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**TOWN OF WINCHESTER  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
Monday, March 9, 2020  
Record**

**OPENING**

Chair Mariano Goluboff called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Select Board meeting chamber located in Town Hall. Present were Select Board members Vice Chair Michael Bettencourt, Susan Verdicchio, and Amy Shapiro. Jacqueline A. Welch was absent. Also present was Town Manager Lisa Wong.

\*Motion: That the Select Board adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters related to MGL Chapter 30 §21(a) 2 & 3 - Negotiation strategy non-union personnel and collective bargaining strategy; 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; Eversource 345 kV Transmission Line Intervener Litigation; MGL Ch. 30 §21(a) 3 - To discuss strategy with respect to litigation.

Bettencourt - Shapiro

Roll Call: Goluboff, Bettencourt, Verdicchio, Shapiro VOTED

\*Motion: That the Select Board adjourn from Executive Session to Public Session, not to return to Executive Session.

Bettencourt - Verdicchio

Roll Call: Goluboff, Bettencourt, Verdicchio, Shapiro VOTED

**NOTIFICATION OF MEETINGS AND HEARINGS**

1. Monday, March 23, 2020 - Regular Session

**ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS**

\*Motion That the Select Board accept, with gratitude, in kind donation of the lights at the Knowlton Stadium from Paul Manganaro and the Winchester Field Development Council.

Bettencourt - Verdicchio

All in favor

VOTED

**TOWN MANAGER REPORT AND COMMENTS**

1. Appointments - Ms. Wong appointed Jack Ciulla as Constable; she then announced the following permanent appointments in accordance with section 4-2b of the Town Charter, and she respectfully requests that the Select Board vote to waive the fifteen (15) day appointment period for: **Firefighter Nicholas Adragna, and DPW Promotional Water/Sewer Maintenance Foreman appointment - Brian Medwar**

\*Motion: That the Select Board waive the customary fifteen (15) day appointment effective waiting period to allow Nicholas Adragna and Brian Medwar to begin their employment.

Bettencourt - Verdicchio

All in favor

VOTED

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- 1 1. Coronavirus Update: The situation is rapidly evolving and Jennifer Murphy, Winchester Health  
2 Director is working with Federal and State offices. Management is also working on a plan for  
3 the Town and Ms. Wong will inform the Board when that is done. The Town is also in touch  
4 with Winchester Hospital, holding regular staff meetings and working on an emergency plan.  
5 Staff is urging residents to sign up for the notify me and the reverse 911 to receive the latest  
6 updates.  
7
- 8 2. The following are updates from departments, projects and programs:  
9

10 **Upcoming events:**

- 11 • Senator Jason Lewis is hosting a Community Conversation on “What Will It Take to Fix  
12 Transportation in Greater Boston” on March 11 at 6:30pm at Malden High School.  
13 • The Town Manager / Select Board will host a public information meeting on Wednesday,  
14 March 18 at Lynch Elementary School. Tours of the school will be from 6:30-7pm and the  
15 Meeting will begin at 7pm.  
16 • Jenks Center is hosting their annual Brennan Lecture in April with Dr. Jeffrey Drazen  
17 speaking on the Coronavirus. Unfolding Story of the Coronavirus on Tuesday, April 7th from  
18 6:30 pm-8:00 pm.

19 **Winchester:**

- 20 • **Main and Highland Intersection Project:** Project will be awarded to Charles Contracting  
21 Company. Work will begin in April.  
22 • **MBTA:** The Town is still negotiating with the MBTA on various issues.  
23 • **McCall Traffic:** Advertise the McCall Roadway Improvement projects this week for a bid  
24 opening date of April 9<sup>th</sup>.  
25 • **McCall Expansion:** On time and budget.  
26 • **MWRA:** I&I and Lead Line projects will be bid this summer for late summer/fall construction.  
27 • **North Reservoir Dam:** repairs are underway and cost estimate will be provided to the CPC  
28 and SB in March.  
29 • **Parkhurst Elevators:** Project will be awarded to APC Development Group. Work will begin  
30 in April.  
31 • **River Street 40B:** Public portion closed. ZBA reviewed conditions at 3/2 meeting. Next  
32 meeting scheduled for 3/16 at 7:30pm at Town Hall.  
33 • **Town Hall Generator:** Project will begin in late March/early April. Decision still needs to be  
34 made about the location of the transfer switch box.

35 **Earmarks - Various requests for funding as follows:**

- 36 - 3 proposals to Congresswoman Clark’s office.  
37 - Fire Chief working with Rep Day on getting another washing machine for station.  
38 - 3 proposals submitted to Senator Lewis’s office - \$100k for Lockeland at Ridge traffic  
39 calming improvements. Design **only**. \$75k for Holton/Cross Street area redevelopment  
40 study and \$50k for Aberjona improvements.  
41 - Rep. Day filed requests for additional MBTA funding in the transportation bond bill: \$500k  
42 for landscaping and \$3m for shuttle service.  
43

44 **In other News:**

- 45 - The Town is providing updates on our website; however, we urge the public to also go to  
46 the CDC website for the latest information. [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/)  
47

48 **MATTERS FROM THE AUDIENCE**  
49

50 Richard Mucci, Chamber of Commerce Board member, addressed the Select Board regarding the  
51 Chamber of Commerce, its Board of Directors and members concerns about the planned  
52

1 renovation of the Winchester Center MBTA Train Station and the disruption of Winchester Center's  
2 businesses. He discussed the issues in design of the station, and the mitigation measures that  
3 they suggest.

4  
5 **COMPTROLLER 'S REPORT**

6  
7 Chair Goluboff accepted the Comptroller's Report - financial update as of January 31, 2020.

8  
9 **BUSINESS**

10  
11 1. **MWRA** - Frederick Laskey, MWRA Executive Director, informed the Board that the drill rig  
12 break in May 3, 2019 on the Stoneham/Winchester line showed volubility of the pipe line in  
13 Section 89. MWRA needs to replace 10,300 feet of 48" water transmission main located in  
14 Stoneham, Winchester and Woburn. There is 2,000 feet of pipe in Winchester starting at the  
15 Stoneham line of Eugene Street down Forest to the Woburn line. MWRA plans to begin in  
16 Winchester in September/October & start to finish should take a year. There will be blasting in  
17 one area of Eugene and preconstruction surveys will be done of all the homes in the area.

18  
19 2. **Stormwater** - Beth Rudolph, Town Engineer, Jay Gill, DPW Director, Jim Gibbons, DPW Water  
20 & Sewer Manager and LeeAnn McGahan, DPW Business Manager attended the meeting. Ms.  
21 Wong stated that the last time we had spoken there were two different directions that we were  
22 looking at, funding or Town Meeting. They looked at different components and did a city/town  
23 comparison. Mr. Gill informed the Board that they need to come up with \$1.5 million to cover  
24 the costs and is recommending the they increase the service fee to \$25 per quarter and an 11%  
25 rate increase in FY2021. The current recommendation is to write a warrant article with the rate  
26 and service charge increase to bring to the Spring Town Meeting.

27  
28 3. **Climate Action Plan** - Ruth Trimarchi, Chair of the Climate Action Committee, presented to the  
29 Select Board the Climate Action Plan (CAP) Executive Summary. The CAP is on target for  
30 completion this spring, and is presently being refined by the committee. The plan focuses on  
31 Energy - increase supply of carbon-free electricity ; Buildings - transition to more energy  
32 efficient all electric buildings; Solid Waste - reduce Winchester's waste disposal 30% by 2030  
33 and 80% reduction by 2050; Transportation - reduce gasoline and diesel-powered vehicle miles  
34 traveled and transition to electric vehicles; and Sustainability - increase climate awareness and  
35 preparedness across all sectors of the community regarding local impacts of climate change,  
36 utilizing all major languages spoken in Winchester.

37  
38 Ms. Trimarchi then introduced why a Sustainability Director position is needed. Addressing  
39 climate change is urgent and to continue to effectively prepare Winchester for these impacts  
40 requires more coordination between all parties. A director would develop sustainable funding  
41 mechanisms, with renewable grants that will bring in a lot of money to the Town. The Select  
42 Board thanked Ms. Trimarchi for her hard work in developing the Climate Action Plan and the  
43 amount & quality of the work done by volunteers. They also supported the hiring of a  
44 Sustainability Director.

45  
46 4. **Muraco Warrant Article** - Vice Chair Bettencourt claimed that when Lynch was approved for  
47 the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) but not the Muraco, they realized that the  
48 MSBA does not approve two schools for rebuild. The Muraco is in need of capital  
49 improvements that need to be done, and investing in the building will extend its life for many  
50 years to come. He is asking for the Board to discuss issuing a bond for the work that needs to  
51 be done at the Muraco to be put on the Spring Town Meeting warrant.

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1 Ms. Wong told the Board that she has been meeting with Dr. Evans (School Superintendent)  
2 and her staff to come up with a master plan for the Muraco and will be ready for Fall Town  
3 Meeting. She feels that they will have a much better product in the fall, as they will have more  
4 time to prepare and meet with the parent groups. They are concerned that items will be missed  
5 or forgotten if the request is put on the Spring Town Meeting Warrant. Pete Lawson, the  
6 Facilities Director, is putting together a list of items that can be fixed at the Muraco during the  
7 summer. The consensus of the majority of the Board agrees with Ms. Wong but Vice Chair  
8 Bettencourt feels that they should put the warrant for the bond in the spring so that the money is  
9 in place when the plan is done. Chair Goluboff reminded Vice Chair Bettencourt that can write  
10 the warrant himself.

11  
12 **5. Lynch Feasibility Study** - Ms. Wong reviewed the memo at table from Assistant Town Manager  
13 Twogood giving the funding options for the study. The MSBA mandates a rigorous and multi-  
14 submission Feasibility Study and approval process. The three submissions are the Preliminary  
15 Design Program (PDP), Preferred Schematic Report (PSR), and the Schematic Design.  
16 Michelle Bergstom, School Committee Chair, explained that they have reviewed similar studies  
17 in other communities and determined the amount for the study is \$1.4 million. The MSBA will  
18 determine what percentage of the study costs and eligible design and construction costs plus  
19 incentives will be reimbursed. The following are the funding options:

- 20  
21 A. Direct Appropriation, most likely using free cash  
22 B. Borrowing authorization. Timing would be as follows:  
23 - Spring 2020 Town Meeting appropriates \$1.4M for the feasibility study funded by a  
24 borrowing authorization. Town issues a Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) on July 1<sup>st</sup> or  
25 later for the full amount of the authorization  
26 - 12 months after original issuance date, the BAN could be renewed for an additional year  
27 minus any MSBA reimbursement.  
28 - At maturity, assuming construction funding has been authorized, bonds would be issued  
29 for a 28-year term. A feasibility study's term is 5 years unless construction funding has  
30 been authorized which would extend the term to 30 years (maximum allowed for  
31 construction).

32 The Select Board supports the funding be as a BAN and requested that Ms. Bergstom confirm  
33 the amount is enough to cover the costs.

34  
35 **6. MBTA** - Ms. Wong and Beth Rudolph, Town Engineer informed the Select Board that the MBTA  
36 sent a cost sharing letter to the Town. We do not believe that there should be any cost sharing  
37 since this is an MBTA project. The MBTA is basically stating in the letter that if there is item on  
38 the list that the Town wants done and it goes over the budgeted estimate, they would look for  
39 the Town to cost share. Our asks are not to make it better but to keep the item in the condition  
40 that it is, i.e. there is presently granite on the walls and should not be replaced with concrete.  
41 We have asked for clarification on many areas of the plan.

42  
43 The MBTA will not pursue shuttle buses from Winchester Center to the Wedgemere station.  
44 Costs for this service are based on an estimated 2 buses all day, stationed at the center to pick  
45 up and drop customers off at Wedgemere for the am peak, then the same 2 at Wedgemere for  
46 the pm peak. Assuming a 28-month project schedule, the costs arrive at over \$4.7M. The  
47 MBTA would supply the buses if the Town is willing to pay the bussing costs.

48  
49 The last item on the list is Solar Panels - MBTA engineering will review the structural design of  
50 the canopies to see if they can hold panels. The Board agrees that this item is worth pursuing.  
51 Ms. Rudolph then discussed the work hours, the estimate length is 28 months, if they are

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1 allowed to work nights/weekends that will shorten the time. The other things to be aware of is  
2 the elevator maintenance and drainage may fall back on the Town.  
3

4 **7. 2020 Green Communities Grant** - Susan McPhee, Energy Conservation Coordinator,  
5 submitted a memo to the Select Board informing them that the Energy Management Committee  
6 is submitting a 2020 Green Communities Application. The Town is eligible to apply for  
7 \$100,000 in support of energy projects. These projects will result in \$12,484 in savings each  
8 year. The projects are: switching all the lights inside the Ambrose School to LEDs; in the Town  
9 Hall auditorium adding insulation on top of the ceiling and installing de-strat fans. The energy  
10 team is asking for the Select Board to taking a vote to support the selection of projects for  
11 inclusion in the grant.  
12

13 \*Motion That the Select Board supports Susan McPhee's request to apply for  
14 \$100,000 grant in support of Town energy projects - installing LEDs in  
15 Ambrose, insulating the Town Hall Auditorium ceiling and installing de-stat  
16 fans in the Town Hall Auditorium ceiling.

17 Bettencourt - Verdicchio All in favor VOTED  
18

19 **8. Annual Town Election Warrant** - Vice Chair Bettencourt read the warrant into the record.  
20

21 To the Constables of the Town of Winchester,  
22

23 In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the  
24 inhabitants of the Town of Winchester who are qualified to vote in Elections to meet at the polling places  
25 designated for the several precincts in the Town, namely: Precincts 1 and 2 at the Muraco School  
26 Gymnasium, Precinct 3 and 4 at the McCall School Gymnasium, Precincts 5 and 6 at the Vinson Owen  
27 Cafeteria and Precincts 7 and 8 at the Lynch School Gymnasium, on: **Tuesday,, the Thirty First of**  
28 **March, 2020** from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the following purpose: To cast their votes in the **ANNUAL**  
29 **TOWN ELECTION** for the election of the candidates for the following offices  
30

31 **One Moderator 1 yr.** | **Two seats Planning Board 3 yrs.**  
32 **One seat Select Board 3 yrs.** | **One seat School Committee 3 yrs.**  
33 **One seat Board of Assessor 3 yrs.** | **Two seats Library Bd. Trustees 3 yrs.**  
34 **One seat Board of Health 3 yrs.** | **One seat Housing Authority 5 yrs.**

35 **Eight Town Meeting Members for three years, in accordance with the revised precinct lines in**  
36 **effect January 1, 2012, for a total of 64 Town Meeting Members. Note: Precinct 2 and 6 have a**  
37 **vacancy for one year; write in candidates are available. Additionally, in Precinct 5 has one 2 yr.**  
38 **vacancy as well as Precinct 7 has one 2 yr. vacancy.**

39 Hereof fail not, and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk before the day  
40 of said election. Given under our hands and seals this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020. Select Board

41 Bettencourt - Verdicchio All in favor VOTED  
42

43 **CONSENT AGE NDA**

44 **One Day Alcoholic Beverage License(s)**

45 \*Motion That the Select Board approve One Day Alcoholic Beverage Licenses for  
46 Ruth Wolf for League of Women Voters - April 4, 2020 - Jenks Senior Center;  
47 Pauline Call for Winchester Seniors Association - April 26, 2020 - Jenks  
48 Senior Center.

49 Bettencourt - Verdicchio All in favor VOTED  
50

51 **Other**

