

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, FEB. 5, 2019
MEETING MINUTES
SELECTBOARD MEETING ROOM – 7 P.M.**

Present were Chair Ira Brezinsky, Vice Chair Andrea Miles, Clerk Jeff Cyr, member Sarah Etelman, member Bruce Forcier, and Town Administrator Michael J. Sullivan.

CALL TO ORDER

Brezinsky called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Forcier noted the Friends of The South Hadley Dog Park website is live, and on Thursday Know Your Town is hosting a presentation on the park.

CONSENT AGENDA

Forcier motioned to approve the consent agenda. Miles seconded. All in favor.

RESIGNATION

Forcier motioned to suspend the necessary rules and accept the resignation of Kelly Woods from the Tree Committee. Miles seconded. All in favor.

TRI-ANNUAL BOARD/COMMITTEE INTERVIEWS

The Selectboard agreed to expand both the Master Plan Update Advisory Committee and the Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Advisory Committee to nine members each, including two ex-officio members within those totals.

The Selectboard interviewed James Canning and Genevieve VandeMerghel for two open positions on the tree committee; Simon Elliot for an open position on the Zoning Board of Appeals; Ben Sabbs and Mark Zrauning for two open positions on the recreation commission; Judy Gooch, Linda Young, Michelle Wolfe, Lucia Foley, Martha Terry, Nate Therien and Helen Fantini for open positions on the Master Plan Update Advisory Committee; and Judy Gooch, Linda Young, Michelle Wolfe, Lucia Foley, Marie Rohan and Peter Blaine for open positions on the Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Committee.

Forcier nominated the slate of candidates to their respective committees. Etelman seconded. All in favor. Canning and VandeMerghel were appointed to two-year terms ending in 2020 on the Tree Committee; Elliot to a three-year term ending in 2021 as an associate member to the Zoning Board of Appeals; Sabbs to a three-year term ending in 2021 and Zrauning to a one-year term ending in 2019 on the Recreation Commission; Gooch, Young, Wolfe, Foley, Terry, Therien and Fantini to the Master Plan Update Advisory Committee; and Gooch, Young, Wolfe, Foley, Rohan and Blain to the Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Committee.

SENIOR CENTER ARCHITECT RECOMMENDATION

Colliers received five designer applications for the senior center project. Of the five, Colliers recommended the firm edm to be the design professional. Etelman moved to accept the recommendation from Colliers for edm as the contractor. Miles seconded. All in favor.

LEDGES CHANGE OF MANAGER

Forcier motioned to approve the change of manager at the Ledges Golf Course to be Mike Fontaine. Cyr seconded. All in favor.

SOUTH HADLEY MOTORS

Etelman moved to approve the application for South Hadley Motors d/b/a Payless Auto Sales. Forcier seconded. All in favor.

SEASONAL POPULATION

Forcier motioned to certify South Hadley has an increased population as of July 1, 2019 of 17,524. Etelman seconded. All in favor.

BUDGET UPDATE

Sullivan said there isn't anything extraordinary to where we're at in FY19. He said FY20 is still very much in draft form. He said the Hampshire County Health Insurance Trust Advisory Committee voted to accept the design plan changes, and there was little objection from other communities. These changes will result in a zero percent increase in premiums for the next year.

Sullivan will recommend a \$400,000 – \$450,000 increase in the school department budget. Originally the superintendent outlined a need for a \$1.2 million increase. Sullivan's recommendation will be far beyond, from a percentage perspective, what any other department is getting.

Sullivan will present the Selectboard in March with a proposal to adjust rates and charges for fees and permits in 2020. He said they are modest and an attempt to make sure South Hadley is reviewing their fees and keeping in line with what other municipalities are charging.

TOWN COUNSEL REQUEST FOR RESPONSE

Sullivan said he finished the request for responses for town counsel and would like the Selectboard to weigh in. He will send a draft to members the following day. Individuals will have the month of February to respond.

TA REPORT

Etelman highlighted a section of Sullivan's report about timing for town meeting petitions. She read, "In respect to initiative petitions presented by citizens for the ATM it must be received by the Town Clerk and with the ten signatures required of voters no later than close of business March 8th, if the Selectboard calls the likely STM such a petition would have to be submitted to the Town Clerk with 100 signatures no later close of business on business April 10. The petitioners would be accepting the responsibility of getting the language into acceptable legal form. The Selectboard does have the right to place an article in the form of a question before the Town Meeting at its discretion, in many cases these are not binding, but more survey in nature."

Resident Linda Young asked if there was an article on the town meeting agenda about the Board of Health changing from three members to five. Sullivan said no, that the health director has not heard anything. He also brought the issue up at the recent Bylaw Review Committee meeting. Sullivan said there is still plenty of time to get such a petition together.

For the full town administrator's report, see the Feb. 5 Selectboard meeting packet.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Brezinsky said he will be on vacation during the week of Feb. 19 when the Selectboard next meets. He asked if members would be able to meet the following week instead, on Feb. 26. Etelman said no. Members decided to keep the original Feb. 19 meeting.

ADJOURN

Forcier motioned to adjourn. Cyr seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
Kristin Maher
Executive Assistant to Administration