

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 18, 2019 at 6:30pm
TOWN HALL, SELECT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING

Chairwoman Provencher called the meeting to order at 6:31pm. 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. SCHEDULED ITEMS

a. 6:30pm – Resignations/Appointments

• **Resignation – Kara Miller – Assistant Treasurer**

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Green to accept the resignation of Kara Miller, Assistant Treasurer and to send a letter of thanks for service. The motion carried 5:0:0.

• **Appointment – Barbara Paszuk – Council on Aging**

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Brooks to appoint Barbara Paszuk to the Council on Aging. The motion carried 5:0:0.

• **Appointment – Inspector of Animals – Janet King**

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Ms. Wilson to appoint Janet King as the Inspector of Animals from May 1, 2019 through April 30, 2020. The motion carried 5:0:0.

b. 6:35pm – Library Expansion & Renovation Update

This item was passed over

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Residents discussed water and sewer issues in Cherry Valley and Rochdale including the bills being \$300-\$500 per month, putting many families in danger of foreclosure and forcing them to limit showers, laundry and flushing, concerns about shutoff notices sent, the Cherry Valley Sewer District's impending bankruptcy, consolidation of districts, increases to all residents taxes if foreclosures start happening in Town, the impact of the high water costs on businesses, plummeting property values, difficulty selling homes in Cherry Valley, the non-viability of Moose Hill, residents not being able to sell their homes, homes being rendered inhabitable if the water is shut off, using barrels to recycle water and water plants, rates being lower in other towns, holding district meetings at Town Hall, ongoing working group meetings between local, state and federal officials and the water and sewer districts, recognition that this is a Town wide problem, issues of jurisdiction and special legislation that created the water districts and DLS refusing to get involved as the districts are non-taxing entities.

3. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Student Liaison Reports

The student liaisons provided updates from the Leicester Public Schools including spring pictures, community reading, dodgeball night, the freshman/sophomore semi and science fair winners.

b. Select Board Reports

The Select Board discussed various topics including renewing dog licenses, the rabies clinic on April 13th at which dog licenses can be renewed, the fundraiser for Eddie Besse that resulted in the purchase of an accessible van,

the Little League kick off meeting on April 20th, cherry valley sewer increasing their rates by 20% and sale of donated shoes for \$5-\$10 at Deja Nu.

c. Town Administrator Report

The Town Administrator presented highlights from his written report including phone issues at Town Hall, solar panels on the rooftops of town buildings/schools and an update on the Church Street Bridge project which should begin May 6th and be completed by August 14th.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Vote to Authorize Transfer of \$122,000 from the School Special Education Stabilization Account

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Brooks to authorize the expenditure of \$122,000 from the school special education stabilization account. The motion carried 5:0:0.

b. Review Draft Annual Town Meeting Warrant Including:

- **Proposed Prop 2 ½ Override Article**
- **1 Paxton Street Reuse Discussion**
- **Memorial School Disposition Discussion**

After lengthy discussion and input from residents, a motion was made by Mr. Antanavica and seconded by Mr. Brooks to not put the proposed proposition 2 ½ override for the highway department on the ballot. The motion carried 4:1:0 with Mr. Green casting the opposing vote

The Board discussed the condition of 1 Paxton Street based on a report from the building inspector. The Leicester Historical Society asked to be given the opportunity to run the building as a historical museum. The Board wanted a written recommendation on the reuse of the building from the Historical Commission.

The Board discussed the reuse of Memorial School including possible early termination fees for removal of the solar panels on the roof, outstanding debt on the property, the \$40,000 playground and fields and potential reuse options.

Mr. Genereux discussed the draft Annual Town Meeting warrant with the Board. Annual Town Meeting is May 7th at 7pm in the Town Hall Gym.

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Ms. Wilson to continue the meeting past 10pm. The motion carried unanimously.

c. Execute Delegation Agreement for a Police Lieutenant Sole Assessment Center

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Green to execute the delegation agreement for a police lieutenant sole assessment center. The motion carried 3:2 with Mr. Brooks and Mr. Antanavica casting the opposing votes.

d. Execute Delegation Agreement for a Police Chief Sole Assessment Center

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Green to execute the delegation agreement for a police chief sole assessment center. The motion carried 3:1:1 with Mr. Brooks casting the opposing vote and Mr. Antanavica abstaining.

e. Flying Flags at Half Staff for Town Officials and Employees

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Antanavica to approve the flag policy as presented. The motion carried 5:0:0.

5. MINUTES

a. February 25, 2019

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Green to approve the minutes of February 25, 2019. The motion carried 5:0:0.

b. March 4, 2019

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Green to approve the minutes of March 4, 2019. The motion carried 5:0:0.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Antanavica at 10:13pm. The motion carried 5:0:0.