

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022
MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL SELECTBOARD MEETING ROOM – 7 P.M.**

Present were Chair Jeff Cyr, Vice Chair Sarah Etelman, Clerk Carol Constant, Member Andrea Miles, Member Chris Geraghty, and Town Administrator Lisa Wong.

CALL TO ORDER

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

MINUTES

Constant motioned to approve the draft minutes of Feb. 15, 2022. Geraghty seconded. All in favor.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Miles – Aye

Constant – Aye

Etelman – Aye

Geraghty – Aye

Cyr – Aye

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Geraghty informed the public he will end his term on the Selectboard, scheduled to end April 12, 2022, shorter than planned as he took a position with SHELD and cannot remain on the board. This will be his last meeting. Members expressed gratitude for working with him.

Miles noted it would be the school committee and not the Selectboard tasked with changing the mask mandate currently in place for the schools.

Cyr congratulated South Hadley High School senior Jonas Clarke who won a track state championship and broke both the state and meet record.

TRI-ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

Selectboard members appointed Richard Dunderdale to a 2024 term on the Commission on Disabilities, Jessica Schoendorf to a 2024 term on the Conservation Commission, April Doroski to a 2022 term on the Conservation Commission, Louise Croll to a 2023 associate position on the Conservation Commission, Robert Judge to a 2024 term on the Historical Commission, Emeile Lyszchyn to a 2023 term on the Historical Commission, Kevin McCaffrey to a 2024 term on MPIC and Robert Salthouse to a 2024 term on the Sustainability and Energy Commission.

ELECTION HOURS

Members and Town Clerk Carlene Hamlin discussed potentially shortening the established hours to vote in person for the April 12, 2022 town election. Members Miles and Constant were vocally against shortening those hours while Cyr did not mind. Hamlin will prepare the election

warrant with the typical voting hours of 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. The Selectboard will vote to approve the warrant with the hours at a future meeting in March.

ARPA REQUESTS

Wong said \$7.4 million was requested by the municipal departments, districts and community. Six million is eligible for the Selectboard to discuss this round. There was \$1.4 million requested by South Hadley businesses. Wong said the state has \$75 million separately available specifically for businesses to request funding.

At Wong's request, Etelman motioned to expend \$100,00 for The Judd Brook Interceptor Design, \$40,000 for the Housing Production Plan Update, and \$11,520 for a part-time public health nurse position. Miles seconded. All in favor.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Miles – Aye

Constant – Aye

Etelman – Aye

Geraghty – Aye

Cyr – Aye

TIGHE AND BOND CONTRACT

Members deferred signing this contract to a future meeting.

MCCRAYS FARM HOLIDAY LIGHT SHOW APPROVAL

Miles motioned to approve the use of the special permit. Geraghty seconded. All in favor.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Miles – Aye

Constant – Aye

Etelman – Aye

Geraghty – Aye

Cyr – Aye

FY23 BUDGET

Wong gave an update on the FY23 budget which is a work in progress. She said the Mass Municipal Association is advocating for a higher unrestricted general government aid figure that would add at least \$150,000 to revenues. Because this is not likely to be voted on prior to town meeting it will not be factored into the town budget. She said general insurance figures have not been finalized but MIIA is stating there will be a robust increase. Because the increase is due to a WWTP issue the town can use enterprise funds to cover the cost.

Wong highlighted the school department's intention to add 12 positions and estimates a \$150,000 impact on health insurance from that, totaling a \$1.15 million increase from the previous year; a request by Ledges almost \$100k above what is stated in their contract; a one-time \$12k expense for the library, and various changes in positions within departments.

RESIGNATION

Miles motioned to accept the resignation of Barbara Erwin from the Zoning Board of Appeals with thanks. Geraghty seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Miles – Aye
Constant – Aye
Etelman – Aye
Geraghty – Aye
Cyr – Aye

TA REPORT

Geraghty said the police department’s work to become accredited is a benefit to the community and a milestone for the department.

For the full town administrator’s report, see the March 1, 2022 Selectboard Meeting Packet on the town website.

ADJOURN

Miles motioned to adjourn. Etelman seconded. All in favor.

Miles – Aye
Constant – Aye
Etelman – Aye
Geraghty – Aye
Cyr – Aye

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristin Maher
Executive Assistant to Administration