

Select Board Minutes

January 24, 2023

Town of Cohasset
Select Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 24, 2023
35 Ripley Road, Paul Pratt Library

Select Board Members Present: Jack Creighton, Chair
Jean Healey Dippold
Paul Grady
Via Remote: Corey Evans
Diane Kennedy
Others Participating: Christopher Senior, Town Manager

Chair Creighton called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Roll Call Vote; All present.

Chair Creighton asked for a motion to go into Executive Session Exemption #3-To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation of the public body and the chair so declares. The Board will get a general litigation update on New England Building & Bridge Co., Inc. v. Town of Cohasset, Jerusalem Road Limited Partnership v. Carol St. Pierre, et al., Jerusalem Road Limited Partnership v. Cohasset Planning Board, Clark H. Brewer v. Town of Cohasset, et al., Hollis Hunnewell v. S. Woodworth Chittick, et. al., John Greenip and Laurie Greenip v. Board of Health, Daniel Bliss, and Kelly Bliss, Commonwealth v. Shannon, Matthew Richard. The Board will also discuss the Navigation Bylaw. The motion moved by Select Member Grady, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote, All aye.

The Board went into executive session at 6:03 p.m.

The Board came out of executive session and back into public session at 7:15 p.m.

Public Comment-None.

Sidewalk Committee-Appointment-Applicant Ralph Domitzer gave an overview of his background and stated he would like to be on the committee if something will get done. The Town needs to add more money to the road and sidewalk fund and update or replace roads and sidewalks every 20 years. Select Member Evans asked if Mr. Dormitzer is applying as a citizen at large or a member of Capital Budget. **Motion by Select Member Grady to appoint Ralph Dormitzer to the Sidewalk Committee as the Capital Budget Representative for a one-year term, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Jean Healey Dippold-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Grady-Aye.** Corey Evans abstained from vote.

Harbor Committee-Motion by Select Member Dippold to appoint Martin St. John to the Harbor Committee as the Yacht Club Representative to fill an unexpired term until June 30, 2025, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote, All aye.

South Shore Irish Heritage Patrice Maye was present and gave an overview of the history of the Irish Heritage Trail. She discussed the stops in Cohasset such as the granite bench, situated just outside the boundary of Cohasset Central Cemetery, which marks the final resting place of some of the people that perished in the Brig St. John tragic shipwreck, Cohasset Maritime Museum, and Celtic Cross Monument. They are holding a Black Velvet Soiree fundraiser on February 4th at the South Shore Art Center.

One-day Liquor License-South Shore Art Center-Saturday, February 4th-Motion by Select Member Grady to approve the one-day liquor license for the South Shore Irish Heritage Trail Black Velvet fundraiser at South Shore Art Center from 6:30-9:30 p.m., seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote, All aye.

One-day Liquor License-South Shore Art Center-Wednesday, February 15th-Motion by Select Member Grady to approve the one-day liquor license for the South Shore Art Center-Art off the Wall event on Wednesday, February 15th from 7-10 p.m., seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote, All aye.

One-day Liquor License-Friends of Holly Hill, February 16th-Motion by Select Member Evans to approve a one-day liquor license for the Friends of Holly Hill Seeds & Beer Event on February 16th from 5-8 pm, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote, All aye.

Red Lion Inn-Extension of Hours-Chair Creighton stated this agenda item will be discussed on February 7th.

Town Hall Building Committee-Chair of THBC Phil Lehr, member Mark Cameron, Jon Lemieux and Steve Kirby from Vertex were present. Mark Cameron advised the Board two companies applied for the CM at Risk. They are recommending Commodore. They will provide an updated cost estimate for Annual Town Meeting. The Board had a brief discussion and asked if there is only one choice or will they bring a couple of choices. Mr. Cameron stated the Town Hall Building Committee has gone through the process and was charged with the option of replacing the newer portion of town hall and renovating the old historic portion. Previous committees had the charge of looking into different options. They discussed how they will communicate the information and educate the community through Justin Shrair and JGPR. They will have the cost estimate in three weeks including rebuild and renovation.

Customer Relations Management (CRM)-Update-Communications & Community Engagement Specialist Justin Shrair gave an update of the GoGov management platform the town will use. There will be a mobile app, the website portal will be embedded into the town's current website. Citizens will be able to submit service requests. The town will be able to manage, track and route requests and they will be able to generate reports. The soft launch will be the beginning of April. They are asking the Board to come up with a name for the app.

Zoning Bylaw Update-Chair of Zoning Bylaw Committee Tom Callahan reviewed the articles proposed for ATM which includes the Removal of application requirements from bylaw into regulations, Art. 1 (purpose) – housekeeping edits; adding a couple of “purposes”, Art. 2 (definitions) – will move one definition into Art. 8, will edit others in the category of housekeeping; only substantive change to be in the definition of height to better clarify the measurement., Art. 3 (districts & map) – housekeeping edits. (May be postponed if new map unavailable), Art. 6 (signs) – housekeeping edits & definitional clean-up; adding dimensional limits where there are none, Art. 8 (non-conformities) – consolidation and housekeeping edits; only substantive change to address the single lot exemption and Cohasset's unique provision relating to it; to be presented in 2 steps, Art. 12 (admin. & enforcement) – housekeeping edits; clarification of the site plan review process; increase of fine to state max. (\$300 per day – in line with other Cohasset land use boards), Art. 13 (administration) – repeal; a two-paragraph article that is unnecessary, Art. 19 (wind) – housekeeping edits only. The Board had a brief discussion.

Approval of Minutes-Motion by Select Member Evans to approve the minutes of 1/10/2023, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll call vote; 4-0-1. Select Member Kennedy abstained from the vote as she was not present at the meeting.

Town Manager Update-Mr. Senior advised the Board residents should be receiving information in the mail about the electrical aggregation plan for the Town. All information is available on the town website www.cohassetma.org which explains what the town is doing. Residents are automatically enrolled unless they opt out. The rates are much lower than National Grid. The plan goes into effect on 3/1/2023. There will a public information forum on Thursday at 7 p.m. at Willcutt Commons. The Chief of Police will be introducing two new sergeants at the meeting on 2/7/2023.

Select Board Comments-Select Member Kennedy stated her, and colleagues attended the MMA Conference in Boston this past weekend. Cohasset's Anthony Everett spoke about the leadership in Town during the recent tragic event. Select Member Grady thanked the Police, Fire and Chris Senior for handling the recent events professionally over the last week. They did a great job. Mr. Grady also thanked all the residents who volunteered for the sidewalk committee. Select Member Dippold echoed Select Members Kennedy and Grady thanks to the Police and Fire. She also stated a couple of board members did a walk through of the public safety building and the conditions are not ideal. The Board should discuss at an upcoming meeting. Chair Creighton added they will need to do a re-evaluation of what needs to be done at the public safety building.

Motion by Select Member Grady to adjourn, seconded by Select Member Evans. Roll Call Vote, All aye.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Creighton, Chair