



OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Veronica Kell, *Chairman*

Chaz Sexton-Diranian, *Vice Chairman*

Theresa A. Morse, *Clerk*

R. Eric Slagle, Town Administrator

RECEIVED
JAN 05 2023
TOWN OF TOWNSEND
TOWN CLERK

I. Preliminaries:

1.1 Call the meeting to order and roll call

Topic: Board of Selectmen

Time: August 02, 2022 18:00 Eastern Time {US and Canada}

Board of Selectmen meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. with Chaz Sexton-Diranian and Veronica Kell and Theresa Morse present in person.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

1.3 Announce the meeting is being tape recorded

Veronica Kell announced that meeting is being recorded, is live on channel 9 and will be on the Town's YouTube channel afterwards.

1.4 Chairman's Additions or deletions

Additions: None

Deletions: None

1.5 Public Comment Period

None

1.6 Review/Approve the meeting minutes for 04/27/2022.

Motion was made by Theresa Morse and seconded by Chaz Sexton-Diranian to approve the meeting minutes for 04/27/2022 with minor changes 07/13/202 to 2022 and change the submitted date to 08/02/2022. Motion was passed with all in favor.

II. Appointments and Hearings:

2.1 (6:05) Public Hearing for placement of poles on North End Rd, and underground laterals, etc.

Motion was made by Theresa Morse and seconded by Chaz Sexton-Diranian that we install two poles on 237 North End Road as stated in the petition.

Motion was passed with all in favor.

2.2 (6:30) Meeting with Ross Perry re: energy aggregation

The Town Energy Consultant Ross Perry and John O' Rourke from Good Energy were present in person. Michael Brown and Ron Montgomery from the Energy Committee were present remotely. Ross Perry screenshared the presentation.

Ross Perry further explained the two types of Energy Aggregation being Municipal Aggregation and Residential Aggregation. Under Municipal Aggregation the Town can vote at a Town Meeting to authorize the Board of Selectmen to go out to bid under MGL Chapter 164, Section 134(a) for all

residential power agreements and consolidation of municipal building energy agreements.

Residents will be automatically in the program but will be given the chance to opt out if so wished. There is no penalty to opt out and is offered as a safe program to participate. If the bid is not favorable the Town can reject it. Ross Perry pointed out that the changes of Municipal Aggregation affect the electric supply charges and the supplier of the energy is selected by the Board of Selectmen through a competitive bid. Unitil will still provide electric service and distribution charges will be billed as usual, the new supplier will be listed on the bill under supplier service.

John O'Rourke informed the Board about Good Energy being the aggregation consultant for Fitchburg and as a national company Good Energy is a full-service aggregation consultant for Municipal and Residential Aggregation. John O' Rourke further explained the different steps of the process including public education and outreach and product content choices including renewable energy. Town Energy Consultant Ross Perry recommended Good Energy to the Board, but the Board can decide to interview another aggregation consultant, if so wished. Under MGL Chapter 30B, Section §1(b)(32) Aggregation Consultant Contracts are exempt from MGL 30B Public Contracting Procurement - here Municipal Aggregation.

Motion was made by Theresa Morse and seconded by Chaz Sexton-Diranian to have Ross Perry bring 2 quotes, one from Good Energy and Freedom Energy for Municipal Aggregation to the Town for review. Motion passed with all in favor.

Motion was made by Theresa Morse and seconded by Chaz Sexton-Diranian to select Good Energy as the Community Electricity Aggregation Consultant. Motion was passed with all in favor.

III. Appointments of Officials/Personnel:

3.1 Appointment of Election Workers, Wardens, Deputy Warden, Clerks, Ballot Box Clerks, Counters, Inspectors

Motion was made by Theresa Morse and seconded by Chaz Sexton-Diranian to appoint election workers as stated in the agenda as listed for a term through August 14, 2023. Motion was passed with all in favor.

3.2 Appoint Anne Rust as Substitute Van Driver for the Council on Aging

Motion was made by Theresa Morse and seconded by Chaz Sexton-Diranian to appoint Anne Rust as Substitute Van Driver for the Council on Aging. Motion was passed with all in favor.

3.3 Appoint Don Hayes as Finance Committee representative for Town Properties Committee

Motion was made by Theresa Morse and seconded by Chaz Sexton-Diranian to appoint Don Hayes as Finance Committee Representative of the Town Properties Committee for terms effective July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. Motion was passed with all in favor.

IV. Meeting Business:
4.1 Referral Form for Planning Board Hearing for Best Friends Vet, 22 Main St

The Board of Selectmen commented as follows on the Planning Board Referral Notice: We trust the Planning Board and Building Department to resolve any outstanding fines or violations. The Board of Selectmen supports the use of this property for the proposed purpose in the OCD.

4.2 Town Administrator Annual Goals

R. Eric Slagle shared his goals:

- Look for Funding
- Sound Fiscal Policies
- Balanced Budget
- Collective Bargaining Agreements
- Maintain Staff Levels
- Hiring a full-Time Accountant
- Professional Development
- Grant Applications
- Town Preservation
- Town Engineer/Project Manager as long-term goals
- Completing Energy Aggregation

The Board regarded 2022 as the onboarding year. Veronica Kell read and agreed with the Board to fill out and make changes to the BOARD OF SELECTMEN DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR PERFORMANCE EVALUATION TA EVAL FY2023.

Short Board discussion about Public Urination.

Motion was made by Theresa Morse and seconded by Chaz Sexton-Diranian to direct R. Eric Slagle to work with the Police Chief to see if some type of Citation needs to be made for Public Urination. Motion was passed with all in favor.

4.3 Gazebo - Architectural Services

The Board received a letter from the Cemetery and Parks Department dated 7/26/22 stating that the Commissioners voted to accept the pro bono services of Architect Robert Therrien for the restoration of the bandstand. Veronica read the letter into the record. Jerrilyn Bozicas from the Friends of the Bandstand was present. The Board discussed the Disclosure by Special Municipal Employee of Financial Interest in a Municipal Contract as required by GL c268A 20c

Motion was made by Theresa Morse and seconded by Chaz Sexton-Diranian to accept the Disclosure by Special Municipal Employee of Financial Interest in a Municipal Contract as required by GL c268A §20c and the employee is Robert Therrien. Motion was passed with all in favor

4.4 September Primary Warrant

Motion was made by Theresa Morse and seconded by Chaz Sexton-Diranian to sign and date the September Primary Warrant. Motion was passed with all in favor.

V. Work Session:
5.0 ARPA Projects

Veronica Kell looked over the ARPA Project Setups with the Board. Veronica Kell pointed out changes made according to previous votes on ARPA projects.

5.1 Town Administrator Updates and Reports.

- R. Eric Slagle informed about his vacation Aug 7- Aug 21, 2022.
- Theresa Morse informed about her vacation for the same dates.
- The Town Administrator had tasked Harrison Mayotte to do some research and provide some other options instead of the basic current version of CivicPlus the Town uses. Harrison Mayotte briefly shared the two narrowed down options found, which were CivicPlus upgraded version or Revize. Discussion with the Board about the pros and cons of both options. Conclusion was that CivicPlus update would be very costly, more so than Revize. Harrison Mayotte will send the proposal to the Board members and set up a time in the future to talk it over.

5.2 Reports from Board liaisons.

5.2.1 General

Government

5.2.2 Elected Boards

5.2.3 Public Safety

Chaz Sexton-Diranian:

- Main St. well is pumping fresh water. The discoloration was not harmful.
- Planning Board Master plan vote, the Board will get copy of the final version.
- Recreation Department had a lot of children in the program.

Veronica Kell:

- Constable Policy will be put together after Veronica Kell has met with R.Eric Slagle, and the Police Chief. 3 applicants are in consideration, but on hold until the policy is in place.
- Townsend Affordable Housing Trust, how to amend the agreement, job descriptions for employees working in the Housing Trust.
- Briefly shared Open Space and Recreation Rail Trail updates
- Briefly shared Shared Streets and Spaces Sidewalk project updates

5.3 Announcements, Communications, etc.

- Drought Level 3
- Homeowner's guide to wetlands
- Healing communities - Chaz Sexton-Diranian will submit final report to the Board

5.4 Next meeting - August 23, 2022, 6 p.m.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, at 6 p.m

5.5 Review and sign payroll and bills payable warrants.

Motion was made by Theresa Morse and seconded by Chaz Sexton-Diranian to review and sign payroll and bills payable warrants out of session. Motion passed with all in favor.

**VI: EXECUTIVE
SESSION - VOTES MAY
BE TAKEN:**

6.1 Executive Session
pursuant to GL c. 30(a), s.
21(a)(3) To discuss strategy
with respect to litigation if
an open meeting may have
a detrimental effect on the
litigation position of the
public body and the Chair
so declares. (Honey Land
Farms ABCC)

VII. ADJOURNMENT: :

Motion was made by Theresa Morse and seconded by Chaz Sexton-Diranian
to enter Executive Session and to adjourn from Executive Session:

1. Executive Session pursuant to GL c. 30(a), s. 21(a)(3) To discuss
strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a
detrimental effect on the litigation position of the public body and
the Chair so declares (Honey Land Farms ABCC).

Motion was passed with all in favor.

Recording of meeting found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PpMzzlxZ-8o&list=PLQpCwUSpXeCa-inxdzK0jQMgEx3wCFBbE&index=11>

Minutes submitted by Sabrina Moore on 01/03/2023.

