

**Carver Select Board
Meeting Minutes
Town Hall Meeting Room #1
July 20, 2021 - 5:15pm**

In Attendance: Chair Mark Townsend, Vice-Chair Sarah Hewins, Jim Hoffman, Town Administrator Richard LaFond & Assistant Town Administrator Elaine Weston.

Absent: Jen Bogart

Via remote participation: Robert Belbin

Meeting called to order at 5:21pm.

Executive Session: Adjourn into Executive Session in accordance with MGL c. 30A §21(a)(3), to discuss strategy with respect to non-union contract negotiations if the chair so declares, as discussing this matter in open session may have a detrimental effect on the Board's bargaining position (Proposed Finance Director Contract) and to return to open session. Motion by Hewins, second by Hoffman.

Roll call-affirmative: Hoffman, Hewins, Townsend & Belbin

Motion to adjourn at 5:35 and reconvene at 6:00pm in to open session by Hewins, second by Hoffman.

Roll Call – affirmative: Hoffman, Hewins, Townsend, Belbin

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

Citizens participation: none

Town Administrator Update:

Cares Act Update: A check was received two weeks ago and \$700,000 is still under review for 3 submittals. There is approximately \$200,000 left in funding which will be spent on items for the school, touchless doors and a new rooftop unit for the Town Hall. EMS is looking to purchase automatic stretchers. Hoffman asked what the process for submitting requests. LaFond stated that the Finance Director is the clearinghouse for submissions and then a conversation with the Town Administrator to determine what will get submitted based on the eligibility for reimbursement. Rick then signs and it gets submitted. A small working group currently meets weekly to determine the usage of the remaining funds.

Plymouth Street Water Line Update: The water line is installed and the Town is now in compliance with the DEP Administrative Consent Order. The Town is now in the process of finding out how many houses are going to tie into the water line. A public outreach meeting was held and DEP did not show up at that meeting. The Town is working to have the DEP available for the public to ask questions again and to discuss the plan from DEP to educate the

public on what their options may be. Health Agent Kevin Forgue will be sending out information next week on when the next meeting will be.

Recreation Committee Plan for Pickle Ball courts update: A design for the court is being done at the Council on Aging. This coming week LaFond will be meeting with Dan Badger and Recreation at 3:30pm. There are items that will be addressed as far as what can and cannot happen on the Conservation piece.

Route 44 Project Update: Proposed Technical Review Fund is being requested. The agreement is an agenda item tonight. This is in line for the Board to approve, if it is approved, do so subject to minor changes as recommended by Town Counsel.

Town Hall & Library Update: Siding has been chosen and procurement may drive the cost. The engineering firm has begun their review of updating the HVAC system of the library. Pricing will be accurate in time for a fall town meeting if one is held.

Building Commissioner position update: Candidates were interviewed today and second interviews will be scheduled for next week.

Commercial Garage Public Hearing Continued from 6/15/21: Rusini Trucking, Inc.

Motion by Hewins to open the hearing at 6:20pm, second by Hoffman.

4-0

Townsend asked if members of the public were present: None

They would like to continue with the trucking business and add on a repair garage in the Roby's facility across from Shaw's. They are looking to bring in more income for their small company. Hewin's confirmed repairs is part of the license application. Weston confirmed it is part of the Commercial Garage License. Hoffman questioned the hours. Applicant stated the hours are 9:00am-5:00pm Monday-Friday.

Motion to adjourn public hearing at 6:23pm

Vote 4-0

Motion to approve License by Hewins, second by Hoffman

Vote 4-0

Possible cap of out-of-town beach stickers: Belbin does not think there needs to be a cap on it. Hoffman questioned if there has ever been a cap before.

No change made.

Increase Parking ticket fee:

Motion by Belbin to increase the parking ticket fee at the town beaches from \$15 to \$50, second by Hoffman.

Vote 4-0.

Town Administrator Update- continued:

Boy Scout Troop 48 recycling project update: The Troop will begin recycling at the DPW barn beginning July 20.

Pole Hearing Continued from 6/15/21: NStar & Verizon for 6 new poles on Indian Street:

Motion to open the hearing at 6:30 by Hoffman, second by Hewins.

Vote 4-0

Townsend asked if members of the public were present: None

Karen Johnson present along with Terry Forcehanger, Supervisor. Connecting from the East is not feasible as it is privately owned. Connecting from the West is feasible and comes at a significantly greater cost.

Belbin asked since Indian Street is a scenic road, how will the utility be maintained if trees cannot be cut. Hewins clarified that Belbin is referring to the Open Space & Recreation Plan in which Indian Street is established as a scenic road.

Contractor Hasiotas will require tree limbing to put the poles in, not cutting. Underground will require 1800 feet and require a greater disturbance of trees than the 600 feet above ground.

Belbin asked if past practice requires underground utilities as it has been done in other areas of the town. If the town wants to require all underground lines going forward, it would need to go in the Bylaw. Hewins stated Alexandra Lane has underground lines because it is a conservation sub-division and that the Planning Board is allowed to require underground lines for Form Bs/subdivisions. On Indian Street itself, these in front of us are Form A lots, which stands for Approval Not Required, and Planning has no control of overhead or underground lines when given Form A lots.

Belbin would like Town Counsel to be asked at what point can the town deny above ground lines and require underground lines.

Motion to close hearing by Hewins, second by Hoffman.

Vote 4-0

Motion by Hewins to approve the permit conditional upon no tree removal during the installation process, second by Hoffman.

Hoffman reiterated that the response from Town Counsel states that the Board cannot deny the request for the above ground lines as it is not in their jurisdiction.

Hewins stated in the process of doing this, she would like the conditions relayed to those involved.

Vote 3-1 (Belbin opposed)

Raise rates in the EMS Department (Emergency Medical Services): Chief Michael Ryan present- Commstar billing services is used and rates were recommended higher than proposed by Ryan in this request. Medicare has set rates and those rates need to be made up for in other areas. Many more people have changed to Medicare for many different reasons including the Covid pandemic. Carver's rates have fallen behind the other ambulance service providers that they represent. Commstar recommends that we update our billing rates to reflect the same amounts as their other clients, which they are successfully billing and collecting these higher rates for. The change in billing would be:

BLS Emergency Base- increase by 11.6%; BLS Non-Emergency Base – increase by 11.6%; ALS Non-Emergency Base- increase by 60%; ALS-1 Emergency Base- increase by 6.9%; ALS-2 Emergency Base- increase by 4%; Mileage- increase by 11%.

Motion to approve rate increases by Hewins, second by Hoffman.

Vote 4-0

Select Board Goals and Objectives: LaFond will coordinate a facilitator and Townsend suggested this roundtable discussion be held on September 21st

Motion by Hewins to ratify the contract for the Finance Director Suzanne Moquin, second by Hoffman.

Vote 4-0

Establishment of a Technical Review Fund for the Route 44 Urban Renewal Project:

LaFond stated it is important for the Fire Department to have this expertise. Funding will begin at \$20,000 funded by the applicant, Hillwood, not the town and will be replenished as this fund is used.

Belbin stated the Redevelopment Authority has an account as well which can be used for the whole town.

Hewins stated she thinks it will be cleaner to have it go through the Town in a separate account. LaFond stated Counsel recommended there be a separate account for the Town.

Appointment of additional member to CMWRRDD (Carver Marion Wareham Regional Refuse Disposal District). There are no applicants at this time and this item will be put on the August agenda.

Five minutes break at 7:00pm.

Bebin questioned the Fire Services Engineer and if the Developer had any input companies the Chief was looking at. LaFond stated yes- that Hillwood recommended this firm to the Chief and the Chief reached out to communities that have worked with them. Belbin would like to see wording that if the Town is unhappy with the Engineer that they can choose another Engineer. In regards to if Boards/Committees need technical assistance, they would have use of the funds. Hewins stated her understanding is that amounts expended need to be reimbursed so that the fund always has \$20,000 available. Belbin's concern is that the Developer has the right to review the scope of services. LaFond stated Hillwood would have no decision making authority- Hillwood who is the developer can only comment.

Motion to approve agreement for establishment of maintenance of review fee fund with an initial deposit into the fund of \$20,000 and any minor amendments recommended by Town Counsel by Hewins, second by Hoffman.

Townsend asked if there was urgency to approve this account. LaFond stated it is for the Fire Department. LaFond stated he sent this in an email to the Board prior to the meeting.

Vote 2-2 (Belbin and Hoffman opposed)

Motion fails

LaFond asked for direction to move forward. Townsend asked if Board members voted no because they were against the fund or for another reason. Belbin and Townsend do not recall receiving this in an email from LaFond. Townsend requested a meeting be posted for Monday, July 26 at 8:30am for this one item for the agenda.

Forest St. Property Memorandum of Understanding:- Redevelopment Authority (RDA) Chair Sharon Clarke & Member Johanna Leighton present.

There is a parcel of land located at 90 Forest Street opposite of Quickeez. The RDA has been trying to sell it for several years and now there is a buyer for it. In the process of trying to sell the property, the RDA found they do not have the proper paper trail to facilitate the process. There is an outstanding tax bill of approximately \$37,000. In 2015 at the Annual Town Meeting, it was voted to turn the property over to the Select Board and in August of 2015 the Select Board voted to turn over the property to the RDA. KP law has drawn up a new Deed to convey the property. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been drafted and is in the process of making minor changes and the Deed is ready to be signed. Johanna Leighton stated going forward they would like to work with an alternate attorney Kathleen O'Donnell not at KP Law.

Leighton would like to meet with Rick to iron out the MOU in order to move forward with this so the land can be sold later this year.

Motion to approve the Quitclaim Deed between the Town of Carver and the Carver Redevelopment Authority regarding 90 Forest Street by Hewins, second by Hoffman.

Belbin asked how much money is being spent on the property. The RDA is tracking the costs and a final cost won't be known until it is presented at the settlement. The sale price is \$150,000, less 15% and the cost of the back taxes is under \$38,000 and the cost for the RDA is under \$5,000 and the Town will get the rest of the money.

Vote 4-0

Request for One Day Special License: Carver Sportsman's Club 8/29/21 10:00am-8:00pm

Motion to approve by Hoffman, second by Hewins.

Vote 3-0 (Belbin recused himself from the vote)

Request for Road Race: Pilgrim Man Triathlon on 9/18/21.

Motion to approve by Hoffman, second by Hewins.

Vote 4-0

Select Board Community Announcements:

Hoffman: None

Belbin: None

Hewins: Carver Old Home Day will be Saturday 7/31 and there will be a road race beginning at 8:00am and the clambake is at 1:00. For tickets call 508-866-9196.

Townsend: Also mentioned Carver Old Home Day. The Council on Aging has received a \$20,000 earmark grant for improvements.

Select Board Notes: none

Motion to adjourn at 7:40pm by Hoffman, second by Hewins.

Vote 4-0