

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Bridgewater Town Hall

Immediately following Town Meeting

Minutes

Present: Curtis Read, Alan Brown, Laz Pinter

Guests: Susan Patrick, Theresa Angell, Denise Valeri, Moira Molinero, Susan Wilcox, Mark Isolda, Cheryl Pinkos, Julia Rodgers, Anne Marie Wagner

Mr. Read called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 14, 2023, Board of Selectmen's meeting, seconded by Mr. Pinter. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Public Comment: none

Correspondence: Victoria Ceylon submitted a letter of interest in serving on the Board of Education, see attached. Dolores Schiesel wrote an opinion regarding a refund for taxes paid on assessor misinformation on the Papparazzo field card, see attached. Alisha Strother wrote to the BOS expressing a need for geese mitigation at the recreation center and for improvements at the Town Park, see attached. Resident State Trooper, Matt Cimelus wrote to the First Selectman about the Town's Post Accreditation Audit, see attached. Julia Rodgers sent a few emails to the First Selectman regarding the Highlands Conservation Act in Bridgewater (see attached) and made a presentation on the importance of joining the Towns that have already been added to the Highlands Region.

Resignations: Susan Branagan resigned from the Zoning Board of Appeals (see attached).

Vacancies: Inland Wetlands, Zoning Board of Appeals

Appointments: None

New Business

Tax Refunds: Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the tax refunds presented by the Tax Collector dated April 11, 2023, seconded by Mr. Pinter, all voted in favor. Motion carries.

Tax Collector's report: Report read for the record, see attached.

Treasurer's report: Read for the record, see attached.

FY22 State Homeland Security Grant Program MOA and Authorizing Resolution:

Mr. Pinter made a motion to adopt the attached resolution authorizing Mr. Read to enter into the program and sign the documents, seconded by Mr. Brown. All voted in favor, motion carries.

BOE, Alex McNaughton letter of intent to serve, and BOS letter to residents

regarding vacancy: Mr. McNaughton submitted a letter stating his intent to serve on the Board of Education for another term, see attached. The Board of Selectmen would like to send out an email to residents letting them know there is a vacancy to try to stir up some interest.

FY24 Budget Workshop and BOS approval of budget: The Registrars made a presentation detailing the work they do and requesting to be paid \$25 per hour instead of salary. The BOS will take it into consideration. Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the proposed draft budget with the acknowledgement that the employee insurance premium actuals are still pending, seconded by Mr. Pinter. All voted in favor, motion carries.

Telecommunications designation to LCD: Mr. Brown made a motion to designate LCD as the recipient of the Town's service credit for CMED services and to authorize the 1st Selectman to sign the agreement, seconded by Mr. Pinter. All voted in favor, motion carries.

Burnham Fund Update, Attorney General Conversation: Mr. Read discussed his conversation with Attorney General, Gary Hawes regarding the use of Burnham Fund proceeds. Mr. Read will draft a letter to Mr. Hawes detailing his plan to use accrued interest. Mr. Pinter made a motion to authorize Mr. Read to coordinate with the Board of Finance to draft a letter to the Attorney General to detail his plan to use \$50,000 of the principle, to be held in its own investment account, to be used as working funds to help the poor of Bridgewater, seconded by Mr. Brown. All voted in favor, motion carries.

Set Annual Town Meeting date: The BOS have selected May 18, 2023, 6:00pm at the Burnham school to hold the Annual Town Meeting.

Approve Bid for the Baseball Field: The Town received one bid from Diamond Landscapes & Athletic Fields, Inc. Mr. Brown made the motion to approve their bid, see attached, seconded by Mr. Pinter. All voted in favor, motion carries.

Old Business: N/A

Mr. Pinter made a motion to adjourn at 9:17pm, meeting adjourned.

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Respectfully submitted,

Anne Marie Wagner
Assistant to the First Selectman