

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JULY 20, 2020 AT 6:00PM
VIRTUAL MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING

Chairwoman Provencher called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Chair Dianna Provencher, Vice-Chair Harry Brooks, Second Vice-Chair John Shocik, Selectman Rick Antanavica, Selectman Herb Duggan Jr., Town Administrator David Genereux and Assistant to the Town Administrator Kristen Forsberg were in attendance.

1. SCHEDULED ITEMS

None

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Resident Doug Belanger of 13 Harberton Drive requested the Select Board read and respond to the letter sent in from his neighbor David Baril expressing concerns about a potential increase in water on his property resulting from the Fire & EMS Headquarters water mitigation project.

3. RESIGNATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

a. Resignation – Building Inspector – David McRae

A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica and seconded by Mr. Shocik to accept the resignation of Building Inspector David McRae and to send a letter of thanks for service. Roll call: 5:0:0.

b. Appointment – Conservation Commission – Steve Paretti

A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica and seconded by Mr. Shocik to appoint Steve Paretti to the Conservation Commission for a three-year term. Roll call: 5:0:0.

c. Appointment – Highway Seasonal Laborer – Nick Miller

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Antanavica to appoint Nick Miller and Conor Higgins as highway seasonal laborers. Roll call: 5:0:0.

d. Appointment – Highway Seasonal Laborer – Conor Higgins

See above – joint motion made

e. FY21 Appointments to Boards and Committees

A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica and seconded by Mr. Shocik to approve all FY21 appointments to boards and committees as listed in the packet. Roll call: 5:0:0.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Contract – BSC – Community Compact Culvert Assessment

A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica and seconded by Mr. Shocik to authorize the Chair to sign a contract with BSC for a culvert assessment through the community compact grant. Roll call: 5:0:0.

b. Discuss Contractor Use of Compost Area at the Recycling Center

Highway Superintendent Dennis Griffin expressed concerns regarding root balls, large brush and large logs being dropped off at the Recycling Center. Highway does not have the space, time or manpower to compost these items and the cost to have an outside company do it is \$10-\$12K per year. There were concerns regarding whether contractors with keys were dumping these items. Several Recycling volunteers confirmed that these

items were coming primarily from residents and that they weren't aware these items could not be taken. The need for additional monitoring when residents are dropping off items was discussed.

Mr. Genereux also expressed concern about potential anti-aid violations by spending public dollars to process materials from private contractors at a very low cost. The five contractors using the Center pay \$30 per year per vehicle, a \$75 annual fee and a key deposit of \$75. Increasing the annual cost for contractors was discussed as a possibility. Concerns about out of town contractors bringing in materials that may contain the Asian Long Horned beetle were raised. The Board asked the Town Administrator to look into the legality of providing this service to private contractors and the Recycling Committee to come back with a plan to address the concerns raised. This item will be discussed again at the August 17th select board meeting.

c. Request to Purchase Radios for the Fire & EMS Headquarters

Fire Chief/EMS Director Bob Wilson discussed the need to purchase backup radios for the headquarters due to two recent incidents where the on duty crew did not hear the tones; one was due to an antennae that was blown down by the wind which has been fixed. Chief Wilson noted the Building Committee held off on purchasing these radios due to funding concerns. The radio grant that the Police Department has applied for only overlaps with this request on one radio which could still be used in the day room of the station. The proposed system would allow fire and ems personnel to talk to MEMA and other Towns as well as set up an emergency operations center where police, fire and highway radios could be monitored. A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Shocik to approve the request to purchase radios for the Fire & EMS Headquarters. Under discussion, Mr. Duggan stated he reviewed the list and nothing looked excessive and also expressed interest in helping select a company. Roll call: 4:0:1 (Mr. Antanavica abstained).

d. FY21 Town Administrator Goals

This item will be discussed at the August 17th meeting.

e. Authorize Chair to sign letter regarding Capital Committee voting on recommendation for Waite Pond Dam

A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica and seconded by Mr. Shocik to authorize the chair to sign a letter regarding the capital committee voting on the recommendation for the Waite Pond Dam. Roll call: 5:0:0.

5. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Town Administrator Report

The Town Administrator presented highlights from his written report.

b. Select Board Reports

The Select Board discussed a variety of topics including the ability for nonprofit clubs in town to operate during Phase 3, renewing the Town's agreement with the Worcester Regional Public Health Alliance, thanks for service to Amber Keats who returned from deployment in Iraq, thanks to all first responders for their efforts during the pandemic, a reminder to dump standing water around your house to reduce mosquitos, wearing DEET and checking for ticks, the upcoming Burncoat Park Sports Planning Committee meeting, the removal of double poles on the common and that the summer concert series is going well.

6. MINUTES

a. June 29, 2020

b. July 7, 2020

A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica and seconded by Mr. Shocik to approve the minutes of June 29th and July 7th with one change: FY21 goals were slated to be discussed on July 20th, not July 7th. Roll call: 5:0:0.

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

No executive session was held

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Antanavica at 8:07pm. Roll call: 5:0:0.