

Select Board Minutes
Tuesday, January 5, 2021
7:00pm

The Select Board Regular Meeting was held virtually in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.c.30A. S.20.

Select Board participants:

Alice von Loesecke, Kara Minar, Rich Maiore, Lucy Wallace
Stu Sklar was unable to attend.

Town Department attendees:

Town Administrator Tim Bragan, Assistant Town Administrator/HR Director Marie Sobalvarro and Executive Assistant Julie Doucet, Community & Economic Development Director Chris Ryan

Additional participants:

Planning Board Chair Justin Brown and Planning Board member Stacia Donahue

Transportation Advisory Committee charge

Community & Economic Development Director Chris Ryan, Planning Board Chair Justin Brown and member Stacia Donahue were present to review their final version of the committee charge. The Select Board members offered a few suggestions. By a roll call vote, Minar – aye, Wallace – aye, Maiore – aye, von Loesecke – aye, the board voted unanimously to accept the mission and organization, and charge as amended. They set January 31st as the deadline for volunteer forms to be submitted. They will conduct interviews at their first meeting in February and make appointments at the second meeting.

Town Administrator Report

Tim Bragan reported on the following items:

- Jared Mullane officially started in his new position of Finance Director for the Town of Harvard yesterday.
- Harvard Pilgrim and Tufts have started their merger. The next MNHG Board meeting is on Friday, February 12, 2021 at 10 AM and the main topic of the meetings is FY22 rate setting for active employee plans.
- The FY22 Budget Questions for departments, boards, and committees went out today and the answers are due back on the 13th except for the School as they have until the 15th to respond. There were a total of ~187 questions asked of 16+ budgets. FinCom will start scheduling meetings with departments next Wednesday (1.13.2021). He will provide the schedule to the Select Board as soon as possible.
- Town Hall has moved back to Team A and Team B scheduling due to the heightened numbers of the covid 19 virus in the State. We plan to continue this until the end of the month.
- Town Report notice went out two weeks ago and Julie has set Monday, January 25, 2021 as the deadline for getting reports to her.

Minutes

By a roll call vote, Minar – aye, Wallace – aye, von Loesecke – aye, the board voted unanimously to approve regular and executive session minutes of 12/9, as presented. Maiore abstained due to his absence at the 12/9 meeting.

Change of Manager for Fruitlands

By a roll call vote, Wallace- aye, Maiore – aye, Minar – aye, von Loesecke – aye, the board voted unanimously to approve a change in manager for Fruitlands Museum.

Police Chief Ed Denmark Contract

Assistant Town Administrator/HR Director Marie Sobalvarro presented the contract with inclusion of suggestions from the board members. By a roll call vote, Minar – aye, Wallace – aye, Maiore – aye, von Loesecke – aye, the board voted unanimously to endorse and approve contract as presented by Marie Sobalvarro.

Finance Director Jared Mullane Contract

Sobalvarro highlighted Mullane requested a flexible 36 hour a week schedule. His annual salary reflects this reduction in hours. She confirmed the schedule will be closely aligned with other staff members. The position is not hourly therefore he is expected to manage his time appropriately. By a roll call vote, Wallace – aye, Maiore – aye, Minar – aye, von Loesecke – aye, the board voted unanimously to endorse contract for Jared Mullane.

Select Board reports

Wallace reported Fivesparks is finalizing the grant application for MCC and plan to submit it by the end of next week.

She asked when the Select Board will revisit the CPIC recommendations. Von Loesecke expects in February.

Minar report a recent meeting on field maintenance was productive and offered creative ways to improve communication on maintenance.

Maiore expects to have an update on the Bromfield House Committee by the end of February.

Minar suggested engagement with the Open Space Committee with respect to fields. Maiore will have a report soon.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Documents referenced:

Transportation Advisory Committee charge – dated 12.31.2020

Fruitlands Museum change of manager request – dated Dec 2020