

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28, 2022 AT 6:00 PM
SWAN LIBRARY, 13 WASHBURN SQUARE
LEICESTER, MA 01524**

SELECT BOARD RETREAT

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING

Chair Antanavica called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. Chair Rick Antanavica, Vice-Chair John Shocik, Second Vice-Chair Herb Duggan Jr., Selectman Dianna Provencher, Selectman Allen Phillips, Town Administrator David Genereux was in attendance.

Discuss Board Policy Manual – There was no discussion on this topic

Discuss 3-5 Year Goals – Mr. Genereux explained spending goals over the next two fiscal years. The availability of ARPA funding for general fund budget expenditures, particularly the Capital Plan allowed the Town the opportunity to pay down temporary debt rather than further burden the general fund budget with debt payments. The Board then discussed the full Capital Plan, which for FY 2023 totals \$4,420,517. Mr. Genereux then went through a listing of items that needed funding over the next two years. Potential free cash expenditures total \$1,041,171. Available funds from other budget lines are estimated at \$200,000, with no funds yet allocated. Potential ARPA expenditures total \$1,677,080. However, there remains \$600,000 of other potential spending that has not yet been allocated. Mr. Genereux stated that these items would be brought before the Board in coming weeks for discussion and vote.

There was a question from a resident concerning allocating ARPA funding to assist the residents in the water and sewer districts. It was explained that the possibility was discussed when initial ARPA spending guidelines were released, as the uses for funding was quite restrictive. The latest guidelines, however, allowed for all of Leicester's ARPA funding to be spent for general municipal purposes, with the exception of funding debt, OPEB, or retirement obligations. It would be more sensible to spend the funds on projects or items that would benefit the entire Town, as opposed the small groups.

There was discussion regarding funding the Moose Hill Study, which will be further discussed at a later meeting, as the bulk of the funding for the study would be paid through the Community One-Stop grant process.

Mr. Genereux explained the State Police Museum would like to accept the lease proposal for the Swan Library that was discussed by the Board in last week's executive session. Mr. Genereux said that he would have the lease ready for signature at the next Board meeting. The Museum is also interested in a number of pieces of furniture in the building. The Board will work to determine a lease or sale price.

Mr. Genereux also informed the Board that he would be working to craft an agreement for the maintenance of school buildings by the Town for future discussion and consideration by the Select Board and School Committee.

Note votes were taken on any topic. At 7:52 pm, Ms. Provencher made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Shocik. **Motion carried 5:0:0**