

MINUTES – SELECTMEN’S MEETING

Monday, June 29, 2020

Remote Meeting

Participants: Michael G. Bradley, Chairman; Christopher R. Rohland; Stephen R. Darcy; Michael A. Maresco, Town Administrator

Mr. Bradley noted that Mr. Rohland has not signed on to the remote meeting yet and moved, seconded by Mr. Darcy, to open the meeting at 7:05 p.m. The vote was 2:0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Bradley – aye; Mr. Darcy – aye.

Town Administrator Report – Michael Maresco provided the Board with his brief as follows.

Week of June 15, 2020:

- Town Meeting radio show with Alyssa Reed and Bob Galvin
- Met with Patrick Dello Russo and Christine McCarthy to prepare for S&P meeting
- Attended COVID-19 Task Force Meetings on Tuesday and Thursday
- South Shore Managers conference call regarding reopening of municipal government
- Department Head Meeting, topics included FY20 close outs and reopening plan
- Conference call with Danielle Kerrigan and Paul Armstrong to select Health Director candidate to recommend to Board of Health
- Met with Carol Hamilton on COA concerns regarding reopening
- Weekly meeting with Fred Russell for update on ongoing projects
- Weekly meeting with Collins Construction regarding elevator project
- Met with P3 for update on Senior Center project
- Mayflower Municipal Health Group meeting
- Attended Moderator’s meeting in preparation for Town Meeting
- Zoom call with PMA on the Police and DPW projects, update on Plain Street

Week of June 22, 2020:

- Attended BPW Executive Session regarding 965 Plain Street
- Met with Steve Darcy to finalize Town Meeting presentation
- Town Meeting at MHS Gymnasium
- Weekly meeting with Fred Russell for update on ongoing projects
- Weekly meeting with Collins Construction regarding elevator project
- Weekly conference call with Lt. Governor Polito on COVID-19
- Finalized payment policy with PMA on appropriate sign off
- Met with Benchmark Strategies regarding solar systems and energy options
- Zoom meeting with MMA Public Safety Chiefs/Emergency Management Leadership Committee meeting
- Met with Bob Galvin to finalize contract for Kiosk
- Attended Korean War Veterans 70th Anniversary Event
- Ratings call with S&P on borrowing for FY21 and converting BANs to Bonds
- Conference call with John Sheridan from PMA on DPW/Police projects
- Zoom meeting with Frozen 4 on signalization of intersection by Mass DOT
- Met with Patrick Dello Russo regarding equipment inventory
- Weekly meeting with Fred Russell for update on ongoing projects

Mr. Rohland joined the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Board Reorganization – Michael Bradley welcomed Stephen Darcy to the Board and nominated Mr. Darcy to serve as Clerk of the Board of Selectmen. Chris Rohland seconded the nomination. The vote was unanimous. Roll Call vote: Mr. Bradley – aye; Mr. Rohland – aye; Mr. Darcy – aye.

Mike Bradley asked the Town Administrator about phasing in of staff at Town Hall from 25% to 50%. Michael Maresco said that most offices would go to 50% staffing and gave an update on reopening of Town Hall. Mr. Maresco said that Town Hall will reopen to the public beginning on July 13, public hours will be Mondays from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Mr. Maresco noted that they are still encouraging people to take advantage of online services and that there will be sanitizing stations at the entrance to Town Hall.

Mike Bradley asked for an update on progress with the Frozen 4 Host Community Agreement. Mr. Maresco said that they are moving forward and said that the Mass DOT has no issues with the signalization plan.

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Diversity Training – Danielle Kerrigan, Human Resource Manager, appeared remotely before the Board and gave an update on some of the recent examples of training that Department Heads have attended, Ms. Kerrigan said that they will be offering additional training for staff including a Communications Seminar. Ms. Kerrigan said that she will be attending a webinar with Attorney Regina Ryan regarding Discrimination Awareness in the Workplace and Department Heads will be participating in a Workplace Discrimination and Anti-Harassment webinar in late July. Steve Darcy asked what changes Ms. Kerrigan hopes will come from these trainings. Ms. Kerrigan said that she hopes these sessions will help to break down communication barriers and increase awareness. The Board thanked Ms. Kerrigan for facilitating this training and for the presentation.

Best Police Practices, Policies and Use of Force Report – Chief Tavares appeared before the Board remotely to update the Selectmen on Police practices, policies and use of force. Chief Tavares gave a presentation on MPD Use of Force including statistics on officers involved, types of force used, and demographics of subjects involved. Chief Tavares reviewed the 5 Pillars of Success for the MPD as follows:

- People – the chief stressed the importance of recruiting and retaining qualified staff
- Policies – the chief reviewed some of the policies the MPD has adopted, including the Use of Force Policy, Disciplinary Procedures, Internal Affairs Policy, Biased Based Policing, and the Bias Crimes Policy.
- Training – the chief gave details on MPD training including 22 weeks at the academy followed by continuing education to retain certification, 3 months of field training which includes fair and impartial policing, and consistent roll call training.
- Supervision – the chief said that the promotion process is rigorous and that a long term consistent approach is key to success in supervision
- Discipline – the chief said that positive and negative discipline is provided in a fair, timely and consistent way.

Mike Bradley commended the Chief on the way the Department is run. Chris Rohland asked about the importance of tasers. Chief Tavares thanked Mr. Rohland for his support of the purchase of non-lethal tasers both as a member of the Capital Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen. Chief Tavares said that tasers are valuable in de-escalating situations, give officers confidence, and reduce injury to officers and subjects. Steve Darcy thanked the Chief for his leadership and asked about incidents in the report where there was use of force but no arrest. Chief Tavares said that these would include situations where the subject is sectioned for mental health or substance abuse. Steve Darcy asked the Chief to explain why Officers 15 and 20 have the highest rate of use of force. Chief Tavares said that they both work the 4 PM to midnight shift and both serve in positions where they respond to the most serious calls. Chief Tavares thanked Michael Maresco for his support of Quinn Bill funding and for seeing the importance of well-educated officers.

Energy Resilience Presentation – Matthew Parent, Energy Consultant, appeared remotely before the Board to give a presentation on energy needs and resiliency. Mr. Parent reviewed current energy conditions at the Town’s facilities, problems related to current conditions, possible solutions, costs and savings, and a potential plan for the future. Mr. Parent said that he is asking the Board to support a net zero policy and said that in addition to the solar array project at the landfill, they are looking at the possibility of solar electricity at sites including schools, the new DPW facility, and the new police station. After some discussion the Board thanked Mr. Parent for the detailed and informative presentation and said that they would take the information under advisement.

Grad Night Live Request to Place Picture Signs on the Town Green – Chris Rohland noted for the record that his wife is on the Board of Directors for Grad Night Live. Michael Maresco gave the Board some details on this request to place pictorial signs of all 2020 MHS graduates on the Town Green from July 20-27, 2020. After a brief discussion, Mike Bradley moved, seconded by Chris Rohland, to grant permission as requested. The vote was unanimous. Roll Call vote: Mr. Bradley – aye; Mr. Rohland – aye; Mr. Darcy – aye.

Council on Aging – Permission to Accept Donation – Mike Bradley read the letter from Carol Hamilton requesting permission to accept a Trust Distribution in the amount of \$73,000 from the estate of Lucy A. DeYoung. Mike Bradley moved, seconded by Chris

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Rohland, to accept this generous donation. The vote was unanimous. Roll Call vote: Mr. Bradley – aye; Mr. Rohland – aye; Mr. Darcy – aye.

Green Harbor Beach Association – Movie Nights on the Beach – Mike Bradley read the letter from Daniel Burns requesting permission to hold movie nights on Green Harbor Beach on Friday nights in July and August. Mike Bradley moved, seconded by Chris Rohland, to approve this request. The vote was unanimous. Roll Call vote: Mr. Bradley – aye; Mr. Rohland – aye; Mr. Darcy – aye.

North River Arts Society Lease of GAR Hall – Michael Maresco gave some details on the amendment to the lease that includes a stipulation for a maintenance fund. Mr. Maresco said that the annual fundraising requirement for maintenance would be \$10,000 in 2020 with \$2,000 increases each year thereafter, bringing the annual total to \$25,000 in the years 2028 through 2030. Mr. Maresco added that the funds would be used to maintain the property in consultation with the Town’s Facilities Manager. Brad White joined the remote meeting and asked if the Board would consider a one year forbearance on this since fundraising for the NRAS this year has been basically non-existent due to COVID-19. Michael Maresco said that the NRAS has already raised most of the \$10,000 that is required for 2020, but noted that it is well within the prerogative of the Board to make adjustments to the annual amounts to give the NRAS some flexibility when needed. After a brief discussion, Mike Bradley moved, seconded by Chris Rohland, to approve this amendment as written. The vote was unanimous. Roll Call vote: Mr. Bradley – aye; Mr. Rohland – aye; Mr. Darcy – aye.

Vote to Open and Close the Special Town Meeting Warrant – Mike Bradley read the public notice announcing that the warrant for the Special Town Meeting would open on August 10, 2020 and close on August 20, 2020. Mike Bradley moved, seconded by Chris Rohland, to approve these dates for the opening and closing of the warrant. The vote was unanimous. Roll Call vote: Mr. Bradley – aye; Mr. Rohland – aye; Mr. Darcy – aye.

Acceptance of Minutes – Mike Bradley moved, seconded by Chris Rohland, to accept the minutes of June 5, 2020 and June 15, 2020 as written. The vote was unanimous. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Bradley – aye; Mr. Rohland – aye; Mr. Darcy – aye.

Annual Reappointments – Mike Bradley read the list of annual reappointments as follows:

- Agricultural Commission – Carleton Chandler and Ed Duane
- Airport Commission – Michael Rodriguez
- Capital Budget Committee – Bill Last
- Community Preservation Committee – Kevin Cantwell
- Cultural Council – Tara Young
- Energy Committee – Gia Lane
- PPI Committee – Joe Rossi, Doris Crary, Timothy Williams and Andrew Stewart

Mike Bradley moved, seconded by Chris Rohland, to reappoint these individuals for three year terms expiring on June 30, 2023 contingent on clean background checks. The vote was unanimous. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Bradley – aye; Mr. Rohland – aye; Mr. Darcy – aye.

At 8:50 p.m. Mr. Bradley moved, seconded by Mr. Rohland, to adjourn the meeting. The vote was unanimous. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Bradley – aye; Mr. Rohland – aye; Mr. Darcy – aye. There was no executive session held.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Burke

The following documents and exhibits were presented at the meeting: information and PowerPoint presentation from Chief Tavares regarding best practices, policies and use of force; PowerPoint presentation from Matt Parent on Energy Resiliency; letter from Carol Hamilton requesting permission to accept donation and copy of Receipt of Trust Distribution; letter from Green Harbor Beach Association requesting permission to hold movie nights on the beach; copy of Lease Amendment for GAR Hall; copy of public notice regarding opening and closing of STM warrant.