

## Select Board Minutes

March 8, 2022

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Virtual Meeting – 143TV and Zoom

**Select Board Present:** Keri Thompson, Chair  
Corey D. Evans  
Jean Healey Dippold  
Jack Creighton  
Diane Kennedy

**Others Participating:** Christopher Senior, Town Manager

**Chairperson Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked for a Roll Call Vote. Corey Evans-Present, Diane Kennedy-Present, Jean Healey Dippold-Present, Keri Thompson-Present.**

**Pledge**-Recited.

**Public Comment**-None.

**Licenses/Permits/Events-Split Rock Social-Common Victualler license, Entertainment license**-Ryan Hilton was present on behalf of Split Rock Social, Inc. He is applying for a common victualler license and entertainment license as discussed at the last meeting. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to approve the common victualler for Split Rock Social at 12 Parking Way, subject to the conditions set forth by the Planning Board and the entertainment license for entertainment Wednesday-Saturday 12-9 pm and Sundays 12-6 pm unless it is a holiday weekend then Sunday is 12-9 pm, seconded by Select Member Evans. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

**Cemetery Plot Repurchase-Woodside Cemetery-Vote to approve the buyback of seven plots**-Director of DPW Brian Joyce advised the Board they received a request to buyback seven plots. All the paperwork is in order and all the plots are available. **Motion by Select Member Creighton to approve the buyback of seven plots at Woodside Cemetery from Nancy Tupor, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

**Board/Committee Update-School Facilities Committee**-Chair of School Facilities Committee (SFC) Jason Earls gave the board an update. The committee toured all the schools. They reached out to four firms to do an existing conditions study. Ai3 was selected and started their work in January and finished the study the end of February. The final study will be presented on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 p.m. The study will offer specific opportunities for improvements and/or deficiencies within the school facilities. This is the first step in developing a long-term plan that ensures the school facilities meet the needs of the students, teachers, and community in accordance with the goals identified by the Select Board and School Committee. The SFC is primarily focused on the Cohasset Middle/High School since it is the oldest being built in 1950 with a renovation in 2003 and in need of many updates. Based on the findings of the existing conditions study, they expect to submit a Statement of Interest (SOI) to the MA School Building Authority (MSBA) to help fund this project. They help fund affordable, sustainable and energy efficient schools. This is the first step in working with the MSBA. The SFC understands that any project with any of the buildings is a community decision and will take years to properly evaluate, prepare for and undertake.

**FY23 Joint Meeting with Advisory Committee-Water Budget**-Vice Chair Mary McGoldrick called Advisory Committee meeting to order. John Steinmetz and Leonora Jenkins were present on behalf of the Water Commission and called their meeting to order. Financer Director Don Piatt reviewed the Water Budget. They are looking for an increase of about 2.6% from last year. The board had a brief discussion.

**Sewer Budget**-Paul Kierce was present on behalf of the Sewer Commission. Don Piatt reviewed the proposed budget. They are looking for an increase of about 1% from last year. The Board had a brief discussion.

### **Annual Town Meeting Warrant-Review and Vote Articles**

**Article #16-Transfer of Land to the Affordable Housing Trust (Placeholder)**-Chairperson Thompson stated she spoke with Chair of AHT, and he was unable to attend tonight's meeting. She will put on the 3/15 agenda.

**Article #21-Citizen's Petition Remote Town Meetings**-Tom Baker -18 Black Rock Road gave the Board an overview of his proposed petition. The Board had a lengthy discussion. **Motion by Select Member Creighton that the Select Board place on article on the warrant for ATM to be drafted by counsel supporting remote voting at town meetings, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

**Town Manager Update-Fire Chief Process Update**-Mr. Senior advised the Board based on the conversations the Board had last week, the Board asked him to take a second look at the search process and prioritize local Cohasset experience as the primary first cut. The most expeditious next step would be to go back and look at the candidates they have and rank them against that standard. He will then compare them to the position description and run a background check. He expects to bring the candidate to the Board within two weeks.

**Select Board Comments**-Chairperson Thompson wished everyone a Happy National Women's Day. There is still time to pull papers for the town election. Select Member Dippold thanked Don Piatt and the Water & Sewer Commissions for their work on the budget as well as the School Facilities Committee for their work and presentation tonight. Select Member Kennedy mentioned the MSBA has a great website with tons of resources. She reminded everyone there is still time to take out nomination papers for the town elections. Select Member Creighton stated there is a remarkable resurgence of democracy in Cohasset. Cohasset is doing well, and democracy lives. Select Member Evans reminded the public the last day to obtain nomination papers is March 24<sup>th</sup> and they need to be turned in by March 28<sup>th</sup>. Covid cases in Cohasset are down.

**Motion by Select Member Creighton to adjourn, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

Respectfully submitted,

Keri Thompson, Chair

### **Documents**

Split Rock Applications

Cemetery Request

School Facilities Update

Draft Warrant