

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 15, 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 Liaison Katheryn Stapel were in attendance.

1. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session was held

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public provided comment

3. STUDENT LIAISON REPORTS

a. Becker College Food Drive

Carianne Golden at Becker has been studying food insecurities among children in Worcester County and discussed a proposed food drive for Leicester residents. Ms. Golden has reached out to the Leicester Food Bank for information and requested to hold the food drive at Fall Town Meeting on October 30th.

Ms. Stapel provided updates from the Leicester Public Schools including the Teal Pumpkin Project at Primary to raise awareness about children with food allergies, fire safety class at Primary, science tellers performance at Memorial, parent teacher conferences on December 6th at Memorial, the rule that no food or treats are allowed to be shared with classmates but can dress up in school appropriate costumes, cabaret night, NHS induction October 25th at 6:30pm at the High School.

4. RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

a. Appointment – Veterans Service Agent – Jared Sharp

Mr. Sharp was introduced and spoke to the Board. A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Ms. Wilson to appoint Jared Sharp to the position of Veterans Service Agent for the Town of Leicester. The motion passed unanimously.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Charlton Street Speeding Issue

Chief Hurley discussed his report on speeding on Charlton Street based on a resident complaint. Charlton Street has not been renovated in quite some time and it has become a major cut-through with significant increases in traffic. The Chief recommended putting a 30 mph sign at the Charlton/Leicester town line, undertaking tree work to open the canopy, cleaning up the overgrowth on the 30mph sign at the corner of Charlton and River. Reducing speed on the roadway would require a traffic study and a truck restriction would have to be posted on Charlton because there is no turnaround once they reach the Leicester line. Chief discussed the possibility of using rumble strips with signage which would be removed for the winter but could also potentially be stolen; however, if effective, permanent grooves could be cut into the road. Resident Paul Ravina who wrote the letter thanked the Chief for his report. Mr. Ravina discussed having the Town adopt Section 17c of Chapter 90 which can be applied to individual roads, repaving the road but not reengineering it, people using Charlton Street as a cut through from Stafford Street to Route 56, the dangerous of speed by the bus stop at Sabina Circle,

recommended putting up additional signage and radar the road, a three way stop sign at Sabina Circle. Mr. Ravina requested the following signs: a 30mph sign at the Charlton/Leicester Town line, a 30mph sign by 128 Charlton Street, horse crossing sign by the farm and a stop sign for traffic coming down River Street. Mr. Ravina handed out a copy of his recommendations. Paul McCarthy of Charlton Street lives at the bottom of the hill and there has been an increase in children since Sabina Circle was built. Mr. McCarthy recommended putting a line down the middle of the street and trimming back some foliage. Mr. Sharp of Charlton Street said you will need to issue tickets. Mr. Antanavica asked the Chief to put up radar trailers on Charlton once they come in. The Chief felt the area by Sabina Circle is dangerous and needs to be reconstructed. Ms. Provencher asked about putting a stop sign on River Street.

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Antanavica to clear the westbound street sign at River and Charlton, place a 30mph speed sign at the Charlton/Leicester town line, to place a 30mph sign opposite 128 Charlton Street going towards River Street and paint the line down the middle of the road. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Library Renovation & Expansion Project – Rob Para

Rob Para, OPM with Lamoureux Pagano, discussed library change order 12 in the amount of \$26,111.83 and change order 13 in the amount of \$9,042.56. The total change orders to date are \$342,512.94 which represents 5.17% of the total project cost. \$140,000 of this is due to existing conditions/retaining wall changes. Projected change orders would add an additional \$114,200 for a total of \$456,712.94 which represents 6.89% of the total project cost. Mr. Para discussed additional unforeseen costs related to tying into water and sewer. Marc Armington with the Library Building Committee stated that any change order percentage below 10% for a project of this magnitude with renovations to an existing historic building is excellent. Mr. Brooks thanked Mr. Antanavica for his hard work volunteering for this project on behalf of the Board. A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Green to approve change order #12. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve change order #13. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Municipal Energy Aggregation Plan – Good Energy

John O'Rourke with Good Energy discussed the proposed Municipal Energy Aggregation Plan for the Town of Leicester. The proposed plan must be submitted to the Department of Energy Resources for approval and a two week public review period must occur and conclude with a public hearing at a Select Board meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Green and seconded by Ms. Wilson to submit the proposed plan to the Department of Energy Resources for approval. The motion passed unanimously.

d. CDBG Grant Contract Extension

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Antanavica to allow Mr. Brooks to sign the CDBG Grant contract extension. The motion passed unanimously.

e. Senior Center Donations – Veterans Breakfast

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Ms. Wilson to accept the two donations to the Senior Center with thanks from the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

f. Sign State Election Warrant

A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica and seconded by Mr. Green to sign the state election warrant. The motion passed unanimously.

g. Vote on Fall Town Meeting Warrant Articles

Mr. Genereux discussed the proposed earth filling bylaw. An executive session was held with the Select Board, Planning Board, and Town Counsel to discuss legal issues surrounding the inclusion of this bylaw on the Fall Town Meeting warrant. Michelle Buck, Town Planner has reviewed the proposed bylaw for compliance with the Town's local regulations and made non-substantive changes. The goal of the bylaw is to create a permitting process for earth filling which would require a special permit from the Planning Board. The Planning Board public hearing is October 30th at 6pm due to the tight timeframe. The bylaw would address potential resident concerns including origin of the soils, testing, truck traffic etc. The bylaw calls for a public hearing process so citizens can come forward to express their concerns and the Planning Board can work with the soil importer to ensure the project is in the best interest of the residents. Ms. Buck noted that anything other than clean fill is prohibited in the Town's zoning bylaw but there is currently no permitting process or mechanism to stop someone who violates the bylaw. A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Antanavica to put the earth filling bylaw on the warrant. Under discussion, Ms. Provencher summarized the bylaw which would affect the importation, movement, transportation, alternation, redistribution or filling with any earth material in the aggregate volume that is greater than 1,000 cubic yards or 1,500 tons on any property in the Town. Ms. Wilson felt the process was too rushed and recommended waiting until Spring Town Meeting. The motion passed 3-2 with Ms. Wilson and Ms. Provencher casting the opposing votes.

Ms. Buck summarized the other planning articles on the Fall Town Meeting warrant, including amending the poultry bylaw to allow residents to keep a small number of chickens (6-15 depending on lot size) without having to receive a special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals, a temporary moratorium on new medium and large ground mounted solar systems until 2019 Spring Town Meeting in order to improve the current bylaw, reducing the minimum lot size in Residential 1 for parcels with water and sewer from 40,000 to 20,000 square feet and reduce the minimum lot size in suburban agricultural from 80,000 to 50,000 square feet to encourage additional residential development in Town, amending the zoning bylaws that address vehicle related uses including gasoline station, trucking depot, service or repair facility and storage yards to clarify regulations related to these uses and addressing regulations for breweries, distilleries, wineries and cideries to allow them by right in some commercial districts or with a special permit in other districts.

h. Sign Fall Town Meeting Warrant

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Antanavica to sign the fall town meeting warrant. The motion passed unanimously.

i. Trick or Treating Hours – Halloween, 6-8pm

The Board held a discussion regarding the date and time of trick or treating. Mr. Brooks stated it should be held on the Saturday before Halloween to maintain public safety and to give parents time to prepare. After discussion, the Board agreed that for this year, trick or treat should take place on Halloween. A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Antanavica to set trick or treating from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm on October 31st. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Antanavica to put trick or treating on the agenda for the first Board agenda in June. The motion passed unanimously.

j. Letter of Support – Payment to Towns for State Owned Land

The Board discussed a letter of support requested by RuralCommonwealth.org. The letter asks that additional funding be paid by the state for state owned property in towns. Ms. Wilson noted that the Town is receiving \$12,215 for land valued at \$1,585,600. Ms. Wilson further explained the amounts paid by other properties in Town owned by Worcester, Massport and Spencer. A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Ms. Wilson to authorize the Chair to send a letter on behalf of the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

k. **Boston Post Cane Discussion**

Mr. Genereux explained to the Board that the Boston Post Cane has historically been given to the oldest resident in Town. The Board then discussed past traditions before settling on a process for the cane to be awarded at Fall Town Meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Green to have the Board Chair and the Town Clerk to make the presentation of the cane at Town Meetings.

6. REPORTS

a. **Town Administrator Report**

Mr. Genereux noted that the Reliable Bud event will not take place as the Town has a Zoning Bylaw which prohibits the on-site consumption of products and the company stated they can't have the event without on-site consumption.

b. **Select Board Reports**

The Select Board discussed a variety of topics including the Spencer Reliable Bud event, thanking the abutters to the Library Project, the Haz Mat Collection Day this Saturday from 8am to 12pm at the Highway Barn, Drug Take Back Day is Saturday October 27th from 10am to 2pm, Veterans Breakfast Thursday November 8th which is free for veterans and their spouses but must RSVP, upcoming 20th anniversary of the Senior Center, disposal of the Fire Station, be careful with leaves coming down as the streets are slippery, watch out for black ice under the leaves, applications for Hearts for Heat can be obtained at the Senior Center, the Tree Lighting on the Common Ceremony on December 1st, the Lions Halloween Party on Sunday, October 28th from 5-7pm at the Town Hall, the cold and frost coming in, be careful with your wood stoves and come out to Town Meeting on October 30th at 7pm and the Town Meeting Information Session October 16th at 6pm in the Select Board Conference Room.

7. MINUTES

Ms. Forsberg stated that she had received an email from Ms. Wilson containing corrections to the meeting minutes.

a. **September 17, 2018**

b. **October 1, 2018**

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Antanavica to accept the meeting minutes with noted corrections. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Antanavica at 9:56 pm. The motion carried unanimously.