

**TOWN OF WINCHESTER
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Thursday , May 5, 2022
Record**

OPENING

Chair Richard Mucci called the meeting to order at 5:00 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 Lot, Washington/Swanton - 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.

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, May 9, 2022 - Regular Session before Spring Town Meeting (6pm)
2. Monday, May 9, 2022 - Spring Town Meeting
3. Monday, May 16, 2022 - Regular Session
4. Wednesday, May 18, 2022 - Public Hearing via Zoom (7pm)

ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

TOWN MANAGER REPORT AND COMMENTS

1. Ms. Rudolph announced the following appointment in accordance with section 4-2b of the Town Charter: **DPW School Custodian - Edward Morton** .

*Motion That the Select Board waive the customary fifteen (15) day appointment waiting period to allow Edward Morton to begin his employment.

Brady - Bettencourt VOTED

2. Acting Town Manager's Updates:

Board and Committee Openings

Below is a summary of the current open board and committee positions posted on the Town's website:

Board/Committee	# of Openings	Close Date	Appointing Authority
Board of Assessors	1	5/12/22	Select Board/Assessor's
Affordable Housing Trust	1	5/9/22	Select Board
Commissioners of Trust Funds	1	5/20/22	Select Board
Senior Citizen Tax Committee	1	5/20/22	Select Board

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Traffic and Transportation Advisory Committee (TTAC)	1	5/9/22	Select Board
EFBPC	1	5/20/22	Select Board
Personnel Board	3	5/9/22	Town Clerk
Wildwood Cemetery Advisory Committee	2	5/17/22	Select Board

Construction/Capital Project Updates

- Upcoming Bids
 - Woodside Road and Wildwood Street - The bid opening for the improvements to the intersection of Woodside Road and Wildwood Street is scheduled for May 19th. The Town hopes to start construction in late June/early July after school gets out.
- On-going Construction projects:
 - Swanton Street Bridge Project - All work on the Swanton Street bridge project has been completed, aside from some final punchlist items.
 - Eversource 345kV Project - Eversource is currently working on Cross Street between Marion Street and Washington Street, and on Washington Street at the Aberjona River crossing.
 - Eversource 115kV Project - Work in the Wedgemere parking lot is complete.
 - Vinson Owen Safe Routes to School - MassDOT and their contractor is back on site. Work is expected to last through the summer.
- Upcoming Construction projects:
 - Church Street at Waterfield Road - Construction is expected to start at the intersection of Church Street and Waterfield Road in mid-May, and will last 6 to 8 weeks.
 - Transfer Station Renovation - Expect to start work in late spring or early summer.
 - North Reservoir Dam - The contractor has mobilized to the site and is pumping down the water in the North Reservoir to levels necessary to start construction.

Community Events/Notes

- **Transportation Plan Listening Session** - The Town is holding a listening session on Thursday, May 19th as part of the Transportation Master Plan funded at Fall Town Meeting. Residents can sign up for the zoom here: https://tooledesign.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpcuCorzkiGtZYraF_wLc2eYTWukhXZmf?_x_zm_rtaid=4ZkzuxSYSMS-kOnsV22JTg.1650584573738.87f3a9255dacc50ceb16e228f1aa86c&_x_zm_rtaid=330
There is also a webtool where residents can provide feedback at <https://tooledesign.github.io/winchester-TP/>
- **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day** - The Town is holding a Hazardous Waste Collection Day on May 7th at the DPW (15 Lake Street) on May 7th from 9am to noon.
- **Aberjona River Clean-up Day** - The Conservation Commission is hosting its annual Aberjona River Clean-up Day on Saturday, May 14th from 9am to noon, starting at Town Hall parking lot.

BUSINESS

1. **Town Counsel RFP** - Mr. Fallon took the lead in preparing the RFP for Town Counsel which is now ready for the Select Board to approve and release to the public as soon as possible. The goal was to solicit proposals from large and small firms with specialists to make the pool a little larger and give us options. The RFP will be advertised with MIAA, the state procurement website, the Mass Central register, Mass Lawyers Weekly and community newspapers.

*Motion That the Select Board release an RFP for the Winchester Town Counsel.
Brady - Bettencourt VOTED

2. **87-89 Cross Street** - Mario Covino, property owner and John Suhrbier, Housing Partnership Chair attended the meeting with Brian Szekely, Town Planner via phone. At a meeting in

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January Mr. Covino had come before the Select Board regarding a friendly 40B for his proposed redevelopment of his property at 87-89 Cross Street. Mr. Suhrbier spoke in support of the proposal and that the Town needs a range of rental housing types such as what Mr. Covino is suggesting. Mr. Szekely addressed the unit number as the smaller projects that are mixed around town are better received. The Select Board is in favor of moving this forward and Ms. Brady stated that there is a need for a traffic study to be done due to the high volume of traffic.

*Motion That the Select Board co-sponsor the initiation of the LIP application for Mario Covino at 87-89 Cross Street.
Brady - Bettencourt VOTED

- 3. Waterfield St Temporary Crosswalk** - Ms. Rudolph explained that the MBTA work at the train station will require the closure of the sidewalk on the north and south side of Waterfield Road under the railroad bridge. The Town and MBTA recommend that a temporary crosswalk be installed between the Waterfield Lot and Town Common so that pedestrians can cross before the sidewalk closure. The temporary markings will result in the loss of four parking spaces. Mr. Mucci did bring the temporary crosswalk to the Chamber of Commerce, who understand the need but hope it will not be for the duration of the renovation.

*Motion That the Select Board approve the temporary crosswalk at Waterfield Road.
Brady - Bettencourt VOTED

- 4. Warrant Articles** - Mr. Mucci gave an update regarding Article 18, a new plan for the Sport Court will be sent out to the neighbors tomorrow. The Board then discussed and voted on Articles 26 and 27.

*Motion That the Select Board recommend unfavorable action on Article 26.
Bettencourt - Fallon Motion Passes
Roll Call: Yes - Bettencourt, Brady, Fallon, Mucci 4-0-1
Abstained - Goluboff

*Motion That the Select Board recommend favorable action on Article 27.
Brady - Bettencourt VOTED

- 5. Select Board Committee Assignments** - Discussion was moved to the May 16, 2022 meeting.

- 6. Summer Meeting Schedule** - Discussion was moved to the May 16, 2022 meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

*Motion That the Select Board approve the meeting minutes for March 24, & 28, 2022 and April 4, 2022.
Brady - Goluboff VOTED

ADJOURNMENT : 6:20 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