

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 21, 2022 AT 5:30PM
TOWN HALL, SELECT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM**

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING

Chair Antanavica called the meeting to order at 5:33pm. Chair Rick Antanavica, Vice-Chair John Shocik, Second Vice-Chair Herb Duggan Jr., Selectman Dianna Provencher, Selectman Allen Phillips, Town Administrator David Genereux and Assistant Town Administrator Kristen Forsberg were in attendance.

1. SCHEDULED ITEMS

a. 5:30pm – Executive Session, MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a), Exception #3

i. Discuss Strategy with Respect to Collective Bargaining (Sergeant Promotion)

Motion 032122-1a1: A motion was made by Mr. Shocik and seconded by Mr. Phillips to enter into executive session under MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a), Exception #3, discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining (Sergeant Promotion). The Chair declared that to discuss these matters in open session would compromise the position of the Town. **Roll call: All Ayes**

Motion 032122-1a2: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Ms. Provencher to go out of executive session at 6:00pm. **Roll call: All Ayes**

b. 6:00pm – Discuss/Vote on Sergeant Promotions & Conditional Police Officer Appointments

Motion 032122-1b1: A motion was made by Mr. Duggan and seconded by Mr. Shocik to appoint Officer Frank Bulman to the position of Sergeant. **Motion carries 5:0:0.**

Motion 032122-1b2: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shocik to appoint Detective Matthew Brady to the position of Sergeant. **Motion carries 5:0:0.**

Motion 032122-1b3: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Ms. Provencher to offer a conditional police officer appointment to Amber Costello. **Motion carries 5:0:0.**

Motion 032122-1b4: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shocik to offer a conditional police officer appointment to Michael Cogswell. **Motion carries 5:0:0.**

Motion 032122-1b5: A motion was made by Mr. Shocik and seconded by Ms. Provencher to offer a conditional police officer appointment to Zachary Phillips. **Motion carries 4:0:1 (Mr. Phillips abstained).**

Chief Antanavica noted there will be a swearing in at the Police Station this Wednesday at noon for the new sergeants.

Ms. Provencher left the meeting following this item.

c. 6:15pm - Commission on Disabilities Discussion

This item was passed over.

d. 6:30pm – Discuss/Vote on Tata & Howard Stormwater Year 4 Contract

Mr. Genereux stated that this contract utilizes the remaining stormwater funds available for FY22 to complete some of the Year 4 MS4 required permit tasks.

Motion 032122-1d: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Duggan to approve the partial Year 4 stormwater contract with Tata & Howard. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

e. 6:45pm - Discuss/Vote on FY23 Health Insurance Carrier – Blue Cross

The Town was notified earlier this year that Fallon will no longer provide retail health insurance for municipalities. Mr. Genereux had the Town's health insurance broker NFP put on an RFP for other insurance carriers. Two responses were received and the only propose that was competitive was MIIA Blue Cross, which offers a 1.93% reduction in premium for FY23. This proposal was unanimously endorsed by the Town's Health Insurance Advisory Committee. Mr. Genereux noted that MIIA's dental program also came in at a lower rate than the Town's current provider, Altus. There will be a 5.06% decrease in dental insurance and taking dental from MIIA will also provide an additional discount on the Town's MIIA health insurance.

Motion 032122-1e: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Duggan to approve the proposal from MIIA Blue Cross for the Town's FY23 health insurance. **Motion carries 5:0:0.**

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Paul Messier with the Eagle Scouts asked for a letter from the Board in support of the Eagle Scout ceremony of Xavier Morales.

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 the written report of the office.

c. Select Board Reports

The Select Board discussed a variety of topics including an LCAC show Becker Let's Do It Right Session 3 and misinformation regarding the lease of the Swan Library, a dispatch issue with solicitors, having your facts straight when holding the Board accountable, road issues on Burncoat Lane, issues with a wall on Route 9 near Hanks Marina, tree removed by the salon on Route 9, Board transparency and posting of information, issue with a leaning tree on the Becker property, Becker working group updates, and looking into the VCT for veteran construction assistance in the community, upcoming Deja New fundraiser for a service dog for a diabetic family.

4. RESIGNATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

a. Resignation – Kathy Asquith – Assistant Assessor

Motion 032122-4a: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Duggan to accept the resignation of Kathy Asquith, Assistant Assessor. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

b. Resignation – Michael Sielis – Police Officer

Motion 032122-4b: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Shocik to accept, with regret, the resignation of Officer Michael Sielis, and to send a letter of thanks for service. Under discussion, it was noted that the Chief stated he would take Officer Sielis back within the next five years and that he had clearly made an impression on the Chief. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

c. Resignation – Brooke Hultgren – DIS Department Assistant

Motion 032122-4c: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Shocik to accept the resignation of Brooke Hultgren and to send a letter of thanks for service **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

d. **Appointment – Christopher Doeg – Per-Diem EMT**

Motion 032122-4d: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Shocik to appoint Christopher Doeg as a per-diem EMT. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

5. OTHER BUSINESS

a. **Accept Senior Center Donations**

Motion 032122-5a: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Shocik to accept \$750 in donations to the Senior Center. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

b. **2021 License Renewal – Families Together, 1601 Main Street – Common Victualler License**

Motion 032122-5b: A motion was made by Mr. Shocik and seconded by Mr. Duggan to approve the 2022 common victualler license renewal for Families Together. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

c. **FY19 CDBG-CV Extension Request**

Motion 032122-5c: A motion was made by Mr. Duggan and seconded by Mr. Phillips to approve the FY19 CDBG-CV extension request through June 30, 2022. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

d. **Request to Surplus 2015 International Ambulance and 2006 Chevy Ambulance**

Motion 032122-5d: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Duggan to surplus the 2015 International Ambulance and the 2006 Chevy Ambulance. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

e. **Request to Use Borger & Becker Parking Lot for MEMA CERT Rodeo – April 23 & April 30, 2022**

Motion 032122-5e: A motion was made by Mr. Shocik and seconded by Mr. Duggan to approve the request to use the Borger and Becker parking lots for the MEMA CERT Rodeo on April 23, 2022 with a rain date of April 30, 2022 provided MEMA brings porta potties and other sanitary items as needed. **Motion carries 3:0:1 (Mr. Phillips abstained).**

f. **Request to Use Surplus Becker Items at Swan Tavern – Leicester Historical Commission**

Joe Lennerton with the Historical Commission stated the Commission is looking for heavy duty tables and shelving to display collections at the Swan Tavern. Mr. Lennerton is looking for 4 wood tables and 2-3 of the smaller round plastic tables from the Swan Library.

Motion 032122-5f: A motion was made by Mr. Duggan and seconded by Mr. Shocik to approve the request from the Historical Commission to use the items requested at Swan Library contingent upon the Becker inventory process being complete and items used documented. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

g. **Request to Use Surplus Becker Items – Town and School Departments**

Mr. Genereux noted the Board has informally stated that surplus Becker items can be used by municipal and school departments. The Board discussed that all items must be inventoried first and nothing can be sold by the departments because these items are town property and the items are to be used to help cut costs for the Town.

Motion 032122-5g: A motion was made by Mr. Shocik and seconded by Mr. Phillips to allow Town and School departments to use surplus items on the Becker property for use in their departments and offices once the full inventory is complete, that all items are cleared for use through the Town Administrator's office, and that nothing is removed from the buildings that the school may potentially use. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

h. Request to Dispose of Becker Laboratory and Veterinary Clinic Supplies to Bay Path

Mr. Genereux noted that surplus out of code chemicals to Bay Path would save the Town on the cost to dispose of these items. The Board discussed making sure the Fire Chief and EMS Director can't use any of the chemicals or supplies for training, concerns about circumventing the system, and potential liability on the Town if issues occur with out of code items.

Motion 032122-5h: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Shocik to not dispose of the supplies at the Becker laboratory and veterinary clinic to Bay Path at this time. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

i. Town/School Becker Building & Grounds Maintenance Discussion

Mr. Genereux discussed the Collins Center walk through on Friday and comments regarding putting together a building and grounds maintenance agreement between the School and Town. Mr. Genereux sent a draft agreement to the Collins Center on Friday. Some of the issues which arose revolved around the care, custody and control of the buildings and grounds, fees associated with the fields, and how much the schools would transfer to the Town to cover maintenance of school buildings/fields on the Becker campus. Issues around security, privacy for children, and safety concerns were raised. The Board discussed how maintenance would be scheduled, requested a discussion with Town Counsel regarding care, custody, and control of the school areas on the Becker campus, halting the spending of ARPA funding until needed renovations have been made to the Becker campus to allow for the school relocation, and the need for a signed maintenance agreement between the Town and School before moving forward.

j. Discuss/Vote on Becker Education Workgroup Recommendations

This item was passed over.

k. Discuss/Vote on Draft Veterinary Clinic Request for Proposals & Announce Grand Opening of Bark Park

Mr. Genereux presented the draft RFP to lease the Becker vet clinic which has a high preference to lease to a vet style practice and a secondary preference for a doctor's office type practice. The evaluative criteria looks at experience, property management expertise, financial viability and neighborhood impact. The Board discussed selling the property which reduces the debt vs. leasing the property which brings in income that can be used to maintain the Becker properties. The Board also discussed the Becker working groups, recommendations from the smaller working groups rolling up to the larger working groups before going to the Select Board, and the chairs of each working group providing status updates. This item was tabled at this time.

The Grand Opening of Bark Park will be held on April 24th. At this time, the Bark Park Committee will have held their first meeting, the exercise equipment will be out for the dogs, and the park will be in a state where it can be utilized.

l. Discuss/Vote on Draft Becker Landscaping Invitation for Bid

Motion 032122-5l: A motion was made by Mr. Duggan and seconded by Mr. Shocik to authorize the Town Administrator to release an IFB for landscaping services at Becker. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

m. Discuss/Vote on Opioid Settlement Subdivision Agreement

Motion 032122-5m: A motion was made by Mr. Shocik and seconded by Mr. Duggan to authorize the Chair to sign the Opioid Settlement Subdivision Agreement. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

6. MINUTES

a. March 5, 2022

b. **March 7, 2022**

c. **March 14, 2022**

Motion 032122-6: A motion was made by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Shocik to approve the minutes of March 5, 7 & 14, 2022. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**

Motion 032122-7: A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Shocik and seconded by Mr. Phillips at 8:38pm. **Motion carries 4:0:0.**