

**TOWN OF WINCHESTER  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
Thursday , April 30, 2020  
Record**

**OPENING**

Chair Michael Bettencourt called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM via Zoom remote participation due to the State of Emergency COVID-19. Present were Select Board members Vice Chair Susan Verdicchio, Jacqueline A. Welch, Mariano Goluboff and Amy Shapiro. Also present was Town Manager Lisa Wong. (Note - due to the remote participation all Select Board votes are roll call votes.)

**BUSINESS**

1. **State of Emergency** - The Board of Health is asking the Select Board to approve the mask policy for the Town. It was suggested that the Transfer Station be included in the mask policy as there are problems with social distancing at the recycle area with people mingling.

\*Motion            That the Select Board approve the emergency order of the Board of Health regarding face coverings amending that the Transfer Station be included in the policy.

Verdicchio - Welch

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

VOTED

**Other items from Town Manager:** Legislation is expected soon regarding remote Town Meetings; Ms. Wong and Department Heads will be doing a PSA on Friday; at 7:00 p.m. tonight Winchester and Stoneham public safety departments will be doing a drive-by at Winchester Hospital to honor the medical workers AND there will be a vehicle parade from Noon-1pm honoring the Senior Class of 2020; looking at reopening the Town Offices in phases but there is no time line; a company will be looking at all the Town buildings HVAC and ventilation regarding air quality; the Select Board will discuss the realtor order of no in-showing of vacant properties at Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

2. **Employee Health Insurance** - Ms. Wong informed the Select Board of the potential changes for them to consider. 1) Adding the FOCUS Plan with focuses on specific hospitals 2) Move from Delta Dental to Guardian Dental, which is a part of the Harvard Pilgrim program.

We had a meeting with the Insurance Advisory Committee and they suggested to do a survey of the employees. The results from the survey showed that many would not change to the FOCUS Plan as it does not include Mass General in the list of hospital choices. Also, most dentists do not accept Guardian and employees would have to switch dentists. The FOCUS Plan is not mandatory for the employees, only an option and there is no drawback to adding the option but there is a savings to the Town. Stacie Ward, Town Comptroller, told the Board that they need to vote today so that she has time to set the rates for the Open Enrollment that is next week. Ms. Wong feels that the change to the dental would be more detrimental to the staff and we will continue to review the plan. She recommends that the Town does not add Guardian at this time.

\*Motion            That the Select Board add the FOCUS Plan to the choices for Winchester Open Enrollment.

Verdicchio - Welch

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

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- 3. Town Manager Updates** - We are continuing to evaluate the Carriage House's air quality and building as to whether we go forward with a study. The Carriage House is being looked at as the potential of becoming the School Administration Central Office. Mr. Goluboff felt that the money that was going to evaluate the Carriage House should go to the Muraco School repairs instead.

Pete Lawson, Facilities Manager, has continued to finalize the costs of the improvements at the Muraco School. The following is the list with costs: replace the roof (1.7mil), boiler (\$100,000), electrical service and motor control bank (1.1mil with engineer costs), the exterior doors (\$200,000) and flooring with asbestos abatement (\$450,000); Bates Road sidewalk is being install now; and the Saltmarsh Park work will be starting by May 18<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT : 9:40 AM**

\*Motion: That the Select Board adjourn for the day.

Verdicchio - Welch

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

VOTED

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Wong, Town Manager