

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 1, 2018 at 6:30pm
TOWN HALL, SELECT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING

Chairwoman Provencher called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Chair Dianna Provencher, Vice Chair Sandra Wilson, 2nd Vice Chair Brian Green, Selectman Harry Brooks, Selectman Rick Antanavica, Town Administrator David Genereux, Assistant to the Town Administrator Kristen Forsberg and Student Liaisons Alyssa Pupillo and Katheryn Stapel were in attendance.

1. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Brooks to go into executive session at 6:32pm at resume in open session at its conclusion. The Chair declared that to discuss these matters in open session would compromise the position of the Town. Roll Call: All Ayes

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

3. STUDENT LIAISON REPORTS

The Student Liaisons provided updates from the Leicester Public Schools including cookies with Principal at Primary from 5:30pm-7pm on Oct 4, the Memorial School Yankee Candle fundraiser, the Plymouth plantation trip, picture day on oct 11, financial aid seminar for juniors and seniors and no school Friday October 5th or Monday October 8th due to Columbus Day.

4. RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

a. Appointment – Department Assistant, DIS

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Ms. Wilson to appoint Wanda Merced to the position of Department Assistant for the Development and Inspectional Services Department. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Appointment – Treasurer/Collector

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Antanavica to appoint Melanie Rajaniemi to the position of Treasurer/Collector for the Town of Leicester. The motion carried unanimously.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Contract – Treasurer/Collector

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Antanavica to approve the employment contract with Treasurer Collector Melanie Rajaniemi with the one amendment with one change: Ms. Rajaniemi will obtain her Treasurer certification within three years of her date of hire. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Pole Hearing - Brown Street (7:00pm)

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Brooks to approve the Ngrid petition for pole and wire relocation on Brown Street. The motion carried unanimously.

c. Library Renovation & Expansion Project – Rob Para, OPM

This item was passed over.

d. Charlton Street Speeding Issue

This item was passed over.

e. Entertainment License – Reliable Bud

Ms. Forsberg presented a request from Reliable Bud for an entertainment license to host cannabis related events at Everlast Nursery. The event would include 40-50 vendors and is advertised as a “BYOC” or “Bring Your Own Cannabis” event where open consumption is encouraged. Issues surrounding the “sale” of THC marijuana products on site through donations were discussed. Reliable Bud has been holding these events at the Spencer Fairgrounds since last year and is looking for an indoor area for the winter. Chris Pagel, Chief Visionary Officer, described the event as like a farmers market where participants can meet cannabis producers who are building their brand and business, help them raise money so they can work towards getting state licensure and to remove the stigma surrounding cannabis. Upstart companies are trying to build their brand and become known so they need to take advantages of gifting allowances to provide samples. The Board discussed concerns including the Town’s bylaw prohibiting social clubs, the exchange of THC containing products for a donation, open consumption of cannabis, parking and crowd size, testing of products for safety, whether or not this undermines legal avenues for marijuana, fire issues from open consumption in greenhouses, whether taxes are being paid etc. The Board asked that Reliable Bud give the Town their proposal including dates, times and number of people attending so the Town can review the event in its entirety and run it by all of our departments want to make sure there are no issues.

f. Prohibition of Signs on Town Owned Property

The Town has received complaints about political signs on town owned property. Town Counsel stated if the Town should have a bylaw and it would need to prohibit all signs (churches, businesses, etc.) not just political signs. This item will be discussed further as part of the Annual Town Meeting process.

g. IT Services Contract – ClearCom IT

The Town put out an RFP for IT services and received three responses. A review committee consisting of the Assistant to the Town Administrator, School IT personnel, Police and Fire met and recommended awarding the bid to ClearCom for one year with an option to extend for an additional two years if the Town desires. Mr. Genereux stated he did have a discussion with ClearCom about specific concerns related to the timeliness of response, putting in a better firewall, restricting access to certain sites and working on site one day per month. A motion was made by Mr. Belanger and seconded by Mr. Green to authorize the Chair to execute a one year contract with ClearCom for IT services with an option to extend for an additional two years. The motion carried unanimously.

h. Fall Town Meeting Warrant

The Board discussed the draft Fall Town Meeting warrant.

6. REPORTS

a. Town Administrator Report

Mr. Genereux noted he was contacted by a marijuana cultivation group asking if the board would consider negotiating a host community agreement while they are obtaining site control. The Board decided they would like the company to discuss zoning with Michelle first.

b. Select Board Reports

The Select Board discussed various topics including the November ballot, the successful Town wide yard sale, volunteers who helped spreading the mulch at primary, the pink patch program at the PD, the Parish Fair at St Josephs and thanks to the principals and vice principals and Chief Hurley for being in the dunk tank to raise

money, fire prevention week (check batteries in yours smoke detectors), the Worcester County Selectmen's Association meeting, checking wood stoves to make sure they are clean and sealed and watching out for black ice.

7. MINUTES

a. September 17, 2018

This item was passed over.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Antanavica at 9:33pm. The motion carried unanimously.