

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**MAY 4, 2020 at 6:30pm**  
**VIRTUAL MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER/OPENING**

Chairwoman Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:32pm. Chair Sandra Wilson, Vice-Chair Harry Brooks, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair Rick Antanavica, Selectwoman Dianna Provencher, Selectman John Shocik, Student Liaison Katheryn Stapel, Town Administrator David Genereux and Assistant to the Town Administrator Kristen Forsberg were in attendance.

**1. SCHEDULED ITEMS**

None

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

No members of the public provided comments

**3. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**a. Student Liaison Reports**

School is out for the rest of the year and students are learning virtually.

**b. Select Board Reports**

The Select Board discussed a variety of topics including the requirement to wear masks in public beginning May 6<sup>th</sup>, the closure of the Worcester Walmart, Ernie's Cars operating despite a cease and desist order on the business, postponing paving on Route 9, happy mothers' day and don't leave items at Deja Nu as they are not currently open and items will be disposed of.

**c. Town Administrator Report**

The Town Administrator presented highlights from his written report. Board of Health Chair Chris Montiverdi provided an update on COVID-19 in Leicester. Mr. Montiverdi stated that there are 98 cases in Town as of today which is 0.9% of the population. This is consistent with the State infection rate. There is a large cluster at the nursing home in Town which is being monitored by the State Department of Public Health. The State is beginning to see a drop in daily hospitalizations (5%; was 6-8%) and daily death rates. 60% of deaths in the State are related to nursing homes and larger cluster locations. The Worcester Regional Public Health Alliance has been in touch with the administrator at the Meadows regarding testing of asymptomatic staff members. Staff testing is not mandated but is required to receive state funding. Walmart has had two employees test positive due to family members who had contracted COVID-19 and were removed from work even though asymptomatic. There is no data yet on who has been cleared off of the quarantine list.

**4. RESIGNATIONS & APPOINTMENTS**

None

**5. OTHER BUSINESS**

**a. Vote to Sign Annual Town Election Warrant**

A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica and seconded by Ms. Provencher to sign the Annual Town Election warrant. Roll call: 5:0:0.

**b. Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance Grant Application**

Ms. Wilson discussed a grant application for \$85,000 to design the replacement of a culvert on Marshall Street. A motion was made by Mr. Shocik and seconded by Ms. Provencher to name the Town Administrator as the Chief Procurement Officer and authorize him to sign the grant application. Roll call: 5:0:0.

**c. FY21 Budget and Annual Town Meeting Warrant Discussion and/or Votes**

Mr. Genereux discussed the revised FY21 draft budget which has been cut by \$200,000 due to anticipated decreases in State assessments and local receipts. Mr. Genereux noted the budget may require future revisions as more information becomes available. The union and nonunion salary increases remain in the budget but are contingent upon available funds. The veterans' budget has been adjusted to reflect the current number of beneficiaries. The budget will likely change again prior to Annual Town meeting and may even need to be cut at Fall Town meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica and seconded by Ms. Provencher to recommend approval of article 13 as presented. Roll call: 5:0:0.

**d. Reserve Fund Transfer Request - \$5,000 – Town Hall Building Maintenance**

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Ms. Provencher to approve a reserve fund transfer request in the amount of \$5,000 for town hall building maintenance. Roll call: 5:0:0.

**e. Reserve Fund Transfer Request - \$8,000 – Highway Department (Hillcrest Irrigation System)**

A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shocik to approve a reserve fund transfer request in the amount of \$8,000 for the hillcrest water system. Roll call: 5:0:0.

**6. MINUTES**

**a. April 27, 2020**

A motion was made by Mr. Shocik and seconded by Mr. Brooks to approve the minutes of April 27, 2020. Roll call: 5:0:0

**7. EXECUTIVE SESSION, MGL CHAPTER 30A, SECTION 21A**

**a. Exception 1 – Discuss complaint brought against a public officer (Fire Station Building Committee)**

A motion was made by Mr. Shocik and seconded by Ms. Provencher to enter into executive session at 7:33pm under MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21A, Exception 1, to discuss a complaint brought against a public officer (Fire Station Building Committee) and to not reconvene in open session. The Chair declared that to discuss these matters in open session would compromise the position of the Town. Roll call: 5:0:0.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shocik at 8:48pm. Roll call: 5:0:0.