



BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 20, 2023

Members Present: Richard W. Brewer, Chair
Steven J. Ouellette, Vice Chair
Ann Boxler
Manuel Soares, Clerk

Member Absent: Shana Shufelt

Also present, James Hartnett, Town Administrator

6:00 p.m. Call To order & Pledge of Allegiance

Under MGL Chapter 30A, section 20(f) – this meeting is being recorded.

Welcome Comments from the Chair

Next meeting in two weeks on Monday, December 4, 2023.

Acknowledgments & Recognitions

Mr. Brewer acknowledged Carol Freitas for the Veterans Day Ceremony.

1. Public Hearings – 6:05PM

- a. FEE HEARING - Request from the Beach Committee to raise the Beach Pass Fees. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the board that the increase in fees was necessary in order to assure staffing and clean beaches.
MOTION by Mr. Ouellette to raise the Beach Pass Fees as requested by the Beach Committee, seconded by Ms. Boxler. The Board voted 4-0 in favor.
- b. Grant of Conservation Restriction Otter Rock Farm
Ross Moran from the Westport Land Conservation Trust addressed the board noting the importance of preserving this Farm, David Palmer Caretaker of the property provided some history on the property.
MOTION by Mr. Ouellette to grant the Conservation Restriction, seconded by Mr. Soares. The Board voted 4-0 in favor.
- c. Request from Jose Luis Roustand Cordero Owner/Manager of L and S Auto Mall Inc. for a Class II Motor Vehicle License and a Repair License at 1052 State Road, Westport, MA, with a total of 50 cars. (Continued from November 6, 2023).
Mr. Hartnett stated that this was continued from November 6th, there was an issue with the lease and the Police Report, the issue has been addressed and the Police Report is now favorable.

Roustand addressed the Board, explaining how he has a location in Fall River, and would like to open another location.

MOTION by Mr. Ouellette to approve the Class II and Repair Licenses, seconded by Ms. Boxler. The Board voted 4-0 in favor.

2. Appointments and Resignations

- a. Request from Chief Pelletier to accept his Retirement Letter after over 34 years of service, effective January 6, 2024.

MOTION by Mr. Ouellette to accept Chief Pelletier's Retirement Letter, seconded by Ms. Boxler. The Board voted 4-0 in favor.

- b. Request from Amanda Mazzaferro to be appointed to the Recreation Commission. Dana Stewart, Recreation Director addressed the board noting Ms. Mazzaferro's involvement and interest with the recreation department and recommends the Board consider the appointment. Ms. Mazzaferro was also in attendance.

MOTION by Mr. Ouellette to appoint Ms. Mazzaferro to the Recreation Commission, seconded by Ms. Boxler. The Board voted 4-0 in favor.

- c. Request to accept the resignation of Zachary Rioux from The Housing Authority effective immediately and to post the vacant position through December 13, 2023. Mr. Hartnett explained that this appointment will require a joint meeting with the Housing Authority.

MOTION by Mr. Ouellette to accept Zachary Rioux's Resignation and to post the vacant position, seconded by Ms. Boxler. The Board voted 4-0 in favor.

3. Action Items

- a. Request to approve job description for Information Technology Director and employment agreement for Keith Novo.

Mr. Hartnett addressed the Board stating that the Job Description and Employment Contract have been discussed in Executive Session, however it needs to be approved in Open Session.

Mr. Novo addressed the Board, noting how technology has evolved over the years and the time and effort it takes to keep it all moving forward.

MOTION by Mr. Ouellette to approve the Job Description and Employment Contract for Keith Novo, seconded by Ms. Boxler. The Board voted 3-1 in favor, with Mr. Soares voting against.

- b. Request from the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA) to confirm the Board of Selectmen Representative (Richard Brewer).

Mr. Brewer addressed the Board noting his willingness to serve on SRTA, and explained that in the past there has not been an alternate member. Mr. Ouellette added that this is very important as the Route 6 project evolves and that he is willing to serve as an alternate if needed.

MOTION by Mr. Ouellette to appoint Mr. Brewer as the SRTA Representative, seconded by Ms. Boxler. The Board voted 4-0 in favor.

- c. Request to approve the previously held permits:

- Delano's Daily Grind - Common Victualler

MOTION by Mr. Ouellette to approve the Common Victualler Permit for Delano's Daily Grind, seconded by Ms. Boxler. The Board voted 4-0 in favor.

- ADV Corp. dba Country Liquor & Variety – Common Victualler & Liquor

- **MOTION** by Mr. Ouellette to approve the Common Victualler Permit and Liquor License for ADV Corp. dba Country Liquor & Variety, seconded by Ms. Boxler. The Board voted 4-0 in favor.
- d. Request to approve Wage Study contract with GOVHR, funding sources \$30,000 Town Warrant Article and \$11,700 from Select Board Professional Services Account. Hartnett stated that proposals were reviewed by the Personnel Board and they recommend GOVHR. He recommended two funding sources to pay for the work. **MOTION** by Mr. Ouellette to approve the contract with GOVHR, with funding sources being \$30,000 from the Warrant Article and \$11,700 from Board of Selectmen Professional Services Account, seconded by Ms. Boxler. The Board voted 4-0 in favor.

4. Discussion

- a. Town Broadband Update – passed over
- b. Budget Update

Mr. Hartnett updated the Board stating that the Budget Process is ahead of schedule, and the Balanced Budget will be presented to the Board on December 18th.

5. Town Administrator Report

Westport Community Schools Fall Sports

Boys Soccer

They are currently Undefeated with a record of 20-0-1 and will be playing in the programs first ever **MIAA State Championship Game** on Saturday November 18, 2023.

- Mayflower Conference Champions,
- Coach Chris Parker was named Mayflower Coach of the year,
- Marcos Dutra Africano received Mayflower League MVP
- Sr. Ben Novo was named as an All State player and was selected to play in the prestigious Eastern Mass Coach Association All-Star game on Nov 24.

Girls Soccer

- Mayflower Conference Champions
- Most wins in a season with a record of 13-5-1
- 1st MIAA State tournament win
- Most goals in a season by Lily Veraka (who is in 7th grade) 19 goals
- Most goals in a season with 71 total
- Coach Gary Muello was named Mayflower coach of the year
- Korynne Holden was Mayflower MVP

Field Hockey

- Mayflower Conference Champions
- Season win record of 12-6
- 3rd Straight MIAA State tournament appearance
- Coach Jaquelyn Legendre was named Mayflower Coach of the year
- Sr. Avery Avila was Mayflower MVP

Golf

- Season win record of 7-4-3
- Boudria and Cooper Spirlet were Mayflower All-stars

Volleyball was 6-12

- Zoey Sylvain and Jayda Pequita were named to the Mayflower All-star team

Budget

Budget meetings with each department have been completed, the Town Accountant is currently finalizing the Free Cash numbers for certification and the Assessors are finishing up the New Growth numbers for the tax rate hearing in December.

Old High School Use

Representatives from UMass Dartmouth have toured the Old High School on a number of occasions over the last three weeks and may be interested in occupying the vacant space. UMass has a renovation project planned for their largest classroom building. The project is in the final design phase and is fully funded. Construction will begin in December of 2024 and it will require the building to be unoccupied, they will need a place to store Furnishings and Equipment with the possibility using some space for classes and office use.

6. Approve Minutes

a. November 6, 2023

MOTION by Mr. Soares to approve the November 6, 2023 Minutes, seconded by Mr. Ouellette. The Board voted 4-0 in favor.

b. November 13, 2023

MOTION by Mr. Soares to approve the November 13, 2023 Minutes, seconded by Mr. Ouellette. The Board voted 3-0 in favor, with Ms. Boxler abstaining.

7. Report on Bill Warrant

Ms. Boxler noted the warrant was in order and signed.

8. Selectmen Liaison Committee Reports & Suggestions for Future Agenda Discussion / Action

Ouellette – wanted to get the word out there if you have bikes, please get them to the transfer station

Brewer – Bristol County Advisory Board, he addressed the substantial increase in fees, Council on Aging, discussing long term plan

9. Comments and Statements

10. Boards/Committees/Commissions Vacancy List

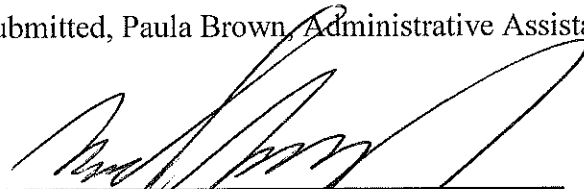
11. Topics not reasonably anticipated forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting.

Adjournment

MOTION by Ms. Boxler to adjourn the meeting at 7:17p.m., seconded by Mr. Ouellette. The Board voted 4-0 in favor.

Respectfully submitted, Paula Brown, Administrative Assistant/Confidential Clerk

APPROVED:


Manuel Soares, Clerk, Select Board Member

1a Beach Committee
1b CR 17200 Westport EEA approved for local signature
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1b Otter Rock Farm Coleman- Sodom Rd-FINAL PLAN
1b Coleman Property
1c L& S Auto Mall, 1052 State Road
1c L&S Police Report 11.20.23
1c L&S Auto Mall, 1052 State Road – WPD
1c L&S Lease
2a Pelletier Retirement
2b Mazzaferro – Recreation
2c Rioux Resignation Housing Authority
3a IT Director 11-3-23
3a IT Director Job Desc 10-17-23
3a IT Monthly Oct Report
3b SRTA
3d GovHr Price Proposal - rev. 11-9-23
3d GovHr Technical Proposal - rev. 11-9-23
11062023 Minutes
11132023 Minutes