

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
JUNE 20, 2016 AT 6:30PM  
TOWN HALL, SELECTMEN'S CONFERENCE ROOM**

**CALL TO ORDER/OPENING**

Chairman Belanger called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Chairman Douglas Belanger, Vice Chair Harry Brooks, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Thomas E. Buckley, III, Selectwoman Dianna Provencher, Selectman Michael Shivick, Town Administrator Kevin Mizikar, Assistant to the Town Administrator Kristen Forsberg and Student Liaisons Jaymi-Lyn Souza and Robert Kemp were in attendance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

No members of the public provided comment

**1. SCHEDULED**

**a. Reorganization of the Board**

Mr. Shivick nominated Dianna Provencher to remain in the position of Chair of the Board of Selectmen. The nomination failed 1:3 with one abstention (Ms. Provencher).

Mr. Buckley nominated Mr. Belanger for Chair of the Board. The nomination was approved 3:1 with one abstention (Mr. Belanger). Mr. Belanger accepted the nomination.

Mr. Buckley nominated Mr. Brooks for Vice Chair of the Board. The nomination was approved unanimously. Mr. Brooks accepted the nomination.

Ms. Provencher nominated Mr. Buckley for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair of the Board. The nomination was approved unanimously. Mr. Buckley accepted the nomination.

**2. CORRESPONDENCE**

**a. Student Liaison Reports**

The Student Liaisons congratulated Mr. Shivick on his election victory and also noted that Emily Fontaine received a callback for The Voice. No written reports will be provided during the summer.

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Resignations**

None

**b. Wiring Inspector Appointment – John Markley**

Upon the recommendation of Jeff Taylor, Building Inspector, Mr. Mizikar is recommending John Markley for the position of Wiring Inspector.

A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Buckley to appoint John Markley to the position of Wiring Inspector. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Buckley asked if we have an alternate wiring inspector. Mr. Mizikar noted we have advertised for the position and received applications but the goal was to appoint the wiring inspector and have him assist in selecting the alternate.

**c. FY'17 Board and Committee Appointments**

A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shivick to make the FY'17 Board and Committee appointments as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**d. Special Bylaw Committee Appointments**

Mr. Mizikar noted this item will be moved to the next agenda but noted either Board members or appointees could fill these positions.

**e. Dissolve Energy Study Advisory Committee**

As the Energy Study Advisory Committee has fulfilled its charge and the project will be complete by the end of the month, Mr. Mizikar recommended dissolving the Energy Study Advisory Committee.

A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Buckley to dissolve the Energy Study Advisory Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

**4. DISCUSSION/OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Green Communities Designation**

Mr. Mizikar received an email from CMRPC offering up to \$7500 in funding per community to support planning, strategy and marketing outreach as it relates to obtaining a green community designation. As this issue has come up several times in the past and has been voted down at Town Meeting, Mr. Mizikar wanted to discuss this opportunity with the Board. The Town has met all the criteria except for the stretch energy code which has been the point of contention. If the Town pursues this grant opportunity, the Board would not have to take the issue to Town Meeting if they were not satisfied with the results of the study. The stretch energy code is no longer such a stretch; it is close to the code all Towns live by now. The energy project was \$2.1M in scope but identified \$1M in needs. Communities with this designation have received \$27.8M in grants statewide since its inception and many communities have received a half a million or more to pursue a wide variety of energy initiatives.

Mr. Buckley asked if the grant requires a match. Mr. Mizikar responded that it does not. Mr. Buckley asked if the funding could be used to educate the community again and Mr. Mizikar responded that it could be used to do so and that CMRPC would provide the marketing support and work closely with DOER through public info sessions, mailers etc. Mr. Belanger noted it has been shot down three times on Town Hall floor. Mr. Brooks asked if Mr. Mizikar has ever presented it. Mr. Mizikar stated it was at his first meeting three weeks in on the job but now there are 155 communities with this designation and a lot of funding opportunities. For example, changing street lights to LED to save some of the approximately \$90K we spend annually.

Mr. Brooks stated that the way Mr. Mizikar explains items at Town Meeting is informative and helpful and he is in favor of presenting it again at Town Meeting. Mr. Belanger noted the issue was that this would require our code to be tougher than current state law so we would need to highlight what has changed early on because people get tired of seeing things four times when they've said no three times. Ms. Provencher noted residents would have to hire a special inspector for certain things which may cost a few thousand dollars extra on a new home. Mr. Mizikar noted that does not apply to additions, etc. Mr. Belanger recommended having a meeting and inviting contractors in and finding out their concerns ahead of time and checking with the Leicester Business Association.

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Buckley to direct Mr. Mizikar to proceed with the application for CMRPC funding for planning, strategy and marketing outreach relative to obtaining a Green Communities Designation. The motion carried unanimously.

**b. Town Common Sign – Linda Colby**

Mr. Brooks asked that this item be added to the agenda to publically thank Linda Colby for redoing the sign on the Common as a beautiful night scene and asked that a thank you be sent. Linda had noted that the originally wood is starting to rot and we only have a few more years left with the sign.

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Ms. Provencher to send a letter of thanks to Linda Colby for repainting the sign on the Town Common. The motion carried unanimously.

**c. Assign Selectmen to Annual Liaison Positions**

This item was moved to the next agenda. Mr. Belanger asked that the Selectmen submit their requests for positions to him.

**d. Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator Goals**

Mr. Mizikar included an updated on the Town Administrator goals in the packet with a new memo. Significant progress has been made through staff. The community is on sure footing as reported at Town Meeting but the Town can't progress, grow or add services unless it expands the tax base on both the commercial and residential sides. This year the EDSAT was completed along with the water study and a meeting with Secretary Jay Ash. These studies showed a number of challenges within the physical environment and the Town's policies and guides to creating new revenue and expanding the tax based which prevent us from growing services. These issues will be further discussed this summer and incorporated into the new goaling process for next year and the Board's 3-5 year goals. The challenges to the physical environment include water study capacity and quality issues which stymie economic growth depending on where businesses want to locate. Infrastructure challenges keep Leicester locked into its current economic state. Also, the Town's 2002 Master Plan changed lot sizes to promote low density development. While this has many identifying characteristics of our community, we may have to pursue some higher density residential development if we want new programs and resources to be in place for the community. This would be done through planning and consensus building and we would be smart about it when doing it. Mr. Belanger mentioned TIF type incentives and Mr. Buckley mentioned the issue of natural gas on Huntoon Memorial Highway.

**5. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

The Town Administrator presented highlights from his written report.

**6. BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORTS**

Mr. Shivick stated it is a pleasure to be here and thanked the townspeople for voting him in and is looking forward to working with the board. He stated Towtaid Park is an issue with nonresidents in the area late at night making people feel uneasy. Police discovered a bb gun there recently. Mr. Shivick asked for clarification on the campaign signs on 1 Paxton Street because people perceive it to be an issue even it its allowed in the purchase and sale. Mr. Mizikar stated the Town owns 1 Paxton Street but the former property owner lives there and is under a use and occupancy agreement, a lease if you will, and does have the right to free speech through the first amendment. Mr. Mizikar noted the use and occupancy agreement allows her to live there for six months from the execution of the purchase and sale which was February 22<sup>nd</sup> and would terminate August 22<sup>nd</sup> without an extension. It makes sense to have a tenant in the building, however, until using it as a temporary library so the Town does not have to winterize and maintain it at our expense.

Mr. Buckley participated in the Ron Tarentino car show yesterday and it was packed. 100% of all donated went to the family. Mr. Buckley welcomed Mr. Shivick and is looking forward to working with him.

Mr. Brooks congratulated Art Paquette and LCAC on the great job they do and especially the new back screen.

Ms. Provencher welcomed Mr. Shivick to the Board and congratulated him on his win.

Mr. Belanger noted there are many fundraisers throughout the area going on for the Tarentino family and everyone's love, thoughts and prayers are with the family. The Sons of the American Legion sponsored their first annual honor your fathers dinner the night before father's day and it went off very well.

## **7. MINUTES**

### **a. June 6, 2016**

A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Buckley to approve the minutes of June 6, 2016. The motion carried unanimously with one abstention (Mr. Shivick).

## **8. EXECUTIVE SESSION, MGL CHAPTER 30A, SECTION 21A**

### **a. Exception 2 – Negotiations with nonunion personnel**

### **b. Minutes of March 21, 2016 and April 25, 2016**

A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shivick to enter into executive session at 7:20pm and to resume in open session only for the purchase of adjournment.

### **Vote by Roll Call:**

Belanger – Aye

Brooks - Aye

Buckley – Aye

Provencher – Aye

Shivick - Aye

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Buckley at 7:36pm. The motion carried unanimously.