

**TOWN OF WINCHESTER
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Monday, April 4, 2022
Record**

OPENING

Chair Richard Mucci called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Select Board meeting room located in Town Hall. Present were Select Board members Vice Chair Anthea Brady, Michael Bettencourt, Mariano Goluboff, and John Fallon. Also present was Acting Town Manager Beth Rudolph, PE.

*Motion: That the Select Board adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters related to Waterfield/CIVICO- MGL Ch. 30 §21(a) 6 - To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the governmental body; MGL Chapter 30 §21(a) 2 - To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation.

Brady - Bettencourt VOTED

*Motion: That the Select Board adjourn from Executive Session to Public Session, not to return to Executive Session.

Brady - Bettencourt VOTED

NOTIFICATION OF MEETINGS AND HEARINGS

1. Monday, April 11, 2022 - Regular Session
2. Monday, April 25, 2022 - Regular Session before Spring Town Meeting
3. Monday, April 25, 2022 - Spring Town Meeting
4. Thursday, April 28, 2022 - Regular Session before Spring Town Meeting
5. Thursday, April 28, 2022 - Spring Town Meeting

ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

*Motion That the Select Board accept, with gratitude, a donation of \$15,000 from the Winchester Seniors Association to the Winchester Council on Aging towards the new Jenks van.

Brady - Bettencourt VOTED

*Motion That the Select Board accept, with gratitude, in kind donation of a 108" x 624" custom printed wind screen from Diego Rosenfeld for the Recreation Department's Packer-Ellis Tennis Courts.

Brady - Bettencourt VOTED

*Motion That the Select Board accept, with gratitude, donations of \$400 to the Council on Aging for appreciation of services provided by the Council on Aging.

Brady - Bettencourt VOTED

TOWN MANAGER REPORT AND COMMENTS

1. Appointments: Ms. Rudolph reappointed Samuel Smallidge to the Archives Advisory Committee, Zeke Nims & Keri Layton to the Conservation Commission and Janet Boswell to the Historical Commission, all terms to expire March 31, 2025.

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2. Police Superior Union Contract: Ms. Rudolph informed the Board that staff and the Police Superior Union have approved the new contract.

*Motion That the Select Board approve the MOU for the Winchester Police Superior Officers' Association as presented on August 4, 2022.
Brady - Goluboff VOTED

3. Acting Town Manager's Updates:

UPDATES:

Spring Town Meeting

The first night of Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 25th. Subsequent nights are Thursday, April 28th, Monday, May 2nd, and Monday May 9th. The Town Manager's hearing is scheduled for Thursday, April 14th, time TBD.

Construction/Capital Project Updates

- Upcoming bids:
 - Muraco School Immediate Repairs - Bids for the roof repairs are scheduled to be open April 14th and work is expected to start in late June.
 - West Side Fire Station Improvements - Bid opening April 6th.
- On-going Construction projects:
 - Swanton Street Bridge Project - The final phase of the Swanton Street Bridge project will commence this week. What remains to be done is the installation of plantings and loam and seed along the river banks and final paving. The week of April 10th the bridge will be reduced to one lane during the day, and the following week starting on April 18th the bridge will be closed during the day. The road will be opened back up every afternoon. Detour signs will be placed on Main and Washington Streets. All work on the bridge is expected to be complete, weather dependent, by April 22nd.
 - Winchester Center Station (MBTA) - The MBTA and their contractor will be on-site starting Monday, April 4th to install fencing and establish their work zones on Laraway Road, and in the Aberjona and Waterfield lots.
 - Eversource 345kV Project -Eversource is expected to start the jack and bore operation at the Washington Street Bridge near Sunset Road in early to mid-April. The work will restrict the width of the travel lane and will likely require one-way traffic during work hours, but will be opened back to two-way traffic on nights and weekends with narrower travel lanes. Additional work will take place on Washington Street headed towards Cross Street over the coming months.
 - Eversource 115kV Project - Eversource is continuing vacuum testing on Wildwood/Fletcher and on Woodside Road near Winter Pond. They will be removing the dewatering system in the Wedgemere Lot this week, and expect to have the lot restored by mid-April. They will be completing work at the entrance to the Wedgemere Lot and Mystic Valley Parkway by the end of April.
 - National Grid - National Grid will be working throughout Town this year. They are currently on Bacon Street and in the surrounding neighborhoods to replace and/or relocate the gas mains. Work is expected to last two to three months.
 - Vinson Owen Safe Routes to School - MassDOT and their contractor will be back on site in April to complete the remaining project elements. Work is expected to last through the summer.
- Upcoming Construction projects:
 - Church Street at Waterfield Road - Construction is expected to start at the intersection on Church Street and Waterfield Road around May 1st, and will last 6 to 8 weeks.
 - MWRA 48-inch Water Main Replacement Project (Phase I) - The MWRA will be starting construction in May on Forest Street between Bellevue Avenue and Eugene Drive to

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replace an existing 48-inch water main. Work on Phase I of the project is expected to last until November 2022. The MWRA expects the work to be completed in three phases. Phase II will begin in April 2023 and will include work in the easement between Forest Street and the Woburn line. Phase III is expected to start in April 2024, and will include work on Eugene Drive.

- o Transfer Station Renovation - Expect to start work in late spring or early summer.
- o North Reservoir Dam - The contractor will be mobilizing to the site in early April, including tree clearing and development of an access road.
- o Woodside Road at Wildwood Street Intersection Improvements - Project will be bid this spring and expect to start construction after school is out.

COVID-Related Updates

The Health Department is holding two upcoming Pfizer vaccine clinics:

- All doses - Monday, April 11th from 4:30 to 6pm at Winchester High School - Clinic is for anyone over the age of 5.
- Booster dose only - Thursday, April 21st from 9 to 10:30am at the Jenks Center - Clinic is open to anyone ages 12+.

Registration links are available on the Town's website: <https://www.winchester.us/683/Covid-19-Vaccine>. Due to the declining number of COVID cases, the Health Department has discontinued the weekly COVID testing clinics at Town Hall. We will continue to assess the need for future testing clinics.

Community Events/Notes

- **Sunrise Yoga and Easter Sunrise Service at Wright Locke Farm** - April 17th at 5:30am
- **Tick Talk** - Wednesday, April 13th at 7pm (virtual): Massachusetts has the 5th highest incidence rate of Lyme disease in the country. Other diseases like Babesiosis, Anaplasmosis, Relapsing Fever and now Powassan virus can each be serious as well. But Tick-Borne Diseases can be preventable - learn how from guest speaker Larry Dapsis, Entomologist from the Cape Cod Cooperative Extension. For more information on this program, tick bite prevention strategies and tick testing go to www.winchester.us/ticks.

PUBLIC COMMENT

COMPTROLLER 'S REPORT

HEARINGS

1. **Eversource Grant of Locations - Waterfield Road/Laraway Road/Main Street; Waterfield Road** - At the intersection of Thompson Street, northwesterly thence northerly from manhole MH7594, to Laraway Road, install approximately 376 feet of conduit. **Laraway Road** - Northerly from Waterfield Street, to Main Street, install approximately 373 feet of conduit and one new manhole, MH31216. **Main Street** - Northerly thence westerly from Laraway Road, to manhole MH7589 at the intersection of Church Street, install approximately 107 feet of conduit. The work is necessary to provide service to the new MBTA train station. Jackie Duffy, Eversource representative, informed the Board that Eversource wants to begin as soon as possible and the project should take 5-6 weeks. She was asked if they can do the work at the intersection of Main/Church nights/weekends or during April vacation and Ms. Duffy will inquire as to whether this is possible. Beth Rudolph, Town Engineer, informed the Board that the Engineering Department and DPW have no issues.

*Motion: That the Select Board approve Eversource's Grant of Location for the installation of approximately 376-feet of conduit within the public right-of-way in Waterfield Road, 373-feet of conduit and one new manhole in Laraway Road, and 107-feet of conduit in Main Street.

Brady - Goluboff

VOTED

LICENSES

BUSINESS

1. **Committees & Commissions Appointments** - The Select Board appointed/reappointed the following committee members:

- | | | |
|---------|---|-------|
| *Motion | That the Select Board appoint Michelle Prior to the Audit Advisory Committee for a term to expire August 1, 2023. | |
| | Brady - Bettencourt | VOTED |
| *Motion | That the Select Board reappoint Dorothy Simboli as an alternate member to the Board of Appeals for a term to expire March 31, 2025. | |
| | Brady - Bettencourt | VOTED |
| *Motion | That the Select Board reappoint Robert Tedesco as a regular member to the Board of Appeals for a term to expire March 31, 2025. | |
| | Brady - Bettencourt | VOTED |
| *Motion | That the Select Board reappoint Christopher Miller to the Commissioners Trust Fund for a term to expire March 31, 2025. | |
| | Brady - Bettencourt | VOTED |
| *Motion | That the Select Board reappoint Sandra Thompson to the Committee on Names for a term to expire March 31, 2023. | |
| | Brady - Bettencourt | VOTED |
| *Motion | That the Select Board appoint Colette Desmarais to the Council on Aging for a term to expire March 31, 2025. | |
| | Brady - Bettencourt | VOTED |
| *Motion | That the Select Board appoint Nick Troisi to the Council on Aging for a term to expire March 31, 2025. | |
| | Brady - Bettencourt | VOTED |
| *Motion | That the Select Board reappoint Geethanjali Mathiyalakan to the Educational Facilities Planning & Building Committee for a term to expire March 31, 2025. | |
| | Brady - Bettencourt | VOTED |
| *Motion | That the Select Board appoint Michael Lucas to the Retirement Board for a term to expire February 12, 2025. | |
| | Brady - Bettencourt | VOTED |
| *Motion | That the Select Board reappoint Alban Landry to the Senior Citizen Tax Committee for a term to expire March 31, 2025. | |
| | Brady - Bettencourt | VOTED |
| *Motion | That the Select Board appoint Stephanie Zaremba to the Traffic & Transportation Advisory Committee for a term to expire March 1, 2025. | |
| | Brady - Bettencourt | VOTED |

2. **Farmers Market** - Fred Yen, Farmers Market Executive Director, informed the Board that they would like to hold this year's Market on the Town Common. Mr. Yen knows that the Common is not an ideal situation but is a better place for the Market. Staff's concerns are that the MBTA will be working during the weekends. There is also concern that the vehicles used by the vendors will be taking up the spots on Church Street, adding the outdoor dining and Saturdays being the busiest shopping day for the businesses, parking is at a premium. Chair Mucci stated that we

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will have to be flexible enough to make changes. Mr. Goluboff suggested to Mr. Yen that he add more signage to move people around the center.

*Motion That the Select Board allow the Winchester Farmers Market to use the Town Common as the site for the Market June 11 - October 29, 2022 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Brady - Bettencourt

VOTED

3. **Borggaard Beach Update** - Nick Cacciolfi, Recreation Director, gave an overview of the poor conditions of the beach house, splash pad and water quality of Wedge Pond. With the combination of COVID, financial and safety reasons Borggaard Beach has not been open for several years. The biggest issue is the water quality/clarity due to cyanobacteria levels (algae blooms) and the Recreation Department invests \$7,000 a year to have a pond management company treat the pond 3-4 times a year to control the algae blooms. Wedge Pond's water flow is also very limited as the inlet and the outlet are close together. The beach house is in disrepair, all safety equipment and handicap ramps need to be replaced plus there are maintenance issues with the splash pad. Next steps - a water quality study needs to be done to determine the safety of the water and if using the beach as a bathing area is even a viable option. Mr. Cacciolfi would like to reimage the space but not necessarily as a swimming area. Mr. Bettencourt's concern is that the sediment needs to be addressed and Ms. Rudolph informed them that dredging is a very complicated and expensive process.
4. **MassDOT Speed Zone** - Ms. Rudolph reminded the Board that Roger Wilson from the Traffic and Transportation Advisory Committee (TTAC) had requested that the Select Board consider working with our state delegation to consider changes to MGL Chapter 90, Section 18B, which governs the establishment of speed safety zones. Ben Keeler, TTAC chair, informed the Board that TTAC would like to have the town give them the tools to work with MassDOT and the Board agreed to Ms. Rudolph working with TTAC to put together a delegation.
5. **Lynch School/Carriage House Update** - Ms. Rudolph reviewed the steps that the EFPBC is taking in placing the two articles on the warrant and talked about the timeline of the expected project and funding. She then explained the timeline for option 1 & 2 for the Bans and the financial impact that the carriage house will make to the budget. Senior management requested information from Hilltop Securities to evaluate two borrowing scenarios for the Carriage House project - Option 1 assumes a BAN is issued in July 2022 and then renewed annually until July 2026, with a permanent borrowing issued at that point. The second option assumes that the permanent borrowing is done in July 2022. Ms. Rudolph explained the financial impact that the Carriage House will make to the budget and that none of this was included in the Town Manager's budget. The Board's main question is with knowing how much this is going to cost how is the Town going to pay for it?
6. **Warrant Articles Assignments & Motions** - The Board approved the language for their motions and made the following assignments: Chair Mucci - Articles 5 & 28, Mr. Fallon - Article 6, Vice Chair Brady - Article 17, Mr. Bettencourt - Article 18, and Mr. Goluboff - Article 21.
7. **ARPA Funding Discussion** - Ms. Rudolph reminded the Board that last December, the Town Manager's office sent a "last call" for ARPA funding requests to various Town departments, boards, committees and community organizations. The Board will need to consider how to prioritize projects and funding going forward. One option would be for Board members to rank the proposal similar to the process the Capital Planning Committee uses; alternately, the Board could ask management to make a set of initial recommendations. Mr. Goluboff suggested that the staff do the municipal requests and the Select Board do the requests that are outside projects.

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The Board decided the \$3 million be used on the municipal side and that Ms. Rudolph put together a list to present to the Board.

8. Work Plan - Chair Mucci will be scheduling a separate meeting to discuss the work plan.

CONSENT AGENDA

ADJOURNMENT : 10:15 PM

*Motion: That the Select Board adjourn for the evening.

Brady - Bettencourt

Roll Call: Brady, Goluboff, Bettencourt, Fallon, Mucci

VOTED

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Rudolph, Acting Town Manager