



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 24, 2020

7:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Present: Jon Benson, Dean Charter, David Martin, Joan Gardner, Jim Snyder-Grant, Town Manager John S. Mangiaratti,

Absent: None

Mr. Benson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM via a virtual meeting with no Board members in physical attendance and broadcasted via Zoom.us virtual meeting platform before a motion to enter into executive session.

I. Regular Business

1. Citizen Concerns

None

2. Chair Update/Town Manager Update

Mr. Benson updated the Board on meetings in September to be the 14th and 28th, and October will be the first and 3rd Mondays. Mr. Mangiaratti updated the Board on the COVID-19 cases. Transitioning to COVID updates to weekly from daily. Java with John continuing weekly on Fridays with special guests; continuing discussions regarding COVID-19, and updating information regarding the Special Town Meeting. Selective demolition underway with the Asa Parlin house. Sports Pavilion project will begin. New sidewalks have been completed. Early voting underway and going well at Town Hall. Applied for a grant with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council for participation and implementation of MAPC's Racial Equity Municipal Action Plan. Hutter Construction was awarded the contract for the North Acton Fire Station; construction begin September 1st. The Town Clerk received 6300 vote by mail application with 2100 returned as of 8/20.

II. New/Special Business

3. Hearing on Public Shade Trees Removal at 46 High Street

The developer (Seal Harbor) and the Town reached an agreement regarding removing 2 public shade trees at 46 High Street. Within the approved right-of-way, the developer moved the entry road into the subdivision and has withdrawn his request to remove the two large Oak public shade trees. The developer agreed to donate \$5000 to the town's tree fund and will pay for removal of the trees if they fail or become a public hazard before September 2025.

4. Discuss and Take Positions on the Warrant Articles for September 8, 2020 Special Town Meeting



The Board voted to recommend all nine articles on the Special Town Meeting Warrant.
Article 1 – Mr. Martin moves to recommend, Ms. Gardner seconds. Mr. Martin called the roll:

Mr. Snyder-Grant – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries

Article 2 to change the name of the Board of Selectmen to Select Board – **Mr. Charter moves to recommend, Mr. Snyder-Grant seconds. Mr. Martin called roll: MR.**

Snyder-Grant – aye

Ms. Gardner – nay

Mr. Charter – nay

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 3-2, to motion carries

Article 3 – Authorize Payment in Lieu of Taxes – **Mr. Snyder-Grant moves to recommend, Ms. Gardner seconds. Mr. Martin called roll;**

Mr. Snyder-Grant - aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries

Article 4, Small Business Grant Program - **Ms. Gardner moves to recommend, MR. Martin seconds. Mr. Martin called roll;**

Mr. Snyder-Grant – nay

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 4-1, the motion carries

Article 5, Non-Binding Resolution Declaring a Climate Emergency – **Ms. Gardner moves to recommend, Mr. Snyder-Grant seconds. Mr. Martin called roll;**

Mr. Snyder-Grant – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – nay

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 4-1, the motion carries

Article 6, Accept Legislation – Statutory Speed Limits and Regulatory Safety Zones – **Ms. Gardner moves to recommend, Mr. Snyder-Grant seconds. Mr. Martin called role;**



Mr. Snyder-Grant - aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries

Article 7, Accept Legislation – Saturday Office Hours – **Ms. Gardner moves to recommend, Mr. Snyder-Grant seconds. Mr. Martin called role;**

Mr. Snyder-Grant - aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries

Article 8, Release of Restriction – 127 Strawberry Hill Road - **Ms. Gardner moves to recommend, Mr. Snyder-Grant seconds. Mr. Martin called role;**

Mr. Snyder-Grant - aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries

Article 9, Amend Zoning Bylaw – Housekeeping Corrections, Personal Wireless Facility – **Mr. Martin moves to recommend, Ms. Gardner seconds. Mr. Martin called roll;**

Mr. Snyder-Grant - aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries

5. Discuss Dog Park Locations

After an extensive discussion between Board members and citizens, members of the Board established a list of four potential locations; Morrison Farm, the Main Street parcel (348-362 Main Street), School Street parcel adjacent to Rt. 2, and on Quarry Road by NARA Park. Further discussion will take place at the October 19th meeting of the Board with recommendations from the Dog Park Committee.

6. Discuss COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program and Consider Next Steps

Mr. Mangiaratti noted that there is currently \$11,500 remaining in the current \$50,000 allocation voted by the Selectmen on May 26th. **Mr. Benson moves to approve an additional \$50,000 allocation from CARES funds to extend the Emergency Rental Assistance Program grants for the current 19 recipients and provide funding for 15-**



20 new applicants through December 31, 2020, Mr. Snyder-Grant seconds. Mr. Martin called roll;

Mr. Snyder-Grant – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.

7. Board to Approve Fee Structure and Parking Restrictions for Electric Charging Stations

Ms. Gardner moves to approve the fee structure for electric charging stations, Mr. Martin seconds. Mr. Martin called roll;

Mr. Snyder-Grant – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.

8. Board to Approve Updated Fee Schedule for Transfer Station

Ms. Gardner moves to approve updated fee schedule for the transfer Station, Mr. Charter seconds. Mr. Martin called roll;

Mr. Snyder-Grant – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.

9. Review Project Concepts for MassDOT Shared Streets Program

Mr. Mangiaratti updated the Board regarding grants available to assist communities update their streetscapes and would like to pursue “quick build” competitive grants. Corey York, DPW Director explained a couple of grant applications he is working on – Central Street for bicycle accommodations, Stow Road for multi-modal accommodations (Martin/Stow/Liberty intersection), and train station parking areas to add additional bike lockers. **Ms. Gardner moves to support the application, Mr. Martin seconds. Mr. Martin called roll:**

Mr. Snyder-Grant – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries



10. Review and Approve Concept for MassWorks Grant Program Application

Ms. Gardner moves to approve the 2020 MassWorks Infrastructure program Acton grant application, Mr. Charter seconds. Mr. Martin called roll;

Mr. Snyder-Grant – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.

11. Approve Proclamation Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage

Mr. Charter presented a proclamation drafted by the League of Women Voters of Acton to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment. **Ms. Gardner moves to approve, Mr. Snyder-Grant seconds. Mr. Martin called roll;**

Mr. Snyder-Grant – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.

III. Sewer Commissioners Business

12. Consider Sewer Privilege Fee Request from John Perkins for 9 School Street

Mr. Martin outlined the request for deferral of payment until occupancy for \$84,989.16 with interest. **Ms. Gardner moves to approve, Mr. Charter seconds. Mr. Martin called roll;**

Mr. Snyder-Grant – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.

IV. Consent Items

Mr. Snyder-Grant held consent item 16. **Ms. Gardner moves to approve consent items 13-15, 17-20, Mr. Martin seconds. Mr. Martin called roll;**

Mr. Snyder-Grant – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.

Fran Arsenault requested to allow more time to allow people to submit letters for consideration of the commission. Mr. Martin would like to finalize all appointments



for commission members by next meeting on September 14. Members of the Board requested to review all applicants and appointing all members of the commission at one time. Board members recommended to have the cutoff date for application on September 4, and announce the full commission on September 14th. The Board took no action on commission appointments for consent item 16.

Ms. Gardner motioned to adjourn, Mr. Benson seconded. Mr. Martin called the roll;

Mr. Snyder-Grant – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 PM.

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

- Agenda, August 10, 2020
- Meeting Minutes, July 20 and August 10, 2020
- Committee Appointment, Thomas Doolittle for Design Review Board
- Committee Appointment, Mel Lima for Land Stewardship Committee
- Commission Appointments, Charmaine Williams, Dawn Wang, Makena Muindi, Nassra Mgeni, Nathan Cookson and Sandra Hinds for the Diversity Equity and Inclusivity Commission
- Accept Gift Memo, Acton Police Department from Loyal Companion
- Accept Gift Memo, Acton Department from Great Road Veterinary Hospital
- Accept Gift Memo, Recreation Department from Erik and Melissa Charych
- Accept Gift Memo, Recreation Department from Multiple Donors