

Town of Cohasset
Select Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 21, 2022
Via Zoom

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 at 4:03 p.m. Roll Call Vote; All present. He 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 moved by Select Member Grady, seconded by Select Member Evans. Roll Call Vote; Corey Evans-Aye, Paul Grady-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Jean Healey Dippold-Aye, Jack Creighton-Aye.

The Board went into Executive Session at 4:10 p.m.
The Board came out of Executive Session and into public session at 5:30 p.m.

The Zoom link to the original open session expired. The link was reopened. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to return as we have to the regularly scheduled meeting, including the link that was posted in the original agenda and continue the topic as scheduled in the agenda, seconded by Paul Grady. Roll Call Vote; Corey Evans-Aye, Paul Grady-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Jean Healey Dippold-Aye, Jack Creighton-Aye.**

Navigation Bylaw-Response to Scituate-Vote-Motion by Select Member Dippold that the Select Board present the following statement/offer to the Town of Scituate through its' Select Board that the Cohasset Select Board wants to engage in outreach with the Town of Scituate to see if we can find a mutual resolution over Cohasset Harbor. Specifically, the Cohasset Select Board proposes that both Towns work on an agreement between Scituate and Cohasset to protect and safely manage our shared coastal resources. We propose that the Select Boards of Scituate and Cohasset mutually agree to work collaboratively on the management of their shared waters in and around Cohasset Harbor, honoring these principles:

- 1) Protecting the area's marine environment, its natural beauty, and its water quality is critically important.
- 2) Preserving safe and accessible public access to these waters for recreational, sporting and educational purposes is a priority for all.

We propose that both communities further recognize that in order to achieve these goals a mutually acceptable governance agreement for these shared waters should be drafted and adopted. Such an agreement would address the following and other identified topics:

- 1) The roles and responsibilities of each community’s public safety resources, including patrol and enforcement duties, regulatory oversight, and safety enforcement;**
- 2) The maintenance of boating channels, the breakwater which protects Cohasset Cove, public mooring and docking facilities, and the like;**
- 3) The impact of regulated and licensed commercial activities on the environment, on the safety of those using the waters for recreational, sporting and educational activities, on public safety and regulatory resources, and on other identified areas of concern;**
- 4) The collection of revenue from and the payment of expenses for the management of the shared waters.**

In order to create this agreement, we propose that both Select Boards commit to appointing representatives to negotiate the various elements identified, to receive their recommendations, and to adopt a completed agreement that ensures the preservation of these waters for residents of both communities for many years to come. Pending this work, we propose that both Select Boards agree to pause the granting of any new licenses or permits, excluding renewals, in these shared waters.

It is the Cohasset Select Board’s goal to preserve and protect the Cohasset Harbor area in collaboration and perpetuity with Scituate. The Cohasset Select Board is committed to avoiding protracted litigation, if possible, over this issue and hopes to work with the Scituate Select Board. The motion was seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote; Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Grady-Aye, Jean Healey Dippold-Aye, Jack Creighton-Aye.

Motion by Select Member Evans to adjourn, seconded by Select Member Grady. Roll Call Vote; Corey Evans-Aye, Diane Kennedy-Aye, Paul Grady-Aye, Jean Healey Dippold-Aye, Jack Creighton-Aye.

The meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Creighton, Chair

