



## OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Veronica Kell, *Chairman*

Chaz Sexton-Diranian, *Vice Chairman*

Theresa A. Morse, *Clerk*

R. Eric Slagle, Town Administrator

RECEIVED  
OCT 26 2022

Board of Selectmen Meeting APRIL 13, 2022  
MEETING ROOM 2, 272 MAIN STREET, TOWNSEND, MA.

TOWN OF TOWNSEND  
TOWN CLERK

And Via ZOOM for convenience

### Preliminaries:

Board of Selectmen meeting called to order at 6:07 p.m. with Joe Shank (remote), Chaz Sexton-Diranian, and Veronica Kell present.  
Pledge of Allegiance.  
Announced that the meeting is being tape recorded via zoom and will be posted after tonight's meeting.

### Chairman's Additions or Deletions:

There were no Public Comments.

### Minutes Approved:

Add 4.3 Accounting - further discussion.  
Add 4.4 "Worthy" Fund approval  
Add 5.4 Announcements and Communications

### Meeting with Recreation Dept re: summer rec logistics (6:10):

None

Chaz Sexton-Diranian is working with Rec in trying to attend location for summer program.  
Rec has received a bill for \$7830 due on May 5 for space in the school. Had been paying \$2200 for summer rec, tennis, dances, all inclusive, since 2015-2016 (Joan Landers, Oscar Hills, Alice Kennedy). Last summer it was increased to \$2500 and only covered summer rec at HBMS. There was no information on the purpose for the increase, and ultimately the \$2200 was honored. The amount of space provided has consistently decreased and last year was primarily just the gym at HBMS.  
Spaulding Memorial School is being requested for this year. Conclusion is SMS for most of the summer with HBMS for last week.  
Cost is in question as Rec Dept is a town department, not a Community-based organization and the regional agreement states that reasonable accommodations are to be made for the town's use of the schools.  
Motion was made by Veronica Kell and seconded by Joe Shank to have Chaz represent the Board of Selectmen in meetings with the School Committee and other school personnel.  
Motion passed with all in favor by roll call vote.

### Interview Fire Chief candidates Gary Shepherd (6:30):

Review of Mr Shepherd's background and experience. Mr Shepherd has been Townsend's interim Fire Chief since September.  
Discussion/challenge with saying not being a full-time chief when position is 24/7 although partial pay.



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Appoint Fire Chief:	<p>Discussion of position being more than a year but less than two.</p> <p>Discussion of cultivating internal candidates for future chief and setting milestones for transitioning to a fully paid fire chief.</p> <p>Motion was made by Chaz Sexton-Diranian and seconded by Joe Shank to appoint Gary Shepherd Fire Chief contingent on successful contract negotiations.</p> <p>Motion passed with all in favor by roll call vote.</p> <p>Target for contract negotiations is May 17th.</p>
Sign Annual Town Meeting Warrant:	<p>Motion was made by Chaz Sexton-Diranian and seconded by Joe Shank to sign the Annual Town Meeting Warrant as amended.</p> <p>Motion passed with all in favor by roll call vote.</p> <p>All Capital requests using free cash were reviewed.</p>
Amendment to Vehicle Use policy:	<p>First reading of the amendment to the Vehicle Use Policy accomplished. 2nd reading is intended for 4/20.</p>
Accounting services:	<p>Review of contract with Melanson for accounting services for cash reconciliation (\$24000) and of contract with Jared Aponte with Treasurer for cash reconciliation services in that office.</p> <p>Melanson is also working on a contract for accounting services going forward.</p>
"Worthy" Funds:	<p>Worthy fund committee and reviewed and approved a request for up to \$2400.</p> <p>Motion was made by Chaz Sexton-Diranian and seconded by Joe Shank to approve the worth fund committee request for funds.</p> <p>Funds will come from the Amanda Dwight funds.</p> <p>Motion passed with all in favor by roll call vote.</p>
Procurement of MIS services for FY23:	<p>Once beyond town meeting, discussion that the town procure a total IT package rather than continuing with the current a-la-carte services.</p>
Next meeting:	<p>April 20, 2022, 5:30 (BOS meeting) and at 7:00 p.m. in Great Hall for Community Meeting joint with Finance Committee re: ATM warrant.</p>
Payroll and bills payable warrant	<p>Motion was made by Chaz Sexton-Diranian and seconded by Joe Shank to sign the bills payable and payroll warrants out of session.</p> <p>Motion passed with all in favor by roll call vote.</p>



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Announcements and Communications | The Nashua-Squannacook-Nissitisset Wild & Scenic Stewardship Grant final report for the work on the path at Adams Dam has been submitted. Thank you to Cemetery&Parks, Conservation Commission, Recreation and the committee for all the work on this project.

Executive Session: | Motion was made by Chaz Sexton-Diranian and seconded by Joe Shank to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel (Town Administrator), per Chapter 30A Section 21 (a) subsection 2, and adjourn from Executive Session. Note: The Chair notes that discussing in open session may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Board.  
Motion passed with all in favor by roll call vote.

Adjournment: | Meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m. from Executive Session.

Recording of meeting found at  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aHGPPvBeRxc&list=PLQpCwUSpXeCa-inxdzK0jQMgEx3wCFBbE&index=20>