

**TOWN OF WINCHESTER
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Monday, March 8, 2021
Record**

OPENING

Chair Michael Bettencourt called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM via Zoom remote participation due to the State of Emergency COVID-19. Present were Select Board members Vice Chair Susan Verdicchio, Jacqueline A. Welch, Amy Shapiro, and Mariano Goluboff. Also present was Town Manager Lisa Wong. (Note - due to the remote participation all Select Board votes are roll call votes.)

*Motion: That the Select Board adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters related to MGL Ch. 30 §21(a) 3 - To discuss strategy with respect to litigation because discussion in open session may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the governmental body; 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.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

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

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

NOTIFICATION OF MEETINGS AND HEARINGS

1. Monday, March 22, 2021 - Regular Session
2. Monday, April 5, 2021 - Regular Session

ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

*Motion That the Select Board accept, with gratitude, a donation of \$5,000 from the En Ka Society to the Winchester Coalition for a Safer Community to be put toward INTERFACE.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

*Motion That the Select Board accept, with gratitude, in kind donations of three flat screen TVs to the Recreation Department for use in the Kid Connection Pre-K for virtual field trips/enrichment in the classroom from Tracy & Chris Sacco, Laura & Adam Bruce, and Priya & David Bates.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

*Motion That the Select Board accept, with gratitude, in kind donations of 2 mud kitchens, and 1 storage bench to the Recreation Department for use in Kid Connection Pre-K for outdoor play areas in the small playground from the Kid

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Connection Parent Advisory Council through Friends of Winchester Recreation.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

- *Motion That the Select Board accept, with gratitude, the following grants to the Winchester Fire Department from Fire Department Services: \$5,281 for Student Awareness of Fire Education (S.A.F.E); and \$2,680 for Senior SAFE.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

- *Motion That the Select Board accept, with gratitude, MEMA Emergency Management Planning grant of \$5,100 to the Winchester Fire Department.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

- *Motion That the Select Board accept, with gratitude, a donation of \$100 from the Hunter Family for the Public Safety Memorial.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

TOWN MANAGER REPORT AND COMMENTS

1. Ms. Wong announced the following appointments in accordance with section 4-2b of the Town Charter, and she respectfully requested that the Select Board vote to waive the fifteen (15) day appointment period for: **DPW Maintenance Special Equipment Operator - Adam Porter; DPW Lincoln School Head Custodian - Steve Danizio; DPW Maintenance Specialist Plumber - Eric Carmichael; DPW School Custodian 1 - Richard Began; Treasurer/Collector Department Principal Clerk - Maria Hanley .**

- *Motion: That the Select Board waive the customary fifteen (15) day appointment waiting period to allow Adam Porter, Steve Danizio, Eric Carmichael, Richard Began and Maria Hanley to begin their employment.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

2. Town Manager's Updates:

COVID-19 Response:

- Weekly Testing Clinic Dates posted on town website. Next clinic is March 10 from 3-5pm. If you do not have a Project Beacon account or a Town of Winchester Profile, use this link to register: <https://app.beacontesting.com/register/with-code?code=WINTESTING>
- Only 1 out of 208 tests came back positive from last week's clinic. Data is trending in the right direction.
- Health Director and Town Manager have been advocating for local vaccine clinics, including allowing the town to vaccinate teachers. The state is not interested at the moment but we remain hopeful that as more vaccines become available, that will increase their appetite for effective partnerships with local jurisdictions. Our frustration is echoed across the State and also by the MMA: <https://www.mma.org/advocacy/municipalities-key-to-turning-vaccines-into-vaccinations/>

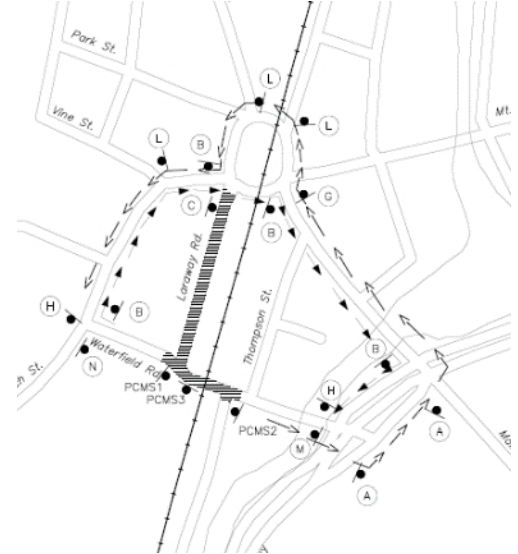
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BUDGET:

- The town is renegotiating the PILOT Agreement with Winchester Hospital. The current agreement extended the terms to June 30, 2020.
- There might be positive impacts from a possible federal stimulus that may include \$2 billion (today's figures, reported as \$3.73 in Feb) for Massachusetts cities and towns, as well as \$4.5 billion directly to the state. Note that these figures are variable and won't be known until the stimulus is passed and signed.

MBTA:

- Detailed schedule still being requested. Latest schedule update from MBTA is: The Town Abatement is wrapping up this week. Demolition is on track to start this week. On track to finish by May 31.
- Contractors have been parking on street. MBTA was notified and will take care of the issue. Police details and patrol have been notified to keep an eye on this as well.
- The demo over Waterfield is now expected to be on Saturday, March 27th from 7am to 5pm. Here is the proposed traffic detour.



MATTERS FROM THE AUDIENCE

COMPTROLLER'S REPORT

LICENSES

HEARINGS

BUSINESS

1. **Comptroller's Vacation Carryover and Contract Update** - Stacie Ward, Town Comptroller, is requesting that her 2020 vacation carryover of 94.50 hours be converted to sick time. As part of her contract, she is only allowed five days of sick time per year and converting her time would be more cost effective for the Town. The Board supported her suggestion. Ms. Ward also feels that it is time to update her contract that she submitted to the Board today. In order to give the Board time to review, they will discuss her contract at the March 22nd meeting.

*Motion That the Select Board approves the carryover and conversion to sick time as presented by the Comptroller.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt

VOTED

2. **Stop & Shop Agreement** - Ms. Wong explained that a portion of the property in the back of Stop & Shop is Town land rented to the Aberjona Winchester, LLC that owns the rest of the

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property Stop & Shop is on. They are renewing the lease with Stop & Shop, who is asking the Town to enter into the Recognition & Attornment agreement.

*Motion That the Select Board approve the Recognition & Attornment agreement with the Aberjona Winchester LLC as presented.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt

VOTED

- 3. Waterfield Lot** - Ms. Wong told the Board that the existing MOU is almost complete and she is asking for a deadline extension to April 9th.

*Motion That the Select Board extend the Waterfield Lot MOU with Civico from March 17th to April 9th.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt

VOTED

- 4. Outdoor Dining - St. Patrick's Day Weekend** - The Black Horse Tavern and First House Pub have requested outdoor dining for the week before St. Patrick's Day, March 10th to March 17th. Ms. Wong submitted a memo with staff recommendations for the conditional approval. The conditional approval will be terminated if the weather goes below 40 degrees during the daytime and/or there is snow in the forecast.

*Motion That the Select Board approve the permits for outdoor dining for the Black Horse Tavern and the First House Pub from March 10th to March 23rd with special conditions due to the weather.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt

VOTED

- 5. Town Day** - Allan Eyden, Town Day Committee, is requesting a provisional approval for a mini-Town Day on June 5th to boost the center businesses and a provisional approval of the September 17th/18th Town Day so that he can reserve the tents, petting zoo, the trolley's, fireworks etc. for that weekend.

*Motion That the Select Board authorize a provisional permit for Town Day on June 5th with a rain date of June 6th and a provisional permit for a full Town Day on September 17th & 18th with a rain date of September 19th.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt

VOTED

- 6. Election Warrant** - The Select Board approved the 2021 Spring Election Warrant as presented.

*Motion That the Select Board accept the Election Warrant to be held on Tuesday, March 30, 2021 at all local polling places stated in the warrant between the hours of 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt

VOTED

- 7. Climate Action Advisory Committee Update** - Ruth Trimarchi, CAAC Chair, gave a presentation & informed the Board that the CAAC had to change the suggested locations to install the EV super charges for the EVIP grant due to challenges in Eversource bringing electricity to the chargers. They will need three parking spaces for one machine with two charging ports & to meet the ADA requirements they will need 26' in total space.

*Motion That the Select Board authorize the Climate Action Advisory Committee to use, for the purposes of the grant, parking spaces at the Jenks Town Hall lot

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and/or the Stop & Shop lot for charging stations and to work with the Treasurer/Collector Department, at some point new collections will be taken through the electronic processing.

Verdicchio - Goluboff

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

8. Draft Warrant Articles - The Select Board reviewed the very draft list of the Warrant Articles for Fall Town Meeting.

9. Committees & Commissions Appointments - The Select Board reappointed the following committee members.

*Motion That the Select Board reappoint Walter Hubbard to the Cable Advisory Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2022.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

*Motion That the Select Board reappoint Roger McPeck to the Capital Planning Committee for a term to expire January 1, 2024.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

*Motion That the Select Board reappoint Mark Scott to the Education Facilities Planning & Building Committee for a term to expire March 1, 2024.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

EQUITY AND ANTI-RACISM TASK FORCE

CONSENT AGE NDA

*Motion That the Select Board approve the Inter Fund Borrowing in the amount of \$350,000 advanced from the General Fund for the North Reservoir Dam.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

*Motion That the Select Board approve Juli Riemenschneider as a Special Municipal Employee for FY2021.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

*Motion That the Select Board approve the minutes for February 8 & 22, 2021.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt VOTED

COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKING GROUP REPORTS

1. **Letter from the Winchester Chamber of Commerce regarding parking in Winchester Center.**
- At the request of the Town Manager the Winchester Chamber Downtown Planning Committee submitted recommendations for immediate parking mitigation action in Winchester Center to alleviate the loss of spaces from the MBTA construction project and the outdoor dining.
2. **Memo from Staff in response to Chamber of Commerce parking recommendations.** - In consultation with staff from DPW, Engineering and Planning Departments, Ms. Wong

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commented on the recommendations. She will be meeting with Chamber members and the Town will also work with Toole Design to develop a scope of work/costs before moving forward.

3. **Letter from David Gauthier, WinCam Executive Director, requesting Select Board support legislation, "An Act Relative to A Streaming Entertainment Operator's Use of Public Rights of Way (HD 1440, SD 834)"** - Chair Bettencourt is adding Mr. Gauthier's request to the March 22nd agenda so that the Select Board can vote.

ADJOURNMENT : 9:20 PM

*Motion: That the Select Board adjourn for the evening.

Verdicchio - Welch

Roll Call: Verdicchio, Welch, Shapiro, Goluboff, Bettencourt

VOTED

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Wong, Town Manager