

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 12, 2022, AT 6:00PM
TOWN HALL, SELECT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM

Chair Allen Phillips called the meeting to order approximately 6:05PM. Vice Chair Antanavica started the meeting with a Veterans Prayer. Chair Allen Phillips, Vice Chair Rick Antanavica, Second Vice Chair Dianna Provencher, Selectman Herb Duggan Jr, Selectman John Bujak, Town Administrator David Genereux, and Assistant Town Administrator Chris Vitale were in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING
VETERANS POEM

1. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion 121222-1: A motion was made by Mr. Duggan to go into Executive Session, seconded by Ms. Provencher at 6:12PM. **Motion carries 5-0-0. (Roll Call Vote)**

- a. To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(2), (7) and Public Records Law, G.L. c. 4, s. 7(26), and to discuss privileged written legal opinion pursuant to Suffolk Construction v. DCAM, 449 Mass. 444 (2007) – Police Chief.
- b. To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3), (7) and Public Records Law, G.L. c. 4, s. 7(26), to discuss privileged written legal opinion pursuant to Suffolk Construction v. DCAM, 449 Mass. 444 (2007) - Police Department & Police Supervisor's Union:
- c. To consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body. pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(6),(7) and Public Records Law, G.L. c. 4, s. 7(26), to discuss privileged written legal opinion pursuant to Suffolk Construction v. DCAM, 449 Mass. 444 (2007) – Campus Property Disposition.
- d. Meeting with Town Counsel with respect to potential litigation with the Leicester Water Supply District regarding maintenance of fire hydrants pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3), (7) and Public Records Law, G.L. c. 4, s. 7(26), to discuss privileged written legal opinion pursuant to Suffolk Construction v. DCAM, 449 Mass. 444 (2007).

Motion 121222-1.2: A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica to exit Executive Session, seconded by Ms. Provencher at 8:04PM. **Motion carries 5-0-0. (Roll Call Vote)**

The Regular Meeting resumed at 8:08PM.

2. SCHEDULED ITEMS

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

4. CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Town Hall Closed Monday, December 26th, 2022 (Christmas)
 - b. Town Hall Closed Monday, January 2nd, 2022 (New Year's Day)
- Ms. Provencher stated the Leicester Senior Center is also closed on those dates.

5. RESIGNATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

a. Truck Driver/Laborer (Withdrew Application)

No action was taken by the Select Board on this agenda item.

b. Christopher Harrington - Full Time Paramedic

Mr. Phillips asked Mr. Harrington why he wanted to work for Leicester. Mr. Harrington stated he likes his current job but is looking for more 911 experience. Looking forward to the opportunity.

Motion 121222-5b: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher to approve the appointment, seconded by Mr. Bujak. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

c. James Whittemore - Per Diem EMT

Chief Dupuis stated there was a miscommunication and asked if this could be rescheduled for the 1/3/23 meeting.

No action was taken by the Select Board on this agenda item.

d. Blake Lentine – Per Diem EMT

Mr. Lentine introduced himself and stated he lives in Oxford. Works for EMS company and is seeking more experience with 911 calls.

Motion 121222-5d: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher to approve the appointment, seconded by Mr. Bujak. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

6. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Special Town Meeting Recommendations; Signing of the warrant

Mr. Genereux provided an overview of each article for the Special Town Meeting on 1/10/2023.

Article 1: Amend the Revolving Bylaw.

Mr. Phillips assigned himself to read the article at the Special Town Meeting.

Motion 121222-6a.1: A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica to recommend the article, seconded by Mr. Bujak. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Article 2: Amend the Zoning Bylaw (Cannabis Control Commission Language Changes).

Mr. Phillips assigned Mr. Antanavica to read the article at the Special Town Meeting.

Motion 121222-6a.2: A motion was made by Mr. Duggan to recommend the article, seconded by Ms. Provencher. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Article 3: Street Acceptance Virginia Drive

Mr. Genereux stated the town will be discussing this on 1/3/2023 for the Road Acceptance Hearing. The Recommendation from the board will come after that. The Board will make their recommendation on the Town meeting floor.

Mr. Phillips assigned Ms. Provencher to read the article at the Special Town Meeting.

Motion 121222-6a.3: A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica to recommend the article on town meeting floor, seconded by Ms. Provencher. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Article 4: Adaptive Reuse Overly District

Mr. Phillips assigned Mr. Bujak to read the article at the Special Town Meeting.

Motion 121222-6a.4: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher to recommend the article, seconded by Mr. Bujak. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Article 5: Extend Police Chief Contract

Mr. Phillips assigned Mr. Duggan to read the article at the Special Town Meeting.

Motion 121222-6a.5: A motion was made by Mr. Bujak to recommend the article, seconded by Ms. Provencher. **Motion carries 4-0-1.** (*Mr. Antanavica Abstained*)

Article 6: HCA Stabilization Guidelines

Mr. Phillips assigned himself to read the article at the Special Town Meeting.

Motion 121222-6a.6: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher to recommend the article, seconded by Mr. Bujak. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Article 7a: HCA Fund Expenditure – Rochdale Park

Mr. Phillips assigned Mr. Antanavica to read the article at the Special Town Meeting.

Motion 121222-6a.7a: A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica to recommend the article, seconded by Ms. Provencher. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Article 7b: HCA Fund Expenditure – After School Program Equipment

Mr. Bujak asked if there was a breakdown of annual expenditure cost for the new program. Mr. Genereux stated he will send it out to the Select Board. Mr. Bujak stated he has concerns about the schools balancing their budget going forward.

Mr. Phillips assigned Mr. Antanavica to read the article at the Special Town Meeting.

Motion 121222-6a.7b: A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica to recommend the article, seconded by Ms. Provencher. **Motion carries 3-2-0.**

Article 7c: HCA Fund Expenditure – Free Cash Change Appropriation

Mr. Phillips assigned Mr. Antanavica to read the article at the Special Town Meeting.

Motion 121222-6a.7c: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher to recommend the article, seconded by Mr. Bujak. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Article 8: Citizen's Petition – Rochdale Park

Mr. Genereux stated he spoke to the petitioners and if Article 7a passes, they will withdraw their request. They are seeking \$100K, not \$200K.

No recommendation.

Article 9: Citizen's Petition – ARPA Fund Appropriation

Select Board members discussed the appropriateness of the article. Select Board members discussed scheduling a work session with the CARE Group. Mr. Genereux was tasked to look at possible dates in January for a work session.

No recommendation.

b. Approve Police Chief Contract Extension

Mr. Genereux stated the contract was discussed in Executive Session and this would be a one-year contract.

Motion 121222-6b. A motion was made by Ms. Provencher to approve the contract with a work plan, seconded by Mr. Duggan. **Motion carries 4-0-1.** (*Mr. Antanavica Abstained*)

c. Approve FY23 Community Compact Efficiency & Regionalization Grant Contract – Online Permitting

Assistant Town Administrator Vitale provided an overview of the grant and breakdown of funding. Mr. Duggan stated this will save staff a lot of hours. Mr. Bujak asked how this would be funded. Mr. Genereux stated there will be more information to share once the town issues and RFP and knows the annual cost. Mr. Bujak suggested looking at the license/permit fee costs. Ms. Provencher asked if it is going to be user-friendly. Mr. Vitale stated the town can include that as part of the RFP process. Staff will be trained to assist the public.

Motion 121222-6c. A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica to approve the contract and allow Mr. Genereux to sign on behalf of the town, seconded by Ms. Provencher. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

d. 2022 License Renewals (Cont.)

Mr. Genereux named the businesses that submitted renewals. The list of businesses can be found in the meeting packet.

Motion 121222-6d.1: A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica, seconded by Ms. Provencher, to approve the CV license renewals contingent upon payment of taxes and completion of necessary paperwork and inspections. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Motion 121222-6d.2: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher, seconded by Mr. Antanavica, to approve the general entertainment license renewals contingent upon payment of taxes and completion of necessary paperwork and inspections. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Motion 121222-6d.3: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher, seconded by Mr. Duggan, to approve the junk dealer license renewals contingent upon payment of taxes and completion of necessary paperwork and inspections. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Motion 121222-6d.4: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher, seconded by Mr. Bujak, to approve the outdoor business license renewals contingent upon payment of taxes and completion of necessary paperwork and inspections. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Motion 121222-6d.5: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher, seconded by Mr. Bujak, to approve the games license renewals contingent upon payment of taxes and completion of necessary paperwork and inspections. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Motion 121222-6d.6: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher, seconded by Mr. Bujak, to approve the Sunday entertainment license renewals contingent upon payment of taxes and completion of necessary paperwork and inspections. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Motion 121222-6d.7: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher, seconded by Mr. Bujak, to approve the auto body license renewals contingent upon payment of taxes and completion of necessary paperwork and inspections. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Motion 121222-6d.8: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher, seconded by Mr. Bujak, to approve the motor vehicle license renewals contingent upon payment of taxes and completion of necessary paperwork and inspections. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Motion 121222-6d.9: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher, seconded by Mr. Bujak, to approve the rental license renewals contingent upon payment of taxes and completion of necessary paperwork and inspections. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Motion 121222-6d.10: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher, seconded by Mr. Bujak, to approve the Class II license renewals contingent upon payment of taxes and completion of necessary paperwork and inspections. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Motion 121222-6d.11: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher, seconded by Mr. Bujak, to approve the Class III license renewals contingent upon payment of taxes and completion of necessary paperwork and inspections. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Motion 121222-6d.12: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher, seconded by Mr. Bujak, to approve the BYOB license renewals contingent upon payment of taxes and completion of necessary paperwork and inspections. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

Motion 121222-6d.13: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher, seconded by Mr. Bujak, to approve the Sunday Entertainment license renewals contingent upon payment of taxes and completion of necessary paperwork and inspections. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

e. **Alcohol Certification 2023**

Mr. Duggan asked the Town Administrator to notify him when the documents are ready to be signed.

Motion 121222-6e: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher, seconded by Mr. Bujak, to approve the Alcohol Certification renewals. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

f. **Accept LPD Donation**

Mr. Genereux stated the town received a \$1000 donation for the Leicester Police Department.

Motion 121222-6f: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher, seconded by Mr. Bujak, to accept the donation. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

g. **Accept Linda Colby Donation (Town Common sign)**

Mr. Phillips stated the sign is beautiful. Mr. Genereux stated there is a letter of thanks for members to sign.

Motion 121222-6g: A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica, seconded by Ms. Provencher, to accept the donation. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

h. **Expand FBAC from one member of the public to two**

Motion 121222-6h: A motion was made by Ms. Provencher, seconded by Mr. Duggan, to expand FBAC from one public member to two. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

i. **Becker key discussion**

Mr. Bujak discussed making extra keys available to committee members for when the Facilities Director was unavailable. Select Board members discussed their current key sign-out policy and stated they wanted to keep accountability for who was going in and out of buildings. Select Board members discussed utilizing a fob system or an email specifically for sign outs. Mr. Phillips asked Mr. Genereux to investigate installing a lock box with unique pin capabilities. Mr. Genereux stated he would investigate pricing.

No action was taken by the Select Board on this agenda item.

j. **Electricity contract – Constellation New Energy**

Mr. Genereux stated the town's electricity contract is coming to an end. As it stands now, National Grid market is .34258/kilowatt hour. The old constellation contract was 0854/kilowatt hour. The proposed new one-year contract would be .19450/kilowatt hour. Mr. Genereux stated he is hopeful after that point prices will come down a bit. Mr. Phillips asked for Mr. Genereux to investigate programs to convert to solar.

No action was taken by the Select Board on this agenda item.

7. MINUTES

a. **November 1, 2022**

b. **November 7, 2022**

c. **November 21, 2022**

Motion 121222-7: A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica, seconded by Ms. Provencher, to approve the meeting minutes. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

8. REPORTS

a. Student Liaison Reports

No report.

b. Select Board Reports

Members of the Select Board each wished the public a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. Mr. Phillips congratulated Ms. Provencher for being nominated as the Person of the Week in the Spencer New Leader. See you in 2023!

Motion 121222-9: A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica, seconded by Ms. Provencher, to adjourn. **Motion carries 5-0-0.**

ADJOURN