

SELECT BOARD
TOWN OF NATICK

MEETING MINUTES

**Meeting Conducted Via Virtual Meeting (ZOOM Meeting) and
In person, 2nd floor Town Hall, Edward Dlott Meeting Room
September 22, 2021
6:30PM**

PRESENT: Karen Adelman-Foster, Chair, Richard P. Jennett, Jr., Vice-Chair, Michael J. Hickey, Jr., Clerk, Susan G. Salamoff and Paul R. Joseph.

ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator, James Errickson, Executive Assistant, Joan McNamara

Chair Adelman-Foster called the meeting to order at 6:35pm and notes that we are being recorded this evening by Pegasus and Zoom.

Chair Adelman-Foster states that she will read the one item for Executive Session this evening and read the following:

1. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, section 21(a)(3), to discuss 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

On a Motion by Ms. Salamoff, seconded by Mr. Joseph, the Board, by Roll Call vote, voted 5-0-0 to enter into Executive Session. The Roll Call vote was as follows:

Mr. Hickey	Yes
Ms. Salamoff	Yes
Mr. Joseph	Yes
Mr. Jennett	Yes
Ms. Adelman-Foster	Yes

Open Session reconvened at 7:57PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a Moment of Silence was observed for those who have lost their lives in service for the ideals of our country.

Instructions were also given that there is a "raise hand" button for those who are participating virtually during this meeting. For those participating by phone, please press *9 to raise your hand and #6 to unmute your phone.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Natick PorchFest September 25, 2021

Mr. Hickey read an announcement for Natick PorchFest. Natick's second PorchFest musical extravaganza will be held on Saturday, September 25th, from 2-6 PM. Please visit Natickporchfest.org for details.

Bands will be playing on porches, driveways and lawns in three areas around Natick Center for the public to enjoy: Area #1: Washington St., Walnut St., Harvard St., Franklin St., Florence St., David Drive; Area #2: Grant St., Wilson St., Sheridan St., Sherman St., Avon St., Garfield St., Chester St., Morse St., and Area #3: Pond St., Maple St., Plain St., Park St., Western Ave., Floral Ave., Waban St.

B. Fire Chief Screening Committee: Call for Applicants

The Natick Select Board is requesting applications for the Natick Fire Chief Screening Committee. In accordance with Article 24, Section 15 of the Town of Natick By-Laws, one Natick resident will be appointed to the committee by the Select Board. A copy of this announcement is attached to this evening's agenda.

Interested individuals should submit an application no later than October 6, 2021 via the following link: <https://www.natickma.gov/1464/Fire-Chief-Screening-Committee>

The Select Board will be interviewing candidates at their meeting on October 13, 2021. For more information or questions please contact the Select Board's office at -508-647-6410 or selectboard@natickma.org.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Appoint Chris Stillman to the Conservation Commission

Mr. Stillman was before the Board this evening requesting an appointment to the Conservation Commission. Mr. Stillman took questions from the Board and shared that he has a background in environmental science and engineering. Mr. Stillman has also been a Natick resident for 8 years.

On a Motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Ms. Salamoff, the Board voted 5-0-0 to appoint Mr. Stillman as a member of the Conservation Commission with a term ending on June 30, 2024.

DISCUSSION AND DECISION

A. Approve Natick Parks and Recreation's Request to Accept Donations for the Month of August, 2021

Mr. Errickson reviewed a memorandum submitted by Ms. Partanen, Director of Parks and Recreation which is attached to this evening's agenda. The Recreation and Parks Department has

received \$19,759 in donations during the month of August from various program participants to offset materials and supplies for recreational programs. Special notice was given to NEETEGA Club of Natick who donated \$19,305 for our Teen Center Programming. Mr. Errickson noted that we are very grateful to receive these donations from our residents in order to enhance our recreational offerings to the Natick Community.

On a Motion by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Joseph, the Board voted 5-0-0 to accept the donations submitted by the Recreation Department.

- B. Approve One Day Liquor License for Natalia van Vloten of ABI-LAB for a networking event. Waive TIPS in Person Training. Accept the TIPS online e-Learning for only this one day license.

Mr. Joseph explained that Metrowest Life Sciences Network was established as a program of the Metrowest Chamber of Commerce. The goal is to bring people together who are in the life science industry. Mr. Joseph volunteers as part of that group but noted that he has no conflict of interest or financial interest. The event on 9/29/21 is just a small networking event co-hosted by the Life Sciences Network and Bio-exchange of Cambridge. It was noted that the servers hired for this event have completed online (e-learning) TIPS certification which was received by Lieutenant Lauzon. Note Select Board policy and Natick Police Department practice require in-person TIPS training. Mr. Joseph noted that he would like to review the current alcohol policy at a future meeting to determine if that policy needs to be updated.

On a motion by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Ms. Salamoff, the Board voted 5-0-0 to approve the issuance of the one-day license for ABI-LAB with a waiver of in-person TIPS training for this event only.

- C. Approve One Day Liquor License for Zelus Beer Company

Geoffrey Pedder is before the board this evening and explained that Whitney Place has requested that Zelus Beer Company do a "beer garden" on their property. Mr. Pedder also added that this event will not be very large and is an invite-only event. Mr. Pedder's staff have all had in-person TIPS training and certification.

On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Ms. Salamoff, the Board voted 5-0-0 to approve the issuance of the one-day license for Zelus Beer Company.

- D. Discussion of potential Vaccination Policy

Chair Adelman-Foster stated that we are not quite ready to bring this policy forward for discussion for the municipal side of government. Don Breda, Sr., PE, the Chair of the Board of Health was present this evening and stated his support for the vaccination policy.

- E. Consider 2021 FATM Warrant Articles:

Article 14 - Amend By-Laws: Dates of Spring Annual Town Meeting & Submission of Fiscal Documents

Mr. Errickson, Town Administrator spoke and noted that this article came about after many conversations with the Finance Department and the School Department regarding how the Town handles its budgeting process per By-law. The first part of the Article is looking to seek an amendment to push out the date of Spring Town Meeting from two weeks after the local election to four weeks after the local election. The second part of the Article is Dates of Submission of Fiscal Documents regarding the date for submission of the preliminary budget for the next fiscal year.

Chair Adelman-Foster noted that James Errickson, Town Administrator will continue to communicate with her on the progress of the Article and if the Board needs to meet prior to their October 6, 2021, meeting, they will do so.

Article 15- Establish and Authorize Revolving Fund for Community Gardens; **Article 16 - Amend Bylaws: Personnel Bylaw Amendments**

Mr. Errickson, Town Administrator noted that this is a straight forward Article asking if the Town will vote to amend the General By-Laws by adding a new section to establish and authorize a revolving fund for maintenance and enhancement of Community Gardens. This has been taken-up by the Finance Committee and they recommend favorable action.

On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Hickey, the Board voted 5-0-0 to recommend favorable action on Article 15.

Article 16 - Amend Bylaws: Personnel By-law Amendments

Mr. Errickson, Town Administrator explained that Motion A of this proposal refers to the adding of the Juneteenth holiday to our By-laws. This is now a Federal holiday so we are obligated to observe it. Motion A also seeks to add the term "indigenous people" to Columbus Day so that it is now Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day. The second component of this By-law (which is not going to be moving forward now), was looking at a new proposed vacation policy for Town Administration to enact. Employees would be provided with up-front access to the allocation. Once the drafting of language began we realized that maybe the application of it was not going to be what we wished to accomplish due to State law. We are now not seeking any amendments to that section of the By-law.

Chair Adelman-Foster stated that she would like to have legal counsel review what the appropriate motion should be here and the Board will address this Article at their next meeting.

Article 21 - Easement at 21 Overbrook Terrace (David Locke Hawthorne); **Article 22 - South Natick Dam Mitigation Alternatives (Brad Peterson);**

This Article will be continued to another Agenda as Mr. Locke-Hawthorne will need to be present.

Article 22 - South Natick Dam Mitigation Alternatives (Brad Peterson)

This Article will be continued to another Agenda as Mr. Peterson will need to be present.

Article 23- Amend Home Rule Petition, and/or Authorize Sale of Property at 5 Auburn Street; Postpone 21 and 22 to next meeting. There is currently no working boiler or heat at this building. This would be about \$150,000 replacement cost for the Town to absorb. Mr. Hickey note that currently the building is continuing to deteriorate. Mr. Hickey noted that it should be the executive body that would take the lead to negotiate the sale of this property.

Mr. Hickey provided a brief history of 5 Auburn St. It was the former Eliot Elementary School, turned over the Board of Selectmen, then leased to the Montessori School through multiple contract arrangements.

On a motion by Mr. Joseph, seconded by Mr. Hickey, the Board voted 5-0-0 to Amend the Home Rule Petition, and/or Authorize Sale of Property at 5 Auburn Street.

F. Capital Plan Update
Article 12- Capital Equipment and Improvement

Due to time constraints, this agenda item was not taken up this evening and will be rescheduled.

G. Approve MAPC Contract for the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program

Chair Adelman-Foster recused herself for this vote as MAPC is her employer.

A memorandum from Ms. Wilson-Martin, Sustainability Director, is attached to this evening's agenda and outlines the MAPC contract.

On a Motion by Ms. Salamoff, seconded by Mr. Joseph, the Board voted 4-0-0 to approve the MAPC contract for the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program.

H. Continued public hearing for 2022 license fees

Due to time constraints, this agenda item was not taken up this evening and the continuation of the public hearing will be rescheduled to October 6, 2021.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR NOTES

Town Administrator Errickson announced that the North Main Street project has been a bit behind schedule due to significant rain. It is a state project and not a Town project. In addition, Mr. Errickson noted that a number of residents near the MBTA tracks have been notified of a 3rd rail project. It is not a town project but we are trying to get appropriate folks at the MBTA to answer questions from the public about the project.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Weekly Warrant Review
September 7, 2021
September 14, 2021
September 21, 2021
- B. Approve Jennifer Hall's Block Party Request for October 2, 2021
- C. Approve Karen Burzdak's Block Party Request for October 31, 2021
- D. Approve United Way of Tri-County's Request to Occupy a Public Way for the 5K Fundraising Run/Walk on October 16, 2021
- E. Approve Riverbend School's Request to hang an Open House Banner from October 18, 2021 through October 31, 2021
- F. Approve location of Regulatory/Suggestive signing on the Cochituate Rail Trail
- G. Approve Brown Elementary PTO's Request to occupy a public way during the Wicked Fun Run on October 31, 2021
- H. Approve and sign META Grant Application

On a Motion by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Ms. Salamoff, the Board voted 5-0-0 to approve the Consent Agenda.

On a Motion by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Joseph, the Board voted 5-0-0 to adjourn the Select Board meeting at 9:34PM.

Michael J. Hickey, Jr., Clerk

_____ Select Board Meeting Minutes Approved by the Select Board on _____

September 22, 2021

All documents used at this Select Board meeting are available at:
<https://naticktown.novusagenda.com/agendaweb/UpdateMeeting.aspx?MeetId=973>

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