

## Select Board Minutes

March 16, 2023

Town of Cohasset

Select Board Meeting

Thursday, March 16, 2023

Town Hall Auditorium

**Select Board Members Present:** Jean Healey Dippold, Vice Chair

Paul Grady

Corey Evans

Diane Kennedy

**Via Remote:**

Jack Creighton, Chair

**Others Participating:**

Christopher Senior, Town Manager

Vice Chair Dippold called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Roll Call Vote; All present.

### **Major Capital Projects to be presented and proposed financing plan for Annual Town Meeting**-Vice Chair

Dippold reviewed proposed infrastructure projects which included Fields & Recreation for \$3 million, School Capital Improvement Stabilization Fund, Sidewalk Special Stabilization Fund, Public Safety Feasibility Study for \$200,000 and New Town Hall for \$22 million. She reviewed the projected increases on Cohasset's median annual household. The \$21 million in debt exclusion would be a tax increase of \$398.96 a year, \$63 million would be a tax increase of \$1196.88 a year. The exclusions decline each year until they roll off. \$1 million in stabilization funds would increase taxes by \$266 a year. The current debt exclusion of \$220.02 a year for the median household ends in 2024. Finance Director Jennifer Mullen reviewed debt exclusion and stabilization funds with the Board. The Board had a lengthy discussion. Capital Budget Chair Brian Host and Vice Chair Michael Dick spoke briefly on the debt exclusion. The Board agreed to continue their conversation at the next meeting on March 21, 2023.

**Annual Town Meeting Warrant-Review -Water Budget**-Chris Pratt and Leonora Jenkins were present on behalf of the Water Commission. They discussed their proposed budget for FY24.

**Article #16-Fields and Courts**-Michelle Leary and Ted Carroll-Michelle Leary stated the Board asked them to come back with a scaled down Phase I. The scaled down version is at Milliken is \$2,993,450 which would include renovating six (6) tennis courts, reconstructing retaining wall, drainage and stormwater management and construction and contingency cost. Also included is the Deer Hill Field Improvements; natural grass renovation, lighting, fencing and contingency costs. She advised the Board she is going to CPC on Monday to ask for an additional \$239,550 for design and engineering.

**Stormwater Management Bylaw Revise**-Conservation Agenda Charlotte Pechtl reviewed the proposed changes, additions, and amendments. They have been reviewed by Town Counsel and the Conservation Commission has voted in favor. The Board had a brief discussion. **Motion by Select Member Kennedy to put Stormwater Management Bylaw Revision on the Warrant for ATM, seconded by Select Member Evans. Roll Call Vote, All aye.**

**New Article-Name a Square in Town-Chief Naval Special Warfare Operator Michael T. Ernst**-Mr. Senior advised the Board Glenn Pratt and a group have brought forward the idea of naming a square in Town for Chief Naval Special Warfare Operator Michael T. Ernst who recently passed away. He is not sure that it needs to be a warrant article. He will check with town counsel and come back to the Board.

**KP Law-Waiver on Police Intermunicipal agreement with Norwell-Vote**-Mr. Senior explained the request to the Board. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to approve and sign determination that KP Law has sent to Board, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote, All aye.**

**National Opioid Settlement-Discussion/Vote**-Mr. Senior advised the Board that five new proposed national opioid settlements have been reached with Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart. The Town needs to submit the Participant Forms before April 18, 2023. **Motion by Select Member Evans to approve submitting the Participant Forms as discussed, seconded Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote, All aye.**

**Amend Sidewalk Charge-Replace Open Space & Recreation member to Recreation Commissioner-**  
**Motion by Select Member Evans to amend the Sidewalk Committee Charge to replace Open Space & Recreation member and change to Open Space & Recreation or Recreation Commission member, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote, All aye.**

**Town Manager Update**-Mr. Senior advised everyone they will be working for the next couple of weeks on ATM preparation. The deadline for the Warrant is 4/4/2023. He will send out a meeting calendar for the next couple of weeks to the Board tomorrow. The Advisory Committee met last night, and they are working on the warrant articles. Lauren Lind has been retained to help the Planning Board and Zoning Bylaw Committee until a new planner is hired.

**Select Board Comments**-Select Member Grady stated he is looking for the Sidewalk Committee to start their work. He asked Tracey Connors to send a poll to members to set up a meeting. Select Member Dippold asked Mr. Senior if he could reach out to Senator O'Connor and Representative Meschino and invite them in to update the Board. She thanked town staff and all volunteers on boards/committees that have been working hard for the upcoming Town Meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jack Creighton, Chair