

**Carver Select Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Town Hall- 108 Main Street  
December 20, 2022 - 5:30pm**

In Attendance: Chair Mark Townsend, Vice-Chair Sarah Hewins, John Cotter, Jim Hoffman, Town Administrator Robert Fennessy and Assistant Town Administrator Elaine Weston.

Absent: Jen Bogart

Motion to adjourn into Executive Session in accordance with G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3), to discuss litigation strategy with respect to the Town's potential joinder in multi district litigation against suppliers, manufacturers and other parties responsible for PFAS and other chemical contamination that may be present within the Town, if discussing the matter in open session will have a detrimental effect on the Town's litigating position and the chair so declares by Hewins, second by Hoffman.

Roll call-affirmative: Cotter, Townsend, Hewins, Hoffman

Motion to adjourn from Executive Session at 5:50pm and to reconvene in open session at 6:00pm by Hewins, second by Hoffman.

Roll call- affirmative: Cotter, Townsend, Hewins, Hoffman

Open Session 6:00pm:

Chair led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the community prayer.

**Citizens Participation:**

Dan Ferrini: He has questions in regards to pfas. Will resident wells be tested, what is the current extent of the contamination within the town and will there be a charge to the town for the lawsuit. If the Town does win a suit, how will the money be distributed.

Fennessy stated that we are meeting with law firms now for a class action suit and those are the things we are looking into now.

Don Williams: In regards to the Master Plan of the Town Hall- he noticed a Cupola that is not there. Hewins stated it is being repaired. Fennessy stated that it is rotted out and it is in the process of being repaired for the last few months.

Jo Beadling: Questioned if all the digging has a direct reason why all the wells are coming up with pfas. She is awaiting on results of her well testing. There has been digging for 11 years near her house. Everything is covered in sand and asked at what point does this stop and when do people responsible get held accountable.

**Town joining mulit -town pfas Litigation:** Townsend stated there will be an additional Executive Session before making a decision. Fennessy stated the Town is looking to retain a lawfirm in regards to pfas contamination. He stated that it typically comes from manmade things, not from the ground.

**Annual Town Meeting Warrant Deadline:** The deadline was set for December 23<sup>rd</sup> at noon. The day before Christmas is a holiday for the union and the Town Hall is closed. There was concern about the deadline being on a day the Town Hall is closed. Fennessy is recommending the deadline be extended to December 27.

Motion by Hewins to extend the Annual Town Meeting warrant deadline to Tuesday, December 27 at 3:00pm, second by Hoffman.

Vote 4-0

**Town Administrator Update:** The Town was awarded a grant through our insurance company for \$5,934 to purchase radio equipment for the Operations and Maintenance Department. This helps the staff with safety having two-way communication when they are in a high risk situation. These were not budgeted and getting this grant helps the Town extend their budget. Fennessy congratulated John Woods on securing the grant.

He noted the Town Hall will be closed on Friday December 23<sup>rd</sup> and Monday December 26<sup>th</sup> for the Christmas holiday.

**Approval of Minutes/licenses, etc.:**

**Minutes of 12/5/22:**

Motion to approve as amended by Hewins, second by Cotter.

Vote 3-0-1 (Hoffman abstained)

**Minutes of 12/6/22:**

Motion to approve as amended by Cotter, second by Hoffman.

Vote 4-0

Executive Session minutes of 12/6/22 for approval and not for release:

Motion to approve and not release by Hewins, second by Cotter.

Vote 4-0

**Select Board Community Announcements:**

Cotter: wished all a safe and happy holiday and new year

Hewins: Wished all a happy holidays and happy new year

Hoffman: wished all those that celebrate a Happy Hanukah and a happy and healthy new year

Townsend: Wished all a happy and healthy new year

**Next Meeting:**

December 20, 2022

Recess at 6:20 until 6:40

**Joint meeting with Finance Committee and Capital Outlay Committee:**

Finance Committee: meeting opened at 6:38pm by Vice-Chair Sulger

Members present: Vice-Chair Elizabeth Sulger, Bill Cullum, Anthony Macrina, Patrick Meagher and Walter Cole

Capital Outlay Committee: meeting opened at 6:39pm by Chair Sulger

Member present: Chair Elizabeth Sulger, Marie Zweigman, John Cotter, Jim Hoffman

Old Colony Regional Voc Tech High School (OCRVT) Superintendent Aaron Polansky present

Polansky stated that a statement of interest has been submitted to the MSBA (Mass School Building Authority).

The OCRVT Building Committee consists of representation of each member town including Maureen Townsend, OCRVT School Committee member, Mark Townsend, Carver Select Board Chair and Elizabeth Sulger, Capital Outlay Chair and Finance Committee Vice-Chair.

Polansky asked that a placeholder be put on the Annual Town Meeting warrant for a feasibility study. They will be setting up a stabilization fund to offset the costs and take some of the burden off of the 5 member towns. The member towns include Acushnet, Mattapoisett, Lakeville, Rochester and Carver.

The vision is to expand its Chapter 74 offerings in the areas of Plumbing, HVAC-R, and a few other areas, in alignment with labor market needs. This will create additional opportunities for students and further demands on the school's footprint. There are space constraints in engineering, machine and tool technology as well as staff offices. There are also plumbing, flooring and climate control issues.

The enrollment for carver in the last several years has been consistent between 89-95. The school is looking to add an additional 48 students per year overall ( an increase in 12 in each program).

Cotter asked if this is a renovation and addition. Polansky stated after the feasibility study, it will lay out the cost of a renovation, the cost of an addition and the cost of doing both. This will then be reviewed to determine what the best course of action will be.

Sulger introduced members of the Finance and Capital outlay committees. She then asked how much the feasibility study is estimated to be. Polansky stated it is estimated that the feasibility study will cost approximately \$1-\$1.2 million.

Meagher asked what the percentage of reimbursements will be. Polansky stated the MSBA sent an email outlining that currently it is 54.1% for all eligible costs. This will be recalculated in 2023 as well as further into the project after the feasibility study. It is a pay-as-you-go payment process. Polansky was told that most of the study is reimbursable.

Sulger stated that in order for the feasibility study to go through, all member towns will need it to be approved at their town meetings. Carver is the first member town to be holding their annual town meeting.

Townsend asked if information can be put on the website.

Cotter asked what percent Carver's portion will be of the feasibility fee. Polansky stated he will know better next week so that town's will know the amount going into town meeting.

Fennessy asked about towns using ARPA funds for a funding source. Polansky stated each town can allocate their funds. He is unaware if this is an approved use. Townsend stated if it was determined that ARPA funds can be used, then all five communities would not have to use their funds for it. Polansky agreed.

Sulger asked how much OCRVT would be contributing from their stabilization fund. Polansky stated their goal is to contribute at least half of the funding.

Polansky thanked Carver for being a supportive partner town to OCRVT.

Motion to adjourn Finance Committee by Meagher at 7:06pm, second by Cullum.

Vote 5-0

Motion to adjourn Capital Outlay by Zweigman at 7:07pm, second by Hoffman.

Vote 4-0

Motion to adjourn Select Board by Hewins at 7:08pm, second by Cotter.

Vote 4-0

Listing of Exhibits: Power Point presentation from Aaron Polansky , Minutes of 12/5/22 & 12/6/22