

**Carver Select Board
Meeting Minutes
Town Hall Meeting Room #1
August 17, 2021 - 6:00pm**

In Attendance: Chair Mark Townsend, Vice-Chair Sarah Hewins, Robert Belbin, Jen Bogart, Jim Hoffman, Town Administrator Richard LaFond & Shelby Blair

Motion to go into Executive Session at 5:00pm in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(1), to discuss complaints and potential disciplinary action against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual and to return to open session by Belbin, second by Hoffman.

Roll Call – Affirmative

Hoffman – yes

Hewins – yes

Townsend – yes

Belbin – yes

Bogart – yes

Open session:

Meeting called to order at 6:07pm.

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

Hoffman left the table.

Request for appointment: Kevin Bradshaw to the Carver, Marion, Wareham Regional Refuse Disposal District

Bradshaw came up to speak. He explained that he was involved in Boy Scouts for many years and is now looking for a way to be involved with the town again.

Belbin explained that he and Bradshaw worked in Boy Scouts together and thanked him for applying and wanting to be a part of this committee.

Motion to appoint Kevin Bradshaw to the Carver, Marion, Wareham Regional Refuse Disposal District by Hewins, second by Belbin.

Vote 4-0

Request for appointment: William Garnett to the Earth Removal Committee

Motion to approve William Garnett to the Earth Removal Committee by Belbin, second by Hewins.

Vote 4-0

Belbin appreciates that Garnett completed his request by filling out the Conflict of Interest form since he is an employee for the Town.

NStar/Eversource Pole Hearing: Hammond Street

Motion to open Pole Hearing by Hewins, second by Belbin.

Vote 4-0

Hoffman returned to the table.

Bogart stated she believes that these poles are installed already. She had some confusion as to why these did not come before the Select Board beforehand.

Motion to table this Pole Hearing to the next meeting agenda to be held on September 8, 2021 to have the representatives be present to answer the Board's questions and clarify the confusion, second by Hewins.

Vote 5-0

Presentation from Carver Cares, the substance abuse prevention coalition for the Town

Katelyn McSweeney – Coordinator, Scott Knief – Superintendent, Carol Spiewkouski – Parent, Melanie Castelli – Resident & David Glass were present for this PowerPoint Presentation attached.

Townsend thanked the group for all their hard work.

Belbin thanked the group and explained that he works at a local hospital and sees these issues come through.

Hewins remembers the tragic events in the past that involved driving under the influence and thanked the group for all that they do.

Hoffman also thanked the group.

Bogart thanked the group and complimented them on their presentation.

Townsend asked how others could get involved in this and McSweeney explained that their biggest involvement would be through social media, their website and they hold monthly meetings.

Update on enforcement of 149 & 152 Plymouth Street

LaFond explained that the owner of 152 Plymouth Street plans to meet with the Building Commissioner to become compliant. He explained that they have not had the tools to have resident be compliant, but with the new Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer, hopefully this will change.

Hoffman thought there was a notice for 149 Plymouth Street to be demolished. LaFond was not aware of this. Belbin explained that it was either to demolish or place a fence around it.

Townsend believes that it would be important to have the Building Commissioner be present for this topic on the next agenda.

Discussion and possible vote: Forest Street property Memorandum of Understanding

Joanna Leighton came up to speak and explained that this has already been approved by the Redevelopment Authority and is looking for approval from the Select Board and their signatures.

Motion to approve this Memorandum of Understanding by Belbin, second by Hewins.

Vote 5-0

Belbin explained that he would like the Board to get a copy of this document once signed off by both parties.

Approve Picnic Isle Order of Taking located at Wenham Pond

Motion to approve the Order of Taking by Belbin, second by Hewins.

Vote 5-0

Discussion and possible vote: MBTA Advisory Board Select Board appointment

Motion to appoint Mark Townsend for the MBTA Advisory Board, second by Hoffman.

Vote 5-0

Discussion on having wells checked for Pfas and protecting the wells

Belbin explained that he was informed that the wells that were tested were not showing up at the target level. He did some research and found a program that tests wells and he requested this for his own well to be tested. He explained that Town wells need to be tested and would like the Town to be ahead of the game before other Town's decide to do this. The results will come in quicker if we start early.

LaFond explained that if there are no objections, he would gladly facilitate this.

Reappointment of Election Officers

Motion to reappoint the Election Officers with the amendment of adding Mary Ross by Hewins, second by Hoffman.

Vote 5-0

Town Administrator Update

LaFond gave an update on the following topics –

Covid/Cares Act/ARPA – The Town’s 2 largest submissions to date are currently under review by the county as the backlog begins to loosen. Those 2 items include the \$289,000 and \$313,000 submissions. Hopes to have a conclusion soon as these reviews will be informative as to how much will be available to spend/seek reimbursement over and above the amount the Town has already submitted. New touchless doors are being installed in the Town Hall through the Cares Act Program. This includes retaining the existing doors and installing an ADA compliant threshold, new hinges and the touchless mechanism. The Town has received its first disbursement of ARPA funding in the amount of \$615,817.36, which is half of the allotment.

Hoffman asked how come the Cares Act Packet that was from 11/3/2020 has taken so long to review. LaFond responded that since this packet was large it had to be sent in multiple pieces and started hand delivering them instead.

Open Space Plan – Hewins mentioned that they will be meeting this Thursday August 19, 2021.

Plymouth Street Water Line Extension – Kevin Forgue will have follow-up communication with residents pertaining to DEP’s review of a plan by Langdon to DEP with recommendations for each of the 19 homes. Kevin has also solicited 3 quotes for providing service to all 19 homes so the Town will be ready to move forward in a timely manner.

Motion to hook up the 5 houses as soon as possible by Belbin, second by Hoffman.

Vote 5-0

LaFond advised that a motion will not be needed and he will move forward with this process without a Select Board motion and vote.

Building Commissioner – Paul Boucher began his tenure on August 16th. He has been presented with multiple zoning and safety concerns that he will be pursuing forthwith.

Finance Director – Sue Moquin begins her tenure on September 20th. In the meantime there is a transition from the interim Town Accountant to Sue in advance of that date.

Lakeview Street – On July 21, a representative from the Community Preservation Committee, Council On Aging & Recreation Committee met with leadership of the Buzzards Bay Coalition (BBC) for a site walk of the newly acquired 44 Lakeview Street. BBC will provide the Town some options for consideration as well as recommendations for professional guidance should the Town choose to engage such expertise.

Library AC – Engineering of the HVAC needs is underway with the intent of proposing an article for town meeting for replacement/repair.

Rt. 44 Urban Renewal – The Technical Review accounts with the Town and RDA have been approved by all parties. The engineering agreement with Jensen Hughes to assist the Fire Department is now in place. The Town’s working group continues to meet to ensure consistency of information received by Town Departments and the RDA.

Belbin explained that he has an issue with the Town Administrator appointing others to a committee and that he believes it was wrong for LaFond to ask Townsend and Hewins to be a part of this working group.

Townsend believes that it is a natural route to choose the Chair & Vice-Chair to this type of committee and that is what LaFond chose to do.

Bogart explained that she was unaware she was being represented at this working group.

Townsend explained that it was his intention to keep the Select Board updated as much as possible and requested that LaFond place an item on the agenda going forward on this.

Hewins explained that Townsend and herself were not appointed, it was more of an invitation.

Hoffman understands that LaFond wanted some sort of representation for the Select Board and naturally went to the Chair & Vice-Chair for leadership, but would have liked to have the other three members notified of this sooner. He also asked who was on the working group. LaFond responded that this group is made up of members from the Fire command staff, RDA members, Board of Assessors, Select Board members, Town Planner and the Building Commissioner who started today.

Cranberry Point – A Battery Energy Storage System is going to be located off Route 58 and interconnecting with the Eversource substation. It is likely the Town and Cranberry Point will be negotiating a PILOT agreement at some point as the project nears completion.

GATRA van radio upgrades – GATRA updated the radios in each of the vans in order to be fully operational with the town-wide radio system upgrade.

Montello Street Interchange – Sealed bids for the construction of the interchange will be opened on Monday, August 23rd for the reconstruction and realignment of Montello Street and Route 58 and the installation of the new Traffic Signal System.

Capital Outlay Process – This past Tuesday evening, LaFond met with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Capital Outlay Committee to begin planning for FY2023.

Approval of Manny Box – This is named after the Worcester Police Officer, Manny Familia who died in the line of duty this past June when trying to save a young boy who was drowning. In his honor, there has been an effort to create a “Manny Box” that can be placed near bodies of water that include life vests, buoy, floating rope and other equipment that can help in these type of situations. This box is being donated by Patricia Merritt. This will be placed at Sampson’s Pond.

Running Businesses out of your home – Belbin would like to see a process in place for this in order to assess what type of businesses are being run within the Town in residents homes. Having a flow between the Assessor’s Office, Building Commissioner and Permitting Department with this process would be a good way to start.

Townsend suggested to LaFond that this could be something that could be brought up to the new Building Commissioner.

Next Meeting

September 8, 2021 at 9:00am

Approval of Minutes

6/15/21 – Bogart read her changes to the Board.

Motion to approve by Belbin, second by Hoffman.

Vote 5-0

7/12/21 – Motion to approve by Belbin, second by Hoffman.

Vote 5-0

7/20/21 – Motion to approve by Belbin, second by Hoffman.

Vote 4-0-1

Bogart abstained.

7/26/21 – Motion to approve by Belbin, second by Hoffman.

Vote 5-0

Approval and Release of Executive Session Minutes

3/2/21 – Motion to approve and release by Belbin, second by Hoffman.

Vote 5-0

4/6/21 – Motion to approve and release by Belbin, second by Hoffman.

Vote 5-0

4/21/21 – Motion to approve and release by Belbin, second by Hoffman.

Vote 5-0

Select Board Community Announcements

Townsend announced that King Richard's Faire "Carver Day" is September 4th. Also, Carver Old Home Day was a success and a wonderful day.

Hoffman explained how Carver Night Out was a great turnout despite the weather they had.

Motion to go into Executive Session at 7:54pm in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(1), to discuss complaints and potential disciplinary action against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual and not to adjourn in open session by Hewins, second by Belbin.

Roll Call – Affirmative

Hoffman – yes

Hewins – yes

Townsend – yes

Belbin – yes

Bogart – yes

