

Carver Select Board
Meeting Minutes
Carver Town Hall, 2nd Floor
October 15, 2019 - 7:00pm

In Attendance: Chairman Ronald Clarke, Vice-Chairman Mark Townsend, Robert Belbin, Sarah Hewins, Town Administrator Michael Milanoski & Elaine Weston

Absent: Alan Dunham

Chair led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and Townsend read the community prayer.

Citizens Participation: Emily Style read a statement in regards to intent of an email sent by the Town Administrator to Sarah Hewins. (Statement attached)

Liquor License Hearing: Carver Square Wine & Spirits: Transfer of License requested to South Carver Liquor Corporation d/b/a Carver Square Wine & Spirits. Attorney Matthew Porter and Dipti Shukla present to request the transfer of the Liquor License.

Motion to approve transfer of license by Belbin, second by Hewins.

Vote 4-0

Liquor License Hearing: Fiesta Charra: Approval for Alteration of Premises. Teresa Bracamontes stated that they expanded and is requesting the liquor license to include the expansion portion.

Motion to approve contingent upon having all appropriate paperwork in place with the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission by Townsend, second by Hewins.

Vote 4-0

Request For Appointment to Agricultural Commission: Megan Arruda is applying for the position of non-voting alternate. Would like to be more involved in the community and has a background in the horse industry.

Motion to approve the appointment by Hewins, second by Townsend.

Vote 4-0

Fire Department Update: Fire Chief Craig Weston and Deputy Chief Eric Germaine gave a presentation on the anticipated town-wide savings due to Insurance Services Office (ISO) 2/2Y reclassification. The Carver Fire Department recently underwent a review with the ISO in order to survey and update the fire protection classification rating of Carver. The Carver Fire Department is proud to announce that ISO awarded the Carver Fire Department a Class 2/2Y rating from an 8/8X. A 1 is exemplary and 10 does not meet current standards. This directly

effects homeowners and commercial insurance rates in the community. The new rating takes effect on November 1, 2019. The first number 2 refers to the fire protection rating of properties in the community within 5 road miles of a Fire Station and within 1,000 feet of a credible water supply. The second number 2Y refers to the fire protection rating for properties within 5 road miles of a fire station, but not within 1,000 feet of credible water supply. X and Y refer to the overall strength of the fire department in non-hydrant areas, with a Y being a higher grade than an X.

The new ISO classification will result in direct savings to residents of our community. To put the new rating in perspective, out of the over 46,000 fire protection areas surveyed across the entire United States, only 348 have achieved the Class 1 rating and only 1,597 have attained a Class 2 rating. This places Carver Fire Department into the top 4.2% of the Fire Departments across the country. Duxbury is rated as 4/10, Plymouth 3/3Y & Middleborough 4/4X.

The Fire Department team of Deputy Fire Chief Eric Germaine, Assistant Deputy Fire Chief Jesse Boyle and Fire Dispatcher Matthew Barrington all played a major role in compiling all the information required when field visits were conducted.

It has taken many years to get to this point and was not done prior due to many factors which are all graded on by the ISO including the Training Facility, Apparatus, Dispatch equipment, certified fire equipment, Personal protective gear, fire preplans systems created, training records, certifications, response data and water supply. This has taken many years to complete.

The scoring system is not call fire-fighting friendly. Nine additional points are needed to get to level 1. Support is needed from the town for keeping equipment up to date. Additional cisterns are needed in the community for additional water supply. Purchasing an aerial apparatus or ladder truck will gain additional points and sprinkler system in commercial buildings need to be mandated. Un-sprinkled buildings are given a fire suppression rating based on water supply and response.

Belbin questioned how much visible area is need for a cistern. Chief stated that for example the new Fire Station is about 50 feet and excavation area. The MVP grant has identified 6-8 water supplies in the community to develop to increase water capacity. There are currently 130 identified water supplies, some are seasonal. They are looking for areas where they are missing the water supplies. The cost of a cistern and design is being looked at as part of the grant can be approximately \$100,000.

Public Safety/Town-wide Radio System Upgrade: Fire Chief Craig Weston, Police Chief Marc Duphily and EMS Chief Thomas Walsh presented an overview to upgrade the 25 year-old equipment. All Chiefs have worked together researching, meeting with communication specialists as well as having many internal meetings developing realistic and practical solutions to improve the aging radio infrastructure. This takes into account evolving technologies and changing public safety demands and costs.

The plan is broken down in to 6 components, each designated with a priority level and explanation of each priority:

Priority #1: Component 1: Establish an Emergency Radio Communication Maintenance Stabilization Fund of \$50,000. The purpose of the fund is to establish monies used for preventative maintenance, unforeseen upgrades, continued modernization and repairs to Carver's Public Safety Radio Systems infrastructure. The fund would be overseen via the direction of a new formed Public Safety/Town-Wide Communication Committee consisting of the Police Chief, EMS Chief, Fire Chief, Town Administrator, EMD Director, DPW rep, and School Superintendent.

Component 2: New Public Safety Repeaters/Receivers/Pager at a cost of \$162,000 to upgrade the current 20+ year-old communication repeaters and receivers for Fire, Police, EMS and DPW. This will also purchase a JPS Voter for DPW which will allow the current DPW channel to receive and transmit radio audio across the three communication towers in North, Center and South Carver. This will not only increase DPW portable coverage throughout the community, but will also allow the DPW channel to be used as an interoperability channel for Fire, Police and EMS. In addition, this will upgrade the existing Minitor IV and V Fire/EMS notification pagers. These pagers are carried by Fire and EMS personnel. The current pagers are becoming unrepairable and are in need of replacement.

Currently repairs are being made by Deputy Germaine and Dispatcher Mike Shaw free of cost to the town, but is not an efficient way to operate.

Component 3: A new town-wide Public Safety Antenna Tower>Loading of Antenna/Radio equipment for a cost of \$273,000.

Priority #2: Component 4: Town-wide fiber line extension/licensed microwave link from Fire Department to Primary Repeater Site at a cost of \$227,000. This will extend the existing town-wide fiber network from the Elementary School to the primary repeater site of 31 Main St.

Priority #3: Component 5: Upgrade Public Safety Mobile and Portable Radios for a cost of \$555,000 This will be for purchasing new Public Safety Mobile and Portable radios for Fire, Police and EMS Departments. Currently, the public safety departments are utilizing 5 different styles of mobile radios and 6 different styles of portable radios. The vast majority of these devices are outdated and over 10 years old and in some cases over 20 years old.

Having all public safety departments utilizing the same style mobile and portable radios will create standardization, make it easier to program and update and ultimately provide clearer emergency communication among the public safety responders.

Priority #4: Component 6: Future considerations upgrades of \$288,000 for dispatch consoles/additional licensed microwave link/ future antenna moves. At some point in the next 5-8 years the primary and secondary dispatch consoles located in the public safety and fire dispatch facilities should be replaced with new systems. These dispatch consoles act as the

dispatcher radio interface with all public safety departments. There are currently spare parts to keep consoles current until that time. Consideration should be given to creating additional licensed microwave link from the new police station to the primary repeater tower located at 31 Main St. This would act as a redundant link if the primary microwave system and fiber lines were to fail in an emergency situation.

Chief Weston thanked Deputy Germaine and Dispatcher Shaw for the countless hours spent and dedication to this project.

Chair questioned the investment made in 1994 since technology has changed dramatically- how long is it anticipated this new technology will carry – Deputy Germaine stated that the equipment they have was not intended to last 25 years and realistically this should have a 10-15 year life span anticipating parts will be available for repairs, etc. Once fiber optics are in, we are at the mercy at the equipment that fails.

Townsend would like the BDA system for the Middle High School to be a priority. He also questioned the compatibility of different manufacturers to the system. Deputy Germaine stated that there is a communication failure component.

Select Board Update:

Belbin: Proposed Fence Viewer and Town Administrator by-law changes as well as changes to the Select Board from Selectmen for By-Laws. Would like a copy of the TA schedule/calendar. Thanked Dawn Padovani & Nancy Magnussen for their services to the community as they have retired. Thanked the Police Department on the recent drug bust in town. Would like to see a satisfaction survey go out to all employees in town. Wade St. property was given back to the town and the deed was not transferred from the RDA to the town. Would like the TOPS committee (town owned property) meeting to be open to the public.

Hewins: Detectible limit of 1-4 dioxane was ok'd by the DEP and didn't agree that any 1-4 dioxane is acceptable in a resident's water. Auction lots being sold are parcels of beach property. Would like the process would be more transparent. Would like MIS lots of Great Meadow Cedar Swamp put on the next agenda which are currently on the town auction list. Would like to request in the future that citizens participation records be put on the records as part of the minutes. Would like a satisfaction survey to be anonymous.

Townsend: In regards to auction items Wenham Shores property- residents came to him and a solution was found to the property. Properties should be vetted by the Board before the auction. Congratulated Andy & Maureen Cardarelli for the collection event for the Shane Gives Thanks food pantry. On Oct 19 9-2 South Meadow Village will hold a Holly Fair. Veteran's gathering 10/30 at Carver Public Library to educate veterans on services available. 11/9 Boy Scouts are hosting a breakfast at Our Lady of Lourdes beginning at 8:30.

Clarke: Carver Lyons is sponsoring a Halloween breakfast on 10/26 at the Elementary School.

Lakeville Animal Shelter Agreement: Motion to approve by Hewins, second by Belbin.

Vote 4-0

Town Hall Meeting Update: Town Counsel K-P Law is looking into see if other communities are doing this, however it opens the door for Open Meeting Law violations. The Board will continue to look into the potential of doing this. It may end up being two (2) Board members at a time.

Town Administrator Update: Town Auction Update: Town Counsel prepared a process for the different things the Town has to do for land of low value and tax title. The Conservation Agent has had many conversations about conserving the land and it falls under the land of low value. As there is no identifiable owner, it needs to go thru this process.

Update on Police Station & Playground: Pre-bid meeting this Thursday and bid is open for Police Station. Playground, parking lots and ball fields are under construction.

Update on FY21 Budget Process: Process is moving forward to get as much money in the operating budget as possible. The OPEB liability was 65 million and is now 34 million. If this was left unaddressed, layoffs would be needed. Preliminary budget is anticipated to be released in November.

Green Communities Grant Update: SRPEDD has been hired to work with the town on the application process.

Center Street issue on trucking : This is being reviewed by legal and staff to try to get additional documentation.

Request for Entertainment License: Crane Brook Tea Room Restaurant d/b/a Crane Brook Restaurant is requesting an Entertainment License.

Motion to approve by Belbin, second by Townsend.

Vote 4-0

Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes of 9/3/19 by Belbin, second by Hewins. Vote 4-0

Motion to approve minutes of 9/17/19 by Belbin, second by Townsend (HEWINS recuse) Vote 3-0

Motion to approve minutes of 9/26/19 by Townsend, second by Townsend. Vote 4-0

Motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to litigation: (Ravenbrook Landfill in N. Carver) that may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the town if held in open session as declared by the Chairman, and to reconvene in open

session for purpose of adjournment by Townsend, second by Belbin. Roll Call: Affirmative:
Belbin, Hewins, Townsend and Clarke.

Motion to adjourn at 9:30 pm by Belbin, second by Townsend.

Vote 4-0

**Carver citizen public comment at meeting of the Select Board, 10/15/19
—Emily Style, 195 Meadow Street, age 71**

I have not lived in this town nearly as long as many have but I have lived 71 years, participating in & observing human behavior.

Given communication basics – specifically in regard to the INTENT of a communication vv. the IMPACT of a communication – I have a couple of questions for members of the Select Board and for Michael, in his role as the Town Administrator.

1. Michael, would you speak to your INTENT – in writing the Sept 19 email to Sarah, about comments she made to the Carver Reporter?

I ask this question because – of how I experience the IMPACT of that communication of yours to her – with the potential it carried to, once again – open up conversation about a controversial process. I am, of course, only one person. And do not know the INTENT of your heart & mind in sending it. But, in the interest of transparency, I ask for clarification from you about your INTENT in sending that September 19 email.

2. Given its IMPACT – of once again stirring a troubled pot, and because I know management work involves ongoing thinking & re-thinking about steps taken – I ask whether you, Michael, would like to withdraw it. For the purpose of focusing on moving forward. For me, as a Carver Citizen, this course correction would be a wise one to make.

3. My 3rd question is a clarification one, in that I experience the TA's September 19 letter to Sarah Hewins as one that a BOSS would send. Is the TA the BOSS of members of the Select Board? I had this same question in my mind when I witnessed the Select Board meeting, months ago, which dealt with the January 2, 2019 Open Letter that Sarah wrote about process matters related to the playground/police station – a meeting in which both the architect & landscape designer participated in a scripted format. The IMPACT of that meeting on me – one Carver citizen – was that I was witnessing aggressive bullying behavior. This pattern feels in need of correction, in my view.