

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 15, 2021 AT 6:00PM
TOWN HALL, SELECT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM**

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING

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

1. SCHEDULED ITEMS

a. 6:00pm – Castle Cantina Tapas Bar and Restaurant

Suhaily Quinones discussed the Spanish restaurant opening at the former Castle Restaurant. In addition to food from Spain, there will be live entertainment, wine tasting and private events. Winter hours will be 3-10pm weeknights and 3-11pm on the weekends, closed Mondays. The owners plan to open in December.

b. 6:00pm – Prestige Auto Vehicle License Violation Hearing (continued from 11/1/21)

Chief Dupuis discussed the need for an updated plan to scale which has yet to be provided. The Chief requested a set of full-size plans to scale in order to make the proper decisions on site layout such as how many cars can fit on the site while meeting fire lane requirements. Chief Dupuis and Inspector Wilson went down to the business three weeks ago. Mr. Bahnan has made some improvements and has purchased some containment units to store fuel. There are still items which need to be removed from the site. Conservation has signed off on the land clearing plan.

Motion 111521-1b: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Shocik to continue the hearing to 12/6 and to send official notification to Prestige Auto informing them they must draw up a plot plan to scale for the current existing space that shows how many cars it can hold and provide it to the Fire Chief at least five days in advance of 12/6. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

c. 6:15pm - Discuss/Vote on Request to Use Becker Gym – LHS Track Team

Motion 111521-1c1: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shocik to approve the request by the LHS track team to use the Becker Gym on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11/29-2/17 from 2:30-4:30pm. Under discussion, the Board discussed concerns including the no maintenance, no current fee schedule, the added cost of utilities as the buildings are currently closed down, the added cost of outdoor winter maintenance, the availability of other gyms in town, the need to clean out the buildings, and the lack of trash receptacles or dumpsters. **Motion failed 1:3:0.**

Motion 111521-1c2: A motion was made by Mr. Shocik and seconded by Mr. Phillips to shut down the Becker campus, both indoors and outdoors, from further use with the exception of previously approved events until the Board receives feedback from the Becker committees and has a plan to move forward. **Motion carries 3:1:0.**

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Greg Buteau, 2 Merrick Street, asked about ARPA funding uses. Mr. Genereux stated the Board is waiting for final recommendations on the water/sewer study before finalizing recommendations.

Bob Mercer, 65 Crystal Street, discussed the importance of field maintenance before winter including lime and seed. Mr. Genereux stated that he is speaking with the Highway Superintendent this week regarding this matter.

3. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Student Liaison Reports

The student liaisons provided updates from the Leicester Public Schools.

b. Report of the Town Administrator's Office

The Town Administrator presented highlights from his written report.

c. Select Board Reports

The Select Board discussed various topics including the recent Council on Aging meeting, Veterans Breakfast, the 100th anniversary of the rededication of Cooney Square, the Cherry Valley Legion flag disposal ceremony, adding a public information officer discussion to the next agenda, fuel assistance, Happy Thanksgiving and thank you to all who volunteered for the Veterans Breakfast.

d. Shop Leicester First Proclamation

Motion 111521-3d: A motion was made by and seconded by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shocik to proclaim the month of December as Shop Leicester First month. **The motion carries 4:0:0.**

4. RESIGNATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

a. Appointment – Gas Inspector – Matthew Poce

Motion 111521-4a: A motion was made by Mr. Shocik and seconded by Ms. Provencher to appoint Matthew Poce to the position of Gas Inspector. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

b. Appointment – Colleen Plante – Part-Time Benefitted Paramedic

Motion 111521-4b: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shocik to appoint Colleen Plante to the position of Part-Time Benefitted Paramedic. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

c. Appointment – John Eldridge – Cable Advisory Committee

This item was moved to the December 6th meeting.

d. Local Emergency Planning Committee Reorganization and Appointments

Motion 111521-4d1: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shocik to remove Robert Wilson and appoint Chief Michael Dupuis to the Fire Representative position and to remove Chris Montiverdi and appoint Jason Main to the Director of Emergency Management position. **Motion carries 4:0:0**

Motion 111521-4d2: A motion was made by Mr. Shocik and seconded by Ms. Provencher to reorganize the Local Emergency Planning Committee to include 9 positions as follows: Director of Emergency Management, Select Board Representative, Town Administrator, Public Works Representative, Police Representative, Conservation Representative, Media Representative, Community Representative and Fire Representative. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

e. Select Board Appointments to Becker Reuse Working Groups

The Board asked the Town Administrator to add a Swan Library Reuse Working Group to consist of Mr. Shocik, Mr. Phillips and one member of the public with the building inspector serving in an ad-hoc role. The State Police intend to submit a proposal to use the Swan Library as a museum. Resident Greg Buteau, 2 Merrick Street, expressed concerns regarding open meeting law compliance and the number of working groups. Mr. Genereux stated all meetings would be posted on the website.

Motion 111521-4e: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Ms. Provencher to appoint Select Board members to their respective Becker working groups as listed in the memo, to approve the layout of each committee and their purpose, to add a Swan Library Reuse Committee with a member of the public, and to eliminate one public member on the Becker Reuse Committee and add one EDC member and one Associate Student Liaison. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

5. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Discuss/Vote on Right of First Refusal (MGL Chapter 61, Section 8) – Huntoon Memorial Highway Land

Motion 111521-5a: A motion was made by Mr. Shocik and seconded by Mr. Phillips not to exercise the Town's right of first refusal for the purchase of land on Huntoon Memorial Highway. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

b. Discuss/Vote on FY22 Public Safety Earmark Contract

Motion 111521-5b: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Shocik to authorize the Chair to sign the FY22 public safety State earmark contract. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

c. Discuss/Vote on Sale of Memorial School

Mr. Genereux discussed the possibility of surplusing the Memorial School property now that the Town has acquired Becker College. The building was vandalized over the summer and has a \$250,000 mold issue. The Town lacks the funds to maintain this building. Mr. Genereux recommended putting out an RFP which is a qualitative process designed to allow the Board to look at proposed uses and determine what fits best for the Town and the neighborhood. There is no requirement to accept any of the proposals if the Town does not want to. It would put the site back into productive use and would become a taxable property if purchased by a private entity. Town Meeting has authorized the sale of the property the school sits on only, not the fields. Mr. Genereux recommended recognizing the donation made by the Smith family and allowing the fields to be named in their honor. To date, five interested parties have contacted the office; a local manufacturer, a nonprofit seeking to open a live-in educational facility and 3 other parties who have not offered specifics.

Tom Brennan representing the Smith family stated the land was donated to the Town in 1950 to build a school to accommodate the residential growth the town needed at that time. The family would like the land to remain restricted for educational purposes only and for the adjacent family land and neighborhood to be protected. The Board asked Mr. Genereux to meet with the Smith family to discuss this matter and bring it back to the Board at a future meeting.

d. Discuss/Vote on 2022 License Renewals

- 1. Hot Dog Annie's 244 Paxton Street: Common Victualler (CV) & Bring Your Own Booze (BYOB)**
- 2. Raul's Automotive 81 South Main Street: Motor Vehicle Repair (MVR)**
- 3. Farmhouse Diner 15 South Main Street: CV & BYOB**
- 4. Blue Collar Vintage Salvage 468 Auburn Street: General Entertainment (Gen. Ent.) & Junk Dealer**
- 5. Deer Pond Auto Repair 14 Huntoon Mem. Hwy: Auto Body Repair & Class II**
- 6. Good Guys Pizza 865 Main Street: BYOB**
- 7. C. Siwek Auto 350 Marshall Street: Class II**
- 8. G&L Auto Sales 449 Main Street: Outdoor Bus.**
- 9. Cheoy Lee's 1205 Main Street: CV**
- 10. Uncle Jay's Twisted Fork 509 Stafford Street, Cherry Valley: CV & BYOB**
- 11. Walmart 20 Soojian Drive: MVR**
- 12. Blue Collar Vintage Salvage 468 Auburn Street: Class II & Class III**
- 13. Davis Auto Repair 1655 Main Street: MVR**
- 14. Desmarais Auto Repair 1067 Stafford Street: MVR**

15. Worcester County Welding, Corp. 101 Huntoon Mem Hwy: MVR
16. Subway of Leicester 1199 Main Street: CV
17. Subway of Walmart 20 Soojian Drive: CV

Motion 111521-5d: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Ms. Provencher to approve the FY22 license renewals as listed. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

6. MINUTES

- a. **October 14, 2021**
- b. **November 1, 2021**
- c. **November 8, 2021**

Motion 111521-6c: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shocik to approve the minutes of October 14, 2021, November 1, 2021 and November 8, 2021. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session was held

Motion 111521-7: A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Phillips at 8:41pm. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**