffin is off to a great start and wished everyone happy holidays.

Mr. Belanger thanked all who contributed to the Tree Lighting and asked about the status of the Rawson Street bridge project. Mr. Forsberg responded that it is scheduled to start in the spring.

## **8. FUTURE MEETING TOPICS**

None

## **9. EXECUTIVE SESSION, MGL CHAPTER 30A, SECTION 21A**

None

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Belanger at 7:46pm. The motion carried unanimously.