

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – TOWN OF NATICK

MEETING MINUTES

EDWARD H. DLOTT MEETING ROOM – NATICK TOWN HALL

August 12, 2019

6:00 PM

PRESENT: Chair Michael J. Hickey, Jr., Vice Chair Susan G. Salamoff, Clerk Jonathan H. Freedman, Karen Adelman-Foster, and Richard P. Jennett, Jr.

ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator Melissa A. Malone and Executive Assistant Trish O'Neil

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m., noting that a quorum was present and that the meeting had been duly posted and was being recorded by Natick Pegasus, and requested a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to:

1. Purpose 3: strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares:

Collective Bargaining Agreements:

Supervisors' and Administrators' Association (DPW Supervisors)

Public Employees Local Union 1116 (DPW Laborers)

Public Employees Local Union 1116 (Clerical)

Public Employees Local Union 1116 (Library)

and

LIUNA: Laborers' Internal Union of North America

Supervisors' and Administrators' Association (DPW Supervisors)

Public Employees Local Union 1116 (DPW Laborers)

Public Employees Local Union 1116 (Clerical)

Maintenance and Custodians Local 1116 (Facilities Maintenance)

2. Purpose 3: strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body: E.L. Harvey.
3. Purpose 6: the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property where discussion in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the Town's negotiating position – Hunnewell Field Access.

Mr. Freedman, seconded by Ms. Adelman-Foster, moved to enter into Executive Session. The Board voted 3-0-0 (Mr. Jennett and Ms. Salamoff had not yet arrived) in favor of the motion, as follows: Mr. Hickey-Yes; Mr. Freedman-Yes; Ms. Adelman-Foster-Yes. The Chair announced that the meeting would return to Open Session at approximately 7:00 p.m. The Board entered into Executive Session at 6:05 p.m.

Open Session reconvened at 7:45 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed for those protecting our country.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Middlesex Path Dog Park: Execution of Contract
Ms. Malone said that the contract has been signed by the contractor and is awaiting Board signatures. An announcement will be made in the near future regarding the actual groundbreaking.
- B. Camp Arrowhead: Adaptive Kayaking Event
Ms. Malone announced an adaptive kayaking event for disabled veterans that will take place in partnership with DCR later this month at Camp Arrowhead. The kayaks and other resources are being provided by DCR
- C. CRT Announcement-Closed During Construction
Mr. Freedman read an announcement stating that the Cochituate Rail Trail will be closed to the public for the duration of its construction. No one should enter until there is an announcement from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation or the Town.

CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

None.

REQUESTED ACTION

Request to Occupy a Public Way: "I Care a Lot" Movie:

Michelle Baker, the Berkshire Oaks location manager for the movie, "I Care a Lot," presented with a request to occupy public ways and spaces in a manner similar to their previous request, when Board-approved, film-related activity took place from July 15th-17th. Ms. Baker noted that she has replaced the previous location manager and has not had a lot of information to share with Ms. Malone, despite Ms. Malone's best efforts to obtain such. Ms. Malone stated she has met with Lt. Lauzon and details are to be ironed out in conjunction with his recommendations. On a motion by Richard Jennett, seconded by Sue Salamoff, the Board voted 5-0-0 to approve the request to occupy public ways and spaces, allowing Ms. Malone to firm up the final details with Lt. Lauzon, the Safety Committee, and the Berkshire Oaks film crew.

DISCUSSION AND DECISION

2019 Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles

- a. North Main Street - Modification of Layout
- b. North Main Street - Land Swap
- c. Hunnewell Field Access
- d. Affordable Housing Trust Bacon Street Property Grant
- e. Kennedy Middle School Land Transfer
- f. Other 2019 Fall Annual Town Meeting Articles

AHTF/Bacon Street: On a motion by Karen Adelman-Foster, seconded by Sue Salamoff, the Board voted 5-0-0 to sponsor the Bacon Street/AHTF Article as written, including a friendly amendment by Mr. Freedman to allow Town Counsel and the Town Administrator latitude to change the language. The purpose of the Article is to effectuate the transfer of the property to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Ms. Salamoff left the meeting after this discussion at 8:21 p.m. in order to attend an Affordable Housing Trust Fund meeting.

North Main Street Modification of Layout: On a motion by Michael Hickey, seconded by Karen Adelman-Foster, the Board voted 4-0-0 to sponsor the North Main Street Modification of Layout Article as written by K.P. Law, including a friendly amendment by Mr. Freedman to allow Town Counsel and the Town Administrator latitude to change the language. The purpose of the Article is to allow the final administrative step of altering the layout in keeping with the planned construction.

North Main Street Land Swap: On a motion by Jonathan Freedman, seconded by Richard Jennett, the Board voted 4-0-0 to sponsor the North Main Street Land Swap Article for a small parcel of land owned by the Town and found on Lot Map 64, 64B, to include any modifications or refinement deemed necessary by Town Counsel and the Town Administrator. Ms. Malone stated this parcel of land is approximately 7,405 square feet. Ms. Adelman-Foster asked if DCR has to accept this arrangement and Ms. Malone responded that she is working closely with DCR. Mr. Jennett asked several times if this conservation restriction will restrict access to the adjacent property at 51 Water Street. Ms. Malone said she would look into it.

Hunnewell Field Access: On a motion by Karen Adelman-Foster, seconded by Richard Jennett, the Board voted 4-0-0 to sponsor a warrant article or articles that would allow the town to pursue rights of access through easement, purchase, taking, eminent domain, or gift in whatever form may ultimately be determined reasonable and necessary to preserve long-term rights of access to Hunnewell Field. That would include consideration of any conveyance or transfer of town land, acquiring an interest in land at 22 Pleasant Street and other adjacent parcels as necessary, and the ability to have discussions with the owner of 22 Pleasant Street and any other third party, providing flexibility to allow ongoing discussions with other stakeholders, with the Town Administrator and Town Counsel given latitude to make changes to the Article language. The resulting motion would require the identification of the property or properties being considered, including 22 Pleasant Street, Merrill Road, and any other potential properties. Mr. Hickey noted that the Town has received correspondence from the owner of land adjacent to Hunnewell Field that a date in the near future will see discontinuation of access across that adjacent land to Hunnewell Field. This has led to consideration of possible steps to ensure that the Town has continued, unfettered access to the field while remaining respectful of the surrounding neighborhood, landowners, and other developments taking place in the area.

Kennedy Middle School Land Transfer: The Kennedy Middle School Land Transfer Article was previously voted; having it on this agenda was an administrative error.

CONSENT AGENDA

The 7/10/19 meeting minutes have not been finalized and will be postponed to the next meeting on August 19th. On a motion by Richard Jennett, seconded by Karen Adelman-Foster, the Board voted 4-0-0 to approve the redline version of meeting minutes from 8/5/19. No request was made to have any items removed from the Consent Agenda prior to the vote.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR NOTES

Ms. Malone noted that a Natick resident recently had an incident on a public right of way that involved a vendor (who did not have a permit from the Town) obstructing the resident's passage. Ms. Malone stated she would be preparing a Warrant Article for the next Town Meeting that would address more uniformity among vendors.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS

Mr. Jennett inquired about moving the fencing back to the property line at intersection of Pond and South Main Streets, the site of the recent fire, so that people are able to use the sidewalk/public way. Mr. Jennett asked Ms. Malone to follow up with the Police Chief and the Building Commissioner.

Ken Van Blarcom of 63 Eliot Street asked if he could go to the podium. He inquired about the 22 Pleasant Street property and why it had not been purchased by the Town. Mr. Hickey stated that the Board was not posted to discuss this. Mr. Van Blarcom stated that he had heard that the Knott Estate is denying access to Hunnewell Field and asked if that was the reason an Article relative to access was being pursued. Mr. Hickey said yes, the Board is looking for a long-term solution to the access issue.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Jonathan Freedman, seconded by Richard Jennett, the Board voted 4-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 p.m..

Jonathan H. Freedman, Clerk

Submitted by: Trish O'Neil, Executive Assistant

August 12, 2019 Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____, 2019

All documents used at this Board of Selectmen meeting are available at:
<https://naticktown.novusagenda.com/agendapublic/MeetingView.aspx?MeetingID=670&MinutesMeetingID=82&doctype=Agenda>