

Select Board Minutes

November 1, 2022

Town of Cohasset

Select Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 1, 2022

91 Sohier Street-Willcutt Commons

Select Board Members Present: Jack Creighton, Chair
Jean Healey Dippold
Corey D. Evans
Paul Grady
Diane Kennedy

Others Participating: Christopher Senior, Town Manager

Chair Creighton called the meeting to order. 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 do declares. The Board will discuss potential litigation. **Motion made by Select Member Evans, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote, All aye.**

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:34 p.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:40 pm

Public Comment-None.

Public Hearing-Tax Allocation FY23-Director of Assessing Mary Quill advised the Board the purpose of the hearing is to determine whether the Town of Cohasset should adopt a uniform tax rate for all property classes, or a split tax rate, which would shift the tax burden between the residential and commercial, industrial, and personal property classes. Generally, a split rate should not be considered unless the combined valuation of commercial, industrial, and personal property equals 25% of the total taxable valuation of the town. It is the opinion of the Board of Assessors that a split tax rate often discourages businesses from locating in a community. Ms. Quill reviewed the current rate, property classification, and levy limit. The proposed uniform tax rate for FY23 would be \$11.80. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to accept the uniform tax rate for FY23 at \$11.80 and continue the hearing until 11/15/2022, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote, All aye.**

Discussion of whether the Select Board should File an Open Meeting Law Complaint-Regarding Russ Bonetti email from 10/25/2022-Chair Creighton stated the Board will discuss whether an Open Meeting Law Complaint should be filed. Mr. Russ Bonetti requested the Board discuss this matter in Executive Session. Attorney Carolyn Murray-KP Law-advised the Board they can take this under Executive Session if they prefer. **Motion by Select Member Kennedy to take this topic under Executive Session at the next meeting, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote, All aye.**

Licenses/Permits/Events-Red Lion Inn Extension of Hours-Manager Tony Dochev was present requesting an extension of hours for a wedding on New Year's Eve in the Barn until 12:25 a.m. and the Cave until 2 a.m. Select Member Dippold recused herself from the discussion. The Board had a brief discussion. **Motion by Select Member Kennedy to approve the extension of hours as requested for New Year's Eve in the Barn until 12:15 a.m. and the Cave until 2:00 a.m., seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote; 3-0-1. Holiday Stroll-Chamber of Commerce-Event Permit**-President of Chamber

Sean Cunning was present and gave an overview of the event. Chief William Quigley stated they have completed their application and provided insurance. It is a long-standing event and there are not any issues. **Motion by Select Member Evans to approve the Holiday Stroll on December 10, 2022, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote, All aye. Motion by Select Member Evans to approve the one-day entertainment license for the Holiday Stroll on December 10,2022, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote, All aye.**

Cohasset Sports Complex-One-Day License-Untold Brewing -Matt Elder from Untold Brewery was present and advised the Board they are having a Kickoff Registration for the 2023 Season for Cohasset Families. There will be a beer tent. Chief Quigley stated since the event expects 150-200 participants, he recommends police detail. **Motion by Select Member Evans to approve the one-day liquor license for Untold Brewing on 11/12/2022 from 1:30-4:30 p.m. with a police detail, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote, All aye.**

Board/Committee Updates-Alternative Energy Committee-Update-Chair of AEC Tanya Bodell gave the Board an update on AEC's 2022 Initiatives. Ms. Bodell stated that Palmer Capital has developed a solar energy array opportunity for the town on a third-party site on the Stop & Shop building. She reported Solect Energy has developed a proposal for putting solar energy panels on the new library roof. She updated the Board on the Electric School Bus demonstration project, the Electric Vehicle Charging Station fees and structure. She suggested the Board vote to move forward with charging a fee for the charging stations. **Motion by Select Member Evans that the Board take the AEC recommendation to charge \$0.20 a kilowatt per hour plus any additional administrative costs for ChargePoint for use of electric charging stations and the Board reserves the right to adjust or increase as necessary, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote, All aye.** Ms. Bodell also updated the Board on the Cohasset Microgrid project.

Select Board FY23 Goals-Sidewalk Charge-Select Member Evans discussed the edits to the charge. The Board discussed having a member from the Select Board and the Police Traffic Safety Officer. **Motion by Select Member Evans to approve the Sidewalk Charge as presented, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote, All aye. Motion by Select Member Evans to appoint Paul Grady to the Sidewalk Committee as the Select Board liaison, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote, All aye.**

Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles-Article #2-Unpaid Bills from Previous Fiscal Years-Motion by Select Member Evans to recommend Article #2-Unpaid Bills to STM, seconded by Select Member Kennedy. Roll Call Vote, All aye. **Article #3-Stabilization Funds**-Mr. Senior advised the Board they need to revoke this article since the amount going into Capital Stabilization has changed to \$625,000. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to recommend Article #3 Stabilization Funds to STM, seconded by Select Member Evans. Roll Call Vote, All aye. Article #4-Allocation of Funds for One-Time Costs**-Motion by Select Member Evans to recommend Article #4-Allocation of Funds for One-Time Costs to STM, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Call-All aye. **Article #5-Capital Improvements Projects**-Motion by Select Member Kennedy to recommend Article #5 Capital Improvements Projects for all projects except Project #3, seconded by Select Member Evans. Roll Call Vote, All aye.

Article #10 Wetlands Protection Bylaws Updated Definitions-Resource Area-Conservation Agent Charlotte Pechtl advised the Board the Conservation Commission is looking to clarify definitions for riverfront areas and vernal pools to clarify the requirements for applications which impact the Riverfront Area and Vernal Pools. The Board had a brief discussion. **Motion by Select Member Evans to**

recommend Article #10-Wetlands Protection Bylaws Updated Definitions-Resource Area to STM, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote, All aye.

Article #12-Removal of Cohasset Police Department from Civil Service-Motion by Select Member Kennedy to recommend Article #12 Removal of Cohasset Police Department from Civil Service to STM, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote, All aye.

Citizen Petitions-The Board discussed how to handle a public meeting for the Navigation Bylaw. The Board agreed to have the discussion on the agenda of the Board's meeting on November 15th.

Town Manager Update-Mr. Senior thanked all the crews that worked last week on the water main break on S. Main Street, which was in the worst area possible. The break was under the culvert. Brian Joyce and his crew worked hard. It was a great team effort. They were fortunate that it happened during the day rather than at night.

Select Board Comments-Select Member Dippold thanked the crews for their work on the water main break as well. Select Member Evans thanked the Cohasset Police for keeping everyone safe on Halloween night.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jack Creighton, Chair

Documents

- Tax Allocation FY23
- Red Lion Inn-Req Extension of hours
- Holiday Stroll Event App
- One day liquor-Untold Brewing
- AEC Update
- Sidewalk Charge
- STM Warrant