

## Select Board Minutes

March 22, 2022

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

Virtual Meeting – 143TV and Zoom

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

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

**Chairperson Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. and asked for a Roll Call Vote. All present.**

**Fire Chief-Appointment**-Mr. Senior stated 3 weeks ago the Select Board modified the search criteria for the fire chief prioritizing local Cohasset experience. Following the new priority, he re-evaluated the candidate pool which had already been established and determined only one candidate met the new criteria. Routine background checks were conducted, he met with the candidate to discuss the current and future direction of the Cohasset Fire Department and met again with the candidate and HR director to discuss professional development goals and objectives. Tonight, he is presenting to the Board Assistant Fire Chief John Dockray as the candidate for Cohasset Fire Chief. As part of the evaluation process, and to ensure and encourage that John be a successful fire chief, they had coordinated with retired fire chief Jack Parow who runs training for the MA Fire Chief Association to mentor John and establishing a professional development plan for him and the department. John Dockray thanked Chris, Jack, and the members of the community for their support and is looking forward to moving the department forward to meet the needs of the community. **Motion by Select Member Creighton to accept the appointment of John Dockray as Fire Chief, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

**Public Comment**-None.

**Approval of Minutes**-Motion by Select Board Member Evans, seconded by Select Member Dippold to approve the minutes of 3/15/2022. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Nay, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Jean Healey Dippold-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.

**MBTA Zoning Update**-Planning/Zoning Director Lauren Lind reviewed the Housing Choice Initiative-Multi-Family Zoning Requirement for MBTA Communities, DHCD Guidelines, Timeline for Compliance, Implications & Concerns for Cohasset. The Board had a lengthy discussion. The Board review a draft letter to DHCD and will send any updates to Lauren Lind.

**Licenses/Permits/Events-CYBSA Opening Day Parade**-Bob Carlson was present and reviewed the proposed event. **Motion by Select Member Creighton to approve the CYBSA opening Day Parade on April 30, 2022, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

**National MS Walk**-Samantha Boland was present and reviewed the proposed event. They are proposing a shorter different route. The Police and Fire have approved the new route. **Motion by**

Select Member Kennedy to approve the MS Walk on May 7, 2022, seconded by Select Member Evans. Roll Call Vote; All aye.

**Cohasset High School Prom-Red Carpet Event**-Kate Mahoney was present and reviewed the proposed event. They are looking to start the event at 4:30 p.m. **Motion by Select Member Kennedy to approve the Red-Carpet Event on May 26, 2022, from 4:30-6:00 pm, seconded by Select Member Creighton. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

**Joint Meeting with Advisory Committee-Review Capital Budget with Capital Budget Committee**-Chairman of Capital Budget Committee Brian Host stated on February 10<sup>th</sup> Capital Budget was presented a master spreadsheet of requests totaling \$4 million. This is a typical start of the process. They met with departments and began to prioritize the projects. At this point there is clear support from the Committee to approve \$1.5 million in proposed projects. They reviewed the projects and had a lengthy discussion. They talked about meeting after ATM with Select Board, Capital Budget and Advisory to put together a long-term capital plan. Chairman of CPC Russ Bonetti reviewed the projects the committee has approved. He discussed the request for the roof at the Paul Pratt Library which was tabled by CPC. There was a discussion about the condition of the roof. Capital Budget will meet again on Monday and plan to vote on the remaining proposed projects.

**ARPA Funds-Update & Recommendations**-Mr. Senior stated he met with Don Piatt, and they are recommending \$17,500 for the final quarter of FY22, \$75,000 for FY23 and \$39,000 totaling \$131,500 for the newly created Communications & Community Engagement Director, \$75,000 for Zoning Study, \$35,000 for Economic Development support, \$33,500 for Mental Health/Substance Abuse Prevention and \$25,000 for Sustainability Program support. The Board discussed the requests and suggested adding \$18,000 for public relation services. **Motion by Select Member Evans to approve the ARPA funding recommendations as presented along with \$18,000 for public relation services, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

**Annual Town Meeting Warrant-Review and Vote Articles-Article #19-Remote Participation for Town Meetings**-Mr. Senior stated the Board asked counsel to draft an article on behalf of the Board. He reviewed the warrant language. **Motion by Select Member Creighton to put Article #19 Remote Participation for Town Meetings on the warrant for ATM, seconded by Select Member Kennedy.** Select Member Evans stated he would like to see the article earlier in the warrant. The Board discussed briefly and will discuss again before the warrant is finalized. **Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

**Article #20-Citizens Petition Election Ballot for Surplus Funds**-Mr. Senior advised the Board that the Advisory Committee voted 7-0 against recommending the article to ATM. **Motion by Select Member Kennedy to not recommend Article #19-Citizen’s Petition-Election Ballot for Surplus Funds to ATM, seconded by Select Member Evans. Roll Call Vote: Jack Creighton-Abstain, Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Jean Healey Dippold-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.**

Mr. Senior stated board & committees have been doing great work. The goal is to have the warrant finalized on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Advisory Committee is meeting tomorrow night.

**Select Board Comments**-Select Member Dippold reminded residents that Thursday is the last day to pull papers for the town elections. She reminded members that she would like to put Norfolk County on the agenda to discuss some issues. She gave a shout out to all students that participated in All School

Chorus and All Choral Concert which were very well run and impressive. Select Member Evans added that elections matter and implored more people to step up and get involved. Also, the Town of Scituate has a couple of programs for beach passes for people looking for early mornings and METCO students. He suggested maybe the Board discussed other options like these in Cohasset. Select Member Creighton congratulated John Dockray on becoming the new Fire Chief. Select Member Kennedy reminded residents that the Road Race by the Sea is coming up on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Chairperson Thompson stated she will not be at the next meeting and Select Member Evans will run the meeting.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Keri Thompson, Chair

**Documents**

Minutes

MBTA Zoning Presentation

Event Applications

ARPA Fund Recommendations

Draft ATM Warrant