

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 6, 2020 AT 6:30PM
VIRTUAL MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER/OPENING

Chairwoman Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:32pm. Chair Sandra Wilson, Vice-Chair Harry Brooks, 2nd Vice-Chair Rick Antanavica, Selectwoman Dianna Provencher, Selectman John Shocik, Student Liaisons Katheryn Stapel and Jacob Stolberg, Town Administrator David Genereux and Assistant to the Town Administrator Kristen Forsberg were in attendance.

1. SCHEDULED ITEMS

a. 6:30pm - Devin Kravitz Memorial 5K Use of Town Roads Request (9/5/20)

A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Brooks to approve the use of Town owned roads for the Devin Kravitz Memorial 5K on September 5, 2020. Roll call: 5:0:0.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public provided comment.

3. REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Student Liaison Reports

The Leicester Public Schools are currently closed.

b. Select Board Reports

The Select Board discussed a variety of topics including staying home, wearing masks in public, the food pantry being open, throw away your trash like gloves, contact State Rep. David LeBoeuf with unemployment issues, the recycling center opening 4/11/20 from 8am-1pm, thanks to the first responders, wash your hands and thanks to those volunteering to staff the recycling center on Saturday.

c. Town Administrator Report

The Town Administrator presented highlights from his written report. A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Brooks to suspend the collection process for real estate, personal property and excise tax until 45 days after the end of the State of Emergency. Roll call: 5:0:0.

4. RESIGNATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

a. Appointment – Highway Truck Driver/Laborer

Mr. Genereux noted that no truck driver/laborer would be hired at this time due to uncertainty surrounding funding following the pandemic. The School Department is paying \$150,000 which was used to hire two full time laborers and will provide two summer laborers at \$12.75/hour instead of a third full time employee. Both the Superintendent of Schools and the Highway Superintendent agree with this plan. Mr. Genereux noted the school fields will remain first priority and that this position could be added back in later if there are not cuts to State Aid in FY22.

b. Appointment – Board of Fire Engineers

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Ms. Provencher to appoint Robert Wilson, Michael Dupuis and Matthew Tebo to the Board of Fire Engineers for a one-year term beginning May 1st. Roll call: 5:0:0.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Discussion and Vote on Closure of Town Fields

Mr. Genereux discussed issues the Police Department is having with regard to large gatherings at Town owned parks. Mr. Genereux recommended closing the basketball hoops, playgrounds and parks until the State of Emergency has been lifted. Police Chief Ken Antanavica recommended closing the parks to keep everyone safe and moving, especially due to small parking lots where keeping 6 feet of separation is not possible. A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica and seconded by Mr. Shocik to close Town owned parks until the State of Emergency has been lifted. Roll call: 4:1:0 (Mr. Brooks opposed).

b. Discussion and Vote on Moving Annual Town Meeting to June 2, 2020

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Shocik to move Annual Town Meeting to June 2, 2020. Roll call: 5:0:0.

c. Discussion and Vote on Compensation for Non-Essential Personnel

A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Brooks to pay all Town personnel their full salaries, regardless of whether they are considered essential employees and/or working offsite. Roll call: 5:0:0.

d. Cease and Desist – Ernie’s Cars Vehicle Sales and Motor Vehicle Repairs, 517 Main Street

Ms. Forsberg noted that Ernie’s Cars has failed to renew their Class II license for 2020 as they have been nonresponsive to the Fire Inspector’s requests to conduct the required annual inspection. The owner has been notified in writing and via phone of his failure to renew and has had ample opportunities to address this matter since notices were first mailed out in October of 2019. Further, the owner is parking cars in the fire lane and appears to be illegally undertaking motor vehicle repair inside of the building. A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Shocik to issue a cease and desist of all business activities at Ernie’s Cars, 515-517 Main Street in Cherry Valley until the fire inspection is passed and the Class II license is renewed. Roll call: 5:0:0.

e. Swan Tavern Donation (\$1,000) - Leicester Historical Society

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Shocik to accept a \$1,000 donation from the Leicester Historical Society for the Swan Tavern. Roll call: 5:0:0.

f. Tarentino 5K Use of Town Roads Request (9/20/20)

A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shocik to approve the use of town owned roads for the Tarentino Strong 5K on September 20, 2020, pending confirmation that this date is acceptable for the schools. Roll call: 5:0:0.

g. Ngrid License – Town Common – Complete Streets Agreement

A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shocik to execute a license between the Town and National Grid for work to be undertaken on the Town Common, including the placement of anchors, guide wires and braces, as part of the Complete Streets project. Roll call: 5:0:0.

h. FY21 Classification and Compensation Plan

A motion was made by Mr. Antanavica and seconded by Mr. Brooks to accept the revised FY21 Classification and Compensation plan, which creates a new level for the Economic Development Coordinator and the Assistant to the Town Administrator positions. Roll call: 5:0:0.

i. Church Street Bridge Dedication Discussion

A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shocik to dedicate the Church Street Bridge to Private First Class Eugene Joseph Parenteau, pending State approval. Roll call: 5:0:0.

j. **Amendment – Sergeant Assessment Center Delegation Agreement Extension**

A motion was made by Ms. Provencher and seconded by Mr. Shocik to authorize the Chair to sign an amendment to the Sergeant Assessment Center Delegation Agreement with State Civil Service requesting an extension due to COVID-19. Roll call: 5:0:0.

6. MINUTES

a. **March 23, 2020**

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Ms. Provencher to approve the minutes of March 23, 2020. Roll call: 5:0:0.

The Board discussed the possibility of postponing the Town Election and Mr. Genereux will speak with Town Clerk Debbie Davis regarding this matter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION, MGL CHAPTER 30A, SECTION 21A

a. **Exception #3 – Discuss strategy with respect to litigation (Michael Shivick Correspondence)**

A motion was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Shocik to enter into executive session at 8:18pm under MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21A, Exception 3, to discuss strategy with respect to litigation (Michael Shivick Correspondence). The Chair declared that to discuss these matters in open session would compromise the position of the Town. Roll call: 5:0:0.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Ms. Provencher at 9:13pm. Roll call: 5:0:0.