

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MAY 21, 2018 at 6:30pm
TOWN HALL, SELECT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING

Chairman Brooks called the meeting to order at 6:32pm. Chairman Harry Brooks, Vice-Chair Dianna Provencher, 2nd Vice-Chair Sandra Wilson, Selectman Douglas Belanger, Selectman Brian Green, Town Administrator David Genereux, Assistant to the Town Administrator Kristen Forsberg and Student Liaisons Alyssa Pupillo and Robert Kemp were in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Students organizing a march to stop gun violence asked to march through Leicester on Route 9 on June 27th beginning at approximately 11am. The group wanted to use Towtaid Park for a 15 minute break during the walk but the Board recommended using Lions Park due to the potential closure of Church Street Bridge. Ms. Forsberg noted the group has spoken with Chief Hurley and do not need permits to march down Route 9 as it is a State road and does not fall under the Select Board's jurisdiction. The group was seeking a letter of non opposition from the Board. See further discussion under Select Board reports.

1. SCHEDULED

a. 6:30pm – Library Expansion & Renovation Project – Rob Para, OPM

Rob Para, OPM with Lamoureux Pagano noted the library project is 50% finished. Most of the interior utility systems are underway and they have started the drywall on the lower flower. Due to the good weather, the site work has been moving along at a good pace. To date, there are \$148,000 in change orders for the project plus an additional \$7,000 for windows that have been voted on but not yet put into a change order. The change orders represent 2.5% of the overall project budget.

Mr. Para discussed the water line connection fee of \$67,394.09 and the sewer line connection fee which is still under negotiations but estimated to be \$20,000. Mr. Para noted the Building Committee may ask the Town to cover the police detail to save on expenses. A MassDOT highway permit must be obtained prior to opening the road to do this work and this is in progress. Ms. Wilson asked if curb to curb paving was required when putting in sewer lines. Mr. Para responded this was not required by MassDOT in the preliminary discussions.

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Ms. Provencher to delay approving the sewer connection change order until the June 4, 2018 meeting. Under discussion, Ms. Wilson noted that the Town has not paid for police details in the past except through construction contracts. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Ms. Wilson to approve a change order in the amount of \$67,394.09 for the water line connection fee. The motion carried unanimously.

b. 6:30pm – Worcester Regional Airport Update – Andy Davis

Andy Davis, Airport Director at Worcester Regional Airport, provided an update on the Worcester Regional Airport. Massport purchased the airport in 2010 and is investing considerably into the airport, in excess of \$100M, including the Category 3 landing system commissioned in March. This system allows commercial airplanes to land in thick fog with 600 feet visibility and 50 feet above the ground. The airport is attracting more airlines and more airline activity to the airport. Jet Blue now serves JFK which opens Worcester up to the world and connects the world to Worcester and Central Mass. Massport has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Leicester to assist with the snow drifting surrounding the airport and are making roadway improvements along Mulberry Street. American Airlines will begin flying to Philadelphia in the near future.

Retrics Aviation up at the airport has put a private investment of \$7.8M into the airport. The airport is seeing a 40% increase in commercial jets and charter planes including flights to Hyannis. There are over a million people in New England that live closer to Worcester Regional Airport than any other airport in the area. General and commercial aviation are growing and people want options when they travel. The Worcester airport has a significant economic impact on the region estimated at \$46 million plus 300,000 jobs and \$13 million in salaries. Mr. Brooks asked how the airport benefits Leicester. Mr. Davis responded that there is economic impact on the Town through local job creation and transportation options which improve people's quality of life. Mr. Brooks asked if Massport offers grants to surrounding communities and Mr. Davis stated he would send out information. Much of Massport's focus is on summer internships for students replenishing trees, maintaining parks and improving ballfields. Mr. Belanger recommending scheduling a meeting with the Select Board after the Massport quarterly meetings to update the Board.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Student Liaison Reports

The students provided an update on the Leicester Public Schools including information regarding the Memorial Day Program, project fairs, spring concert, 6th grade parent orientation, Star Wars short film which premiered May 4th to a packed crowd at the High School, 8th grade Washington D.C. field trip, Senior Dinner Dance held at Holy Cross, finals this week, Class Day and graduation on May 31st at Mechanics Hall.

b. Girl Scout Silver Award Ceremony Invite

Mr. Brooks read a letter from the Girl Scouts requesting a letter of commendation for Girl Scouts receiving the Silver Award. A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Ms. Provencher to sign the certificates of recognition for the Girl Scouts receiving the Silver Award. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Wilson noted she would attend the ceremony and bring the certificates.

c. Senior Center Donation(s)

A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Ms. Wilson to accept the donation, deposit it into the Senior Center donation account and to send a letter of thanks for the Select Board. The motion carried unanimously.

d. Summer Concert Series Letter

Mr. Brooks read a letter from Ms. Ivel requesting the use of porta potties for the Summer Concerts on the Common as opposed to using the bathrooms in Town Hall. A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Ms. Provencher to allow porta potties for the summer concert series instead of using the Town Hall restrooms. The motion carried 4:1 with Mr. Brooks casting the opposing vote. Mr. Genereux noted he is working on a way to install a bathroom in the gym so the gym can be used but remain closed off from the Town offices.

3. NEW BUSINESS

a. Review Economic Development Committee Composition

Ms. Forsberg presented a request from the Economic Development Committee to add two alternate positions to Committee that can vote in the absence of a regular voting member. Four applications were received for 2 at-large seats and 3 applicants interviewed before the Committee. A motion was made by Mr. Belanger and seconded by Ms. Provencher to add two one year alternate positions to the Economic Development Committee that can vote in the absence of a regular voting member. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Appointments – Economic Development Committee

A motion was made by Mr. Belanger and seconded by Ms. Provencher to appoint Erik Lerdal and Sarah Taylor as at-large members of the Economic Development Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Belanger and seconded by Ms. Provencher to appoint Sarah Miller to the first alternate position on the Economic Development Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

c. Appointment – Special Police Officer

Chief Hurley presented a request to appoint David Bousquet as a Special Police Officer through the end of the fiscal year and asked he be reappointed next year. A motion was made by Mr. Belanger and seconded by Ms. Wilson to appoint David Bousquet as a Special Police Officer. The motion carried unanimously.

d. Appointment – Board of Fire Engineers

A motion was made by Mr. Belanger and seconded by Ms. Provencher to appoint Robert Wilson, Mike Dupuis and Matt Tebo to the Board of Fire Engineers through April 30, 2019. The motion carried unanimously with one abstention (Ms. Wilson).

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson and seconded by Ms. Provencher to appoint Captain/Fire Inspector Mike Wilson to the Board of Fire Engineers through April 30, 2019. Ms. Wilson requested Mr. Wilson be appointed to the Board of Fire Engineers as the Fire Inspector should have a seat on the board especially given the input he has working with the business community and that the last time a Board appointment was made, Mr. Wilson was the runner up. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Forsberg asked if the Board of Fire Engineers could be put on the regular appointment schedule which runs from July 1 to June 30. Ms. Wilson responded per State statute they must be appointed on a May 1 to April 30 schedule.

e. Use of FY19 Chapter 90 Funds

Mr. Griffin presented his FY19 Chapter 90 spending plan. Ms. Wilson asked if the small section of Green Street which connects to River Street would be paved and Mr. Griffin does not believe it is included but will check. Extensive drainage will be added to Green Street due to major issues on the section of roadway at the top of the hill. Mr. Green asked if Massport could help fix the culvert on Marshall Street over Southwick Brook. Mr. Genereux agreed to look into this. Mr. Griffin thought that this might be eligible for the MassDOT Small Bridge Repair program.

Mr. Griffin discussed equipment issues at the Highway Department. One of the sanders needs a new body. The cost for a stainless steel compound body is \$58,000 which Mr. Griffin asked to fund out of Chapter 90 monies. The Town is down two sanders at this time. Mr. Genereux asked Mr. Griffin to put together a list of highway capital needs. These issues will be discussed at the Capital Improvement Planning Committee tomorrow night.

A motion was made by Mr. Belanger and seconded by Ms. Provencher to support the use of Chapter 90 funds for the dump truck body. Under discussion, Ms. Wilson asked if this would take funding away from the road improvement plan and Mr. Genereux responded that this would come out of unallocated Chapter 90 funds. The motion carried unanimously.

f. DEP Glass Grant

Mr. Genereux noted he met with Dennis Griffin, Ruth Kaminski and Irene Congdon from DEP regarding the DEP grant for grinding glass. A site, pad and storage area would have to be set up for the incoming glass and the glass ground by the grinding company. Other Towns would pay to transport glass to the Town. Mr. Genereux cited potential issues with this program including finding the market for ground glass and finding the space to contain the ground glass. There also needs to be enough room for trucks to enter, turn around, dump glass etc. Mr. Griffin calculated that approximately 2 acres would be needed for this. The grant deadline is June 11th and

is for up to \$150,000 for site prep, fencing, etc. Mr. Brooks asked if there was any competition for the grant. Mr. Genereux responded that Groton is looking to put in a full glass crushing center on site but this site would not compete with Leicester as we would serve the western market. Mr. Genereux felt there was currently not enough information to determine if this program is in the best interest of the Town but that he would continue to move ahead with the grant application as the Town can always say no if the site does not work.

4. DISCUSSION/OLD BUSINESS

a. Summer Meeting Schedule

The Board set the summer meetings for June 11th, July 9th, August 6th, September 10. The normal schedule would resume in October.

b. Board and Committee Appointment Policy

Mr. Genereux presented a first read of the draft Board & Committee Appointment policy for the Board's review. Mr. Genereux noted this policy is a little more strict than what has been used in the past and requires candidates for reappointment to apply. It also requires residency in the Town of Leicester and that the applicant be registered to vote. The Board discussed the residency issue as reappointment process. The policy will be reviewed and taken up again at a future meeting.

c. Discussion of Reducing Speed on Route 56

Chief Hurley discussed the golf cart accident by Hillcrest and visibility issues at Holcomb Street. The speed limit on that portion of Pleasant Street is 35mph. Chief stated he would not be opposed to going down to 30mph or even 25mph. Ms. Wilson clarified that it is 40mph through the golf course after which it changes to 35mph. Mr. Brooks finds the road to be very dangerous at 35mph and would be very happy changing the speed to 25mph. Mr. Genereux will meet with the Chief and the Highway Superintendent and come back with a recommendation. Chief noted that there has only been one golf cart accident in the 13 years he has been with the Town. The Board discussed looking at crosswalk flashing lights and making them low enough so people riding in a golf cart can reach them.

d. Streetlight Policy

The Board discussed who should pay for streetlights in new subdivisions. Ms. Wilson noted that residents on private roads with associations have been required by the Planning Board to pay for their own streetlights. The Board also discussed the number and location of streetlights on roads. A motion was made by Mr. Belanger and seconded by Ms. Provencher to have the Police Department determine the number and locations of streetlights going in to subdivisions and for the Town to only accept the responsibility for paying for the lights once the road is accepted as a public way by the Town. The motion carried 4:1 with Mr. Brooks casting the opposing vote.

e. Leroux Liquors Fence Discussion

Mr. Genereux presented two proposals for a fence behind Leroux's Liquors. Mr. Genereux noted this is a Town owned fence which will go on Town property. Miller Fencing is proposing the same design as the existing fence around the Fire & EMS Headquarters which is preferable to keep up the appearance of the project. The Miller Fence quote includes prevailing wage which the Town is required to pay. Mr. Genereux presented a second quote from the property owner at just under \$10,000 for one side of the fence but stated he is not sure this includes prevailing wage. Mr. Genereux noted Miller Fence has distribution rights within 50 miles for the type of fence at the Fire & EMS Headquarters. The second quote would be a similar fence but not exactly the same. There was some discussion as to whether or not the Horizon quote includes site work and the second side of the fence. Highway Superintendent Dennis Griffin did not recommend putting a fence down along the driveway due to the impact on snow removal operations and the need for clear access for emergency vehicles. Mr. Belanger noted when the station was being constructed the Town said we would be good neighbors and

there was discussion of fencing. Mr. Belanger asked if arborvitaes could be placed down the driveway and a fence put at the back of the property. Ms. Wilson stated in all meetings Mr. Patel has been opposed to a green solution. Mr. Griffin noted that during a large storm the trees will be buried and will die of freezer burn. Mr. Brooks stated discussions were had with Kevin Mizikar and Mr. Patel about the fence behind Leroux Liquors but not along the driveway. Ms. Wilson noted the fencing along the back of the property was proposed but that planning board recommended six trees be placed along the back property line instead. Mr. Belanger believes the Town made commitments and did not follow through. Mr. Griffin recommended reestablishing the wrought iron fence along the driveway and compromising by putting a fence in behind Leroux's property. Mr. Belanger stated the Board needed more information from the Town Administrator prior to moving forward.

A motion was made by Mr. Belanger and Mr. Green to table the item to a future meeting date. The motion carried unanimously. Under discussion, Mr. Genereux stated it would be very difficult to put anything on the driveway side which leaves two choices: either running the fence halfway across just Mr. Patel's property (\$5,000 plus site work) or running the fence all the way down to meet the existing fence (\$10,000 plus site work). Mr. Genereux recommended funding the chosen option out of the general fund at fall Town Meeting as there are still needs at the Fire Station and does not believe that project should be shorted. Mr. Belanger asked that the motion be rescinded. A motion was made by Mr. Green and seconded by Ms. Wilson to select the first option of running the fence just along the back of Mr. Patel's property. Under discussion, some Board members felt the other option was more of a compromise as the first option skips a section of the fence. Ms. Wilson rescinded her motion. A motion was made by Mr. Belanger and seconded by Mr. Brooks to select the second option to run the fence across the entire length of the back of the station and join it with the existing fence. The motion failed 2:3 with Ms. Provencher, Ms. Wilson and Mr. Green casting the opposing votes. The Board agreed to take up this item again at a future meeting.

5. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

The Town Administrator gave highlights from his written report including his work on the MSBA application for the Middle School Feasibility Study and research on the glass grant over the past week since the last meeting.

6. MINUTES

a. April 23, 2018, May 1, 2018 & May 15, 2018

A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Belanger to approve the minutes of April 23rd May 1st and May 15th. The motion carried unanimously.

7. SELECT BOARD REPORTS

The Board discussed a variety of topics including dissent regarding the vote taken at the last meeting on the Millbrook Cultivation Facility Host Community Agreement, that the apartment above Hillcrest's rent is included in the rent the Town receives for the entire building, writing a letter of non opposition for the march through Town on June 27th against gun violence, the Memorial Day Parade, the Tarentino dedication ceremony, the Special Olympics, net school spending not having been accurately reported and in the process of being revised and the CMRPC legislative affairs breakfast.

8. FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

No future meeting topics were discussed.

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

No executive session was held.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Belanger at 9:53pm. The motion carried unanimously.