

**Carver Select Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Town Hall- 108 Main Street  
November 1, 2022 - 5:30pm**

In Attendance: Chair Mark Townsend, Vice-Chair Sarah Hewins, Jen Bogart and Assistant Town Administrator Elaine Weston.

Via Remote Participation: Jim Hoffman

Absent: Town Administrator Robert Fennessy, John Cotter

Motion to adjourn into Executive Session in accordance with G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(7), to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law (review and approval of minutes from Select Board's 9/28/22 Executive Session) under G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(1) by Hewins, second by Bogart.

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

Motion to adjourn Executive Session at 5:40pm and to return to open session at 6:00pm by Hewins, second by Bogart.

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

Return to open session at 6:00pm

Absent: Select Board members John Cotter & Jim Hoffman & Town Administrator Robert Fennessy

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

**Citizens Participation:** none

**King Richard's Faire Public Comment & Public Safety Update:**

**Public Comment:** Emily Meade stated she expected a weekend or two of traffic. On October 15, cars were parked all up and down Route 58. There were people all over the road, officers were trying to handle the chaos, she was yelled at by Faire attendees walking past her driveway. She does not feel safe with her children riding their bikes in the driveway which is something they do on the weekend. She would like to see something change. There is no way to plan around 8 weekends in the fall, and that is not realistic to ask.

Ellen Blanchard thanked the Carver Police for dealing with the difficult situation that came to be. She stated she is a prisoner in her own house, due to her house being located at the Faire entrance/exit, on the Faire weekends. She is hopeful that the Faire will work with the Town to

make it a better situation. It is the responsibility of the Faire to make sure they have enough parking. She has lived here for 30 years and the traffic is getting worse every year.

Savory Moore stated he feels like a prisoner in his home for 8 weekends a year. He can get out of his home, but cannot get back in. He cannot get to the post office as it takes over an hour to go 2 ½ miles round trip. He doesn't have the ability to go out on the long weekend in October and do things because he can't get anywhere. He noted a lot of the people at the Faire wearing dark clothing walking to their cars along Route 58 and stated they are lucky no one got hit.

#### Public Safety:

Police Chief Marc Duphily thanked all those that worked to help work through the issues that arose on the weekends of the Faire. September 24 was the beginning of when the traffic pattern was overwhelmed and there was not enough parking at the Faire for the number of tickets sold. This caused a public safety problem. Route 58 became completely jammed up. The way the Faire was selling tickets was unrestricted and undated tickets. This was mainly what contributed to the traffic and parking issues. Public Safety officials worked to have extra parking at Edaville, which caused its own problems, as there were not enough staff in place to control the 1,000 people that were parked there and also needed to return to the lot. The Town was unable to have extra detail officers due to the strike that was happening at Sysco. The Police were letting people know the Faire was closed and turning people away and keeping people from parking on Route 58. Once another issue arose, the Police were unable to patrol Route 58 for cars parking. At this point, the Select Board should have the committee to work with the Faire to come up with a new plan for next year. He stated the number of people allowed into the Faire each day needs to be limited. He has spoken with Aimee Sedley from the Faire about this and she has agreed.

Each weekend, all Public Safety Chiefs were in communication so that any emergency could be addressed as needed. He stated now what needs to be dealt with is the people that come after the parking lots are full.

Duphily stated when the parking lot is not full, it is quick to get the cars off the road and into the lot. Once the lot is full, cars need to be re-routed, and there is nowhere to re-route them.

Townsend asked the amount of cars that can fit into the lots at the Faire.

Duphily stated between 2400-2500 cars can fit into the lots at the Faire.

There is currently no agreement in place that all tickets being sold for the Faire going forward will be dated.

Townsend stated he heard that tickets may be sold on 'Black Friday' and he is concerned that those tickets may not be dated.

Townsend witnessed the people walking along Route 58 in dark costumes and stated they are unfamiliar with the area. Duphily stated it was a dangerous situation.

Townsend asked with all the people walking along Route 58 and Savory Ave., was there a trash issue. Operations and Maintenance Deputy Director John Woods stated there was an issue with trash on Savory Ave. and at Union Cemetery.

Bogart thanked the Police Department. The second weekend that the bus was being used from Carver Square, she questioned why the Faire wasn't using a private bus service (they were using our school buses). She would like to see the Faire held accountable and be responsible for solving its own problems instead of relying on the town to do so. Duphily stated he can't speak for the Faire, however he did speak to Superintendent Knief and he was pleased with the amount the Faire was charged, that the bus drivers were given more work, and he would be happy to work with them again in the future. Duphily agreed that the Faire should be organizing these things ahead of time and for the Faire to come up with a plan for it.

Bogart asked if overtime was billed to the Faire. Duphily stated detail officers can be charged, but there were none available, The Town paid for the cost of the overtime of 2 officers, 4 hours each, to ride up and down Route 58 when there was a mass of walkers leaving the Faire. He stated if the Faire is to use satellite parking in the future, they need to cover the costs of the officers doing it.

Bogart stated that as a Board, they need to communicate with the Faire so that the Police Department does not get blamed for the traffic issues. She does not want to see the Faire disparaging the Police Department. She believes the Select Board and the town need to have some tough conversations with the Faire to let them know things seriously need to change so citizens do not experience what they did this year again. She stated it's unacceptable for a resident to feel it's unsafe for her children to play in their own driveway.

Townsend stated he saw the social media posts Bogart is referring to and stated he agreed they were inappropriate.

Hewins asked if a vote was needed from the Board to reconstitute the committee. Duphily stated he did not think this was necessary. Hewins would like to see a Memorandum of Agreement with the Faire or something in writing. Duphily agreed something needs to be in writing as well as plans for emergency protocols. The Town needs to be ready for that. Hewins agreed to having the Faire pay for their needs to support their ticket sales, not have it be the burden of the Town.

Hewins agreed to not have open-ended tickets. She stated they should all be dated. Duphily stated all the officers spent time on the road speaking to people who purchased tickets and drove hours and were turned away. They were upset and it takes time to speak to each of them, which perpetuated traffic issues.

Bogart asked if there was an occupancy limit at the Faire. Duphily stated this is being looked into, particularly since a liquor license is issued.

Townsend asked if satellite parking were to work, then the tickets issued from the Faire should have the parking address on the tickets issued so that they don't drive to the main parking lot, eliminating extra traffic on Main Street.

Duphily stated changing the traffic plan once you are in it is difficult and would require more signs and officers.

Townsend voiced concerns about a storm causing people to need shelter. If their cars are not close by, that would cause a logistics issue as well.

Townsend would like to meet on this again in early January to see what progress has been made by the committee. Keeping the committee in place is a good idea, but the scope of the committee was originally a traffic plan and it needs to be broadened. He would like the Chief to work with members of the committee to come up with a broader scope and it will be put on a future agenda to be voted.

Bogart expressed concerns about tickets being sold for holiday gifts. Townsend will check with the Town Administrator on this to see if there is anything the Town can do.

Duphily thanked his staff, all first responders and everyone who assisted in helping move traffic through town and re-route traffic. He thanked the people who work for the Faire who cooperated in trying to find solutions to the issues as well.

Bogart asked for the Board's opinion on the public school buses being used although the Superintendent was fine with it. She disagrees with the Town's buses being rented out like a private charter service and questioned if this is going to become a regular thing – that someone can rent a Carver school bus for their event. She also wondered who cleaned the buses before being used by children on Monday mornings.

Townsend stated he believed that using the buses was an emergency response for an emergency situation. Duphily stated he understands the concern. Hewins stated it should be left up to Scott Knief, the Superintendent of the schools, and that he was very satisfied with what he charged the Faire this year and it kept his drivers happy so it should be up to him.

Duphily stated one night it was but that the Superintendent is open to an open arrangement in the future because it keeps the bus drivers working.

Townsend asked how many hours were needed for trash clean up. Woods stated it was approximately one hour total.

Hewins asked if there was any vandalism to the cemetery. Woods stated no.

**Approval of 2023 Licenses:**

Motion by Hewins to approve all 2023 licenses contingent upon taxes being paid in full and Entertainment licenses contingent upon inspection from Fire and Building Departments, second by Bogart.

Vote 3-0

**Set Deadline for Warrant and Petition Articles for 2023 Annual Town Meeting:**

Motion to approve deadline to be set for Friday, December 23, 2022 at 12:00pm by Hewins, second by Bogart.

Vote 3-0

**Set Date for Annual Town Meeting:**

Motion to set Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 6:00pm for Annual Town Meeting and Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 6:00pm for a second date by Hewins, second by Bogart.

Vote 3-0

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

**Minutes of 10/18/22:**

Motion to approve 10/18/22 minutes with amendments by Hewins, second by Bogart.

Vote 3-0

Motion to ratify the vote for the Executive Session Minutes of 9/28/22 to approve and not for public release by Hewins, second by Bogart.

Vote 3-0

**Request for Fishing Tournament at Sampson's Pond:** Requested by Eastside Sport Fishing Club, 6/24/23, 3:00pm-9:00pm.

Motion to approve as requested by Hewins, second by Bogart.

Vote 3-0

**Select Board Community Announcements:**

Bogart: None

Hewins: Reminded everyone that early voting is still going on and Election Day is Tuesday, November 8.

Townsend: Reminded everyone to vote- your vote is your voice.

**Next Meeting:**

November 18, 2022

Motion to adjourn by Hewins at 6:57pm, second by Bogart.

Vote 3-0

Listing of Exhibits: Minutes of 10/18/22, Application for Fishing Tournament from Eastside Sport Fishing Club