

**TOWN OF NEWBURY
SELECT BOARD**

MINUTES

DATE: September 27, 2022

PRESENT: **Select Board:** Chair Alicia Greco; Vice Chair JR Colby;
Geof Walker; Gerry Heavey

Staff:

Tracy Blais, Town Administrator
Julie O'Brien, Executive Administrator
Martha Taylor, Planning Director
Peter Binette, Building Commissioner

Speakers:

Rochelle Josephs, President, Support the Pink House Board
Mark Gleckman, Human Resource Board
Marshall Jespersen, Capital Planning Committee

Call to Order:

At 6:00 p.m. Chair Alicia Greco called the meeting to order with a salute

Motion: G. Walker moved to open the Select Board meeting seconded, JR Colby and voted unanimously

New Business

Service recognition Alba Gouldthorpe

Discussion: Steve Fram, Board of Health, presented and read an official Citation from the US Senate to Alba. Elain Burn, Board of Health, thanked Alba for her years of service and asked that people recognize her for all she has done for the Town. Deb Rogers, Health Director, spoke on behalf of herself and Ginger, Health Inspector, thanking Alba for her 20 years of service. Recalled the first time she met Alba. Stated was a privilege to work with Alba

Alba addressed the Board and thanked them for the pleasure of serving the Town

A.Greco thanked Alba for her service and presented her with a Certificate of Recognition from the Select Board. G. Walker spoke to Alba and thanked her for her service. G. Heavey thanked her for her service. JR Colby recounted times with Alba and thanked her for the years of service

A.Greco requested a moment of silence for Alix Mcardle, former COA Director who was instrumental in growing the program

Public Comment

None

Board and Committee Reports

Report of Chair Greco:

PR23-04, Julie O'Brien

PR23-05, Julie O'Brien

PR23-05, Select Board

PR23-06, Julie O'Brien

Grants, Gifts & Donations

(Chapter 44: Section 53A Grants and gifts; acceptance and expenditure)

COA Donation – Friends of the NCOA - \$2,500.00

Motion: JR Colby moved to approve the COA donation seconded, G. Walker and voted unanimously

Discussion: Discussion ensued

COA Donation – Susan Ricker - \$25.00

Motion: JR Colby moved to approve the COA donation seconded, G. Walker and voted unanimously

Discussion: None

Select Board Training – Cancelled, to be rescheduled to a date undetermined

Discussion: Discussion ensued

Pink House Preservation Restriction discussion – Rochelle Josephs

Discussion: Rochelle Josephs President of Support the Pink House Board addressed the Select Board and provided information regarding the Pink House Preservation and explained have been in a partnership with US Fish and Wildlife for two and a half years to concurrently work on a land swap. Have proposed a Reservation Restriction and received Town Counsel approval. Mass Historic has approved 99%, just waiting for the deed from Fish and Wildlife. Explained eventually would come before for the Select Board to vote and sign

Discussion: Discussion ensued

Declare Surplus – Center Street Flag Pole

Motion: JR Colby moved to declare the flag pole as surplus seconded, G. Walker and voted unanimously

Discussion: Discussion ensued

One Day Liquor License, Mercury Brewing, Barktoberfest, Spencer Peirce Little Farm

Motion: G. Walker moved approve the One Day Liquor License seconded, G. Heavey, three votes in favor, one vote abstained, the motion passes

Discussion: None

One Day Liquor License, Timothy Hopkins Catering LLC, Wedding, Spencer Peirce Little Farm

Motion: G. Heavey moved to approve the One Day Liquor License seconded, G. Walker, three votes in favor, one vote abstained, the motion passes

Discussion: None

One Day Liquor License, Barewolf Brewery, LLC, Barktoberfest, Spencer Peirce Little Farm

Motion: G. Walker moved to approve the One Day Liquor License seconded, G. Heavey, three votes in favor, one vote abstained, the motion passes

Discussion: None

One Day Liquor License, Dan Clapp 1634 Meadery, Minuteman – Spencer Peirce Little Farm

Motion: G. Heavey moved to approve the One Day Liquor License seconded, G. Walker, three votes in favor, one vote abstained, the motion passes

Discussion: None

One Day Liquor License, Decanted Inc., Barktoberfest, Spencer Peirce Little Farm

Motion: G. Heavey moved to approve the One Day Liquor seconded, G. Walker, three votes in favor, one vote abstained, the motion passes

Discussion: None

New business License, Risa Schulman, dba Fig Tree Family Medicine, PLLC, 76 Newburyport Turnpike

Motion: JR Colby moved to approve the new business license seconded, G. Walker and voted unanimously

Discussion: Ms. Schulman spoke to the Board regarding her direct primary care business

Review, approve and Sign Appointment:

- Robert Hagopian, Police Department Chaplain

Motion: Jr Colby moved to approve the appointment seconded, G. Walker and voted unanimously

Discussion: Discussion ensued

Town Administrators Report

MVPC Traffic Analysis

- MVPC placed the counters on Larkin Road (near the Parker River Bridge and north of Millstone Lane) and on Central Street (one on each side of Larkin). They collected volume, speed, and vehicle classification information
- Data will be used in our Heavy Truck Exclusion Application

Grants

- Before he retired from the Board of Library Trustees, Dick Passeri had asked about electric charging stations at the Library
- Have preliminary approvals

Grants

- We have submitted an Eastern Federal Lands Access Program Project (FLAP) Grant application in conjunction with the City of Newburyport and the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge
 - The grant funds will be used for a Planning/Technical Study to determine the feasibility of raising the turnpike, including cost estimates, construction timelines, environmental impacts and mitigation requirements, cost/benefit analysis, and permitting requirements. Further, the conceptual plan for raising the turnpike did not include any pedestrian or cycling infrastructure; and this proposed Planning/Technical Study would include consideration for multimodal infrastructure, e.g. improved shoulder/edge conditions, lane widening, traffic calming, and emergent solutions for advancing shared streets principles.

Discussion: Martha Taylor, Planning Director spoke to the Grant and addressed questions from the Select Board

Economic Bond Bill

- Senator Tarr notified us today that the Economic Bond Bill includes funding for two of Newbury's projects:
 - \$50,000 for the Main Street Bridge Railing Project
 - \$333,334 for the Larkin Dam Removal Project
 - Grateful for Senator Tarr's efforts on Newbury's behalf

The Merrimack River Dredge

- Project contract was awarded by the USACE last night (7/28). With this, the anticipated start is for mid-September as planned, however, there are still a few boxes to check before shovels are in the ground.

Discussion: G. Walker spoke to the project

National Grid

- We have received notification to expect a significant increase in our utility bills and I am preparing a Reserve Fund Transfer for the Finance Committee's Consideration

Road Salt

- The Towns Road Salt bid also came in about \$18 more per ton (another \$30K based on last year's tonnage, 1,500)

Household Hazardous Waste Day

- The Board of Health is sponsoring a HHW day on Saturday, October 15th from 9am to 1pm at the Newbury Elementary School at 63 Hanover St.
- Accepting oil based paints (NO latex paints) varnishes, pesticides, pool chemicals, gasoline and other household hazardous chemicals
- Cost for Newbury residents are \$25 for up to 10 gallons/lbs or \$40 for up to 25 gallons/lbs
- Non-residents may attend from 12-1:00pm and will pay the full \$60 fee
- You may prepay/preregister at the Newbury Health Department Office located at 12 Kent Way, Mon, Wed & Thurs 12-4 and Tuesday from 12-7

Resignations

- I have accepted the resignation of both the Animal Control Officer (10/16) and the Shellfish Constable (9/25)
- Working with the department managers on restructuring these functions and will be advertising the position shortly

Pearson Field

- Project work is complete and Oasis did a great job

COA

- Plans are underway for an open house on 10/18 from 2-6pm

Correspondence

MBTA Fall 2022 Bus Service Schedules

Whittier Regional Vocational Annual Operational Report

Meeting Updates

A.Greco reported on the MMA Fiscal Policy Meeting

A.Greco mentioned the DCC meeting being held on Thursday, September 29th, in Rowley

Review of Meeting Minutes

Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes 8.23.22

Motion: JR Colby moved to approve the minutes seconded, G. Walker and voted unanimously

Discussion: None

Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes 9.13.22

Motion: JR Colby moved to approve the minutes seconded, G. Walker, Three votes in favor, One vote abstained, the motion passes

Discussion: None

HR Board discussion of proposed changes to the Personnel Policy

Motion: JR Colby moved to approve the proposed changes to the Personnel Policy seconded, G. Walker and voted unanimously

Discussion: Mark Gleckman, Human Resource Board, spoke to the Select Board regarding conflict of interest law, code ethics and open meeting law training for Employees, Boards, Commissions, and Committees. Explained the language in Personnel Policy did not map to what was being sent out to the applicable persons. Human Resource Board and Town Counsel agreed to the changes and now asking for Select Board approval

Tracy Blais, Town Administrator, spoke to the proposed changes to the Dress Code policy

Motion: : JR Colby moved to approve the proposed changes to the Personnel Policy seconded, G. Walker and voted unanimously

Warrants

PRVW2304
VW2304
VW22304A
PR2302
PR2303
PRVW2302
PRVW2303
VW2305
RfdJul22
VW22305A
VW2305V/RI
PR2304
PRVW2305
PRVW2306
VW2306

Motion: JR Colby moved to sign the Warrants seconded, G. Walker and voted unanimously

Discussion: None

A 10 Minute break was taken

Public Hearings: 7:15 Condemnation of Property, 113 Scotland Road

Motion: JR Colby moved to open the public hearing seconded, G. Walker and voted unanimously

A.Greco read the Legal Ad into the record

Discussion: Peter Binette, Town Building Commissioner, spoke to the matter and explained the structure has been removed by the owners of the property therefore no action from the Board is needed

Motion: G. Walker moved to close the Public Hearing seconded, JR Colby and voted unanimously

Review and approve draft Capital Improvement Plan

Motion: JR Colby moved to approve the draft Capital Improvement Plan seconded G. Walker and voted unanimously

Discussion: Marshall Jespersen, Capital Planning Committee, spoke to the Capital Improvement Plan and addressed questions from the Select Board

Tracy Blais, explained the process of creating the Capital Improvement Plan

A.Greco informed the Board that the Massachusetts Select Board Association is having a webinar Friday, October 14th 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Courtney Boudrow – Recreation Committee

Appointment will occur at a future Select Board meeting

Old Business

None

Executive Session: None

None

Adjourn

Motion: At 7:48 p.m. G. Walker moved to adjourn seconded, JR Colby and voted unanimously

Respectfully submitted,
Julie O'Brien
Executive Administrator