



Board of Selectmen

Date of Meeting: Monday, March 9th, 2020
Time: 6:30 PM – 8:40 PM
Members Present: Chair Jim Woods; Selectmen Matt Mecum and Jamie Underwood;
April Steward, Town Administrator; Alison Mack; Administrative
Assistant to the Board and Brian Faulk, Counsel
Members Not Present: Stephen Madaus, Town Counsel

The meeting commenced at 6:30 PM.

Financial Warrants were signed in agreement.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Meeting Minutes: The minutes of 02/24/2020 were presented.

Matt Mecum made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from 02/24/2020, Jamie Underwood seconded. Voted all in favor.

Report of the Town Administrator to BOS:

- *Tuesday Talks:* We are now working into our schedules a 30-minute time slot on the first Tuesday of the month to touch base with all the departments here in Town Hall. We had our first Tuesday Talk on Tuesday, March 3rd. I am looking forward to all of us here to get to know each other better and to have open lines of communication between the departments. Next month we will be meeting at 9:00AM on April 7th, feel free to drop by if you would like.
 - Matt suggested inviting the Superintendent
 - Tuesday Talk Blog
- *Chapter 90:* We have received our letter from Mass DOT certifying our Chapter 90 Apportionment for Fiscal 21 to be \$201,090. It is down \$616.00 from last year. I attended a legislative breakfast last Friday and many communicates expressed concern about the road repair funding being level funded since 2012.
- *Special Education Costs:* The MMA also heard from several communities about the impact that Special Education Costs is having on our communities. The cost of transportation associated with the programs is putting a tremendous strain on many of us leaving many wondering how it is going to be sustainable.
- *Vocational Tuition:* There has been an additional 7 students that have applied to attend Assabet Valley. This will raise the Vocational Tuition budget by \$121,100 for a total of \$781,829 including transportation. This is a 65.9% increase from last year.
- *Central Street:* It has come to my attention that there are several vehicles that are driving down the wrong way on Central Street. I have reached out to the Highway Superintendent, and the Police Chief. If they haven't done it already, they have made

plans to put up additional signage to make sure people continue down the road in the correct direction.

- *Housing Choice Initiative Grant:* The Planning Board has a remaining balance in the grant that was used to draw the plans for road safety improvements on Rte. 140, South Sewell Street, and North Sewell Street. Dr. Baker has offered to come in to speak to this board, if you have any interest in additional work or to come in and answer any questions you may have.
- *Town Meeting Warrant:* The Board needs to vote to close the Town Meeting Warrant. As of this writing I am only aware of 30 potential articles.

Jamie Underwood made a motion to close the town meeting warrant, Matt Mecum seconded. Voted all in favor.

Report of the Building Inspector to the BOS:

Fees:

- Rewrote out paperwork to show the fee schedule
- One building; foundation
 - Fee for one building; deposit of \$27,000
 - Second building will be \$43,000 fee
 - Third building will be \$27,000 fee

Electric, Plumbing and Gas:

- Yellow: new to paperwork; per unit
 - Everything else is the same

Jim wood asked if it was comparable to other towns and Tony responded yes. Matt asked if they were comfortable moving forward with these fees; Eric Johnson responded that they have gotten a lot more information and on this and have spoken to people who have cleared up a lot of the grey areas; he is fine with it. Tony mentioned that there is also a contingency fund in there; they are not able to formulae on paper of every little thing that pops up. Tony mentioned the only other discussion they need to have is getting paid off of the extra work that they do; Jim responded that can take place during another meeting. April mentioned that Town Counsel is putting something together for the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting.

Jamie Underwood made a motion to accept the new plumbing and gas fee schedule as well as the electrical wiring fee schedule as written, Matt Mecum seconded, Voted all in favor.

Report of the Highway Superintendent to the BOS:

- Treated 11 times so far this season
- Cold patching
- Brush hog at the Flag House; cleared a lot
- Looking for Boards approval: Street Light: Reservoir Street: Dark corner
 - Steve stated that he spoke with The PD Chief and they both agreed that it is needed

- The Board agreed in full that they are okay with it. Steve will reach out to Mark B

Central Street:

- Resident concerns: People going wrong way down the street
- DPW will add more signs
- People going down to center of town and turning around and coming back out

Paving Contract:

- Put in his end of the paperwork today to April, we will toss some dates around and then give to Town Counsel for review

Road Funds:

- Anticipating no change from last year regarding road funds; will allow us to do Mile Hill Road towards Green Street, from Linden and Orange Street to Green, and up to Rocky Pond and then continue to central
- With remaining funds we have currently and the funds we are getting this year, we should be all set

H Intersection:

What do we want to do?

- Labor intensive: Trucking in gravel, make it look like it was never there
- Matt stated that we don't want to leave it how it looks now. Jamie asked if the Planning Board has any money set aside from the contractor? He believes it was about \$25,000 but no one was able to give an exact amount. Jim mentioned that its time to close it off and make it look nice.

Cemetery Clean Up:

- Going through Rules and Regulations; met recently
- rates will be going up a little bit
- Once we finish that we will have town counsel review; changes that we shouldn't be changing. Nothing drastic.
- Trying to have it ready by town meeting

April 25th: Yard Waste Collection

- Same day that Keep Boylston Beautiful will be at the barn location

Report of the Police Chief to the Board of Selectman:

Crime Statistics were presented, On File in the Board of Selectmen's Office

Police Chief asked the Board to keep an eye out on the vehicles

- B1, B2 and B6
- Matt Mecum asked the Chief what the average lifespan is. The Chief responded it depends on the year that the vehicle is bought. He stated that they tend to get about 4 years out of them or 100K max.

Chief's Schedule:

13th: Attended Radio consolidation meeting at PD

17th: Presidents Day Holiday; no issues

- Met with Konica/AKURITY

19th: Dental Apt

20th: Ticket hearing at Clinton Court

21st: On call dispatcher, probationary period: terminated

24th: Sgt Annunziata: Interviewed Berlin PO for dispatcher position

28th: Hired Berlin PO; pending a successful drug screen; first day

March 1st: Worked Stus road race

March 2nd: Participated in BES Reading Day

March 3rd: PD checked due to high temp of buildings; adjustments were made to computer

- SGT Annunziata and Thomasian attended meeting last week; opioid issues

March 5th: Sgt Thomas and Sgt Thomasian attended next generation reporting system

- Notice from ETNL: Affective tonight, Route 140 traffic will be redirected; 10pm-5am Monday through Thursday
- AKURITY and Konica: New copier is supposed to be delivered and installed tomorrow
- Copier that is being replaced is going to be moved to booking; going to get last years out of it there

March 12th: Clinton Hearing at Clinton Court

March 13th: PD Employee going to Town Doctor for return to work physical

March 14th: Working a shift due to shortage of officers

April 5th: BES Bingo Night; Tour of the Police Dept

April 8th: Best Western: Chiefs Tradeshow

April 23rd: Annual Physical in Shrewsbury

As of today, No action yet.

Steve and I have met and talked in depth about old Central;

- Looking to put some signs up; one-way signs
- Vendors tend to be the ones turning around
- Streetlight at Reservoir and Old Orchard: Accident there

Report of the Fire Chief to the Board of Selectmen:

- Feb:
 - Haven't slowed down any
 - Statistics: 158 responses for the month; 29 days
 - Couple of tough calls; Rocky Pond Rescue
 - Initial gentlemen were in water for around 45 minutes
 - Serious motor vehicle accident that weekend: Friday: fatality
 - Another accident on route 140 in front of Dunkin Donuts

Grants:

- \$190,713: replace Breathing Apparatus
- \$ 630,000 – Replace rescue truck and old engine

- Seem to be positive about both grants since replacing equipment

Jim asked what are the odds of getting both of them? Joe responded that the odds are good.

- The rescue truck is from 1980
 - Age of our fleet is Tanker: 89', Engine 1: 89' and Engine 2: 96'
 - Engine 1: Open cab in the back; open airbags and no seatbelts

Joe mentioned that one thing that works against us that we do not have enough fire calls. He did put in the grant this truck responds to all calls; fire or not.

Warrant Articles:

- Transfer: Leave that blank and wait for FinComm to make their decision on how much they want to transfer
- 5% match for air pack grant
- \$4,400: Replace Computers: trying to fund that through a different source

Entered Agreement with Coastal Billing:

- Hopefully within a week we will be able to move everything to them.

Captain Mackenzie is out with a shoulder injury. Going to need surgery. Going to be out for around 5 months.

- Looking for some per diem help.

April mentioned that if they get approval from FinCom, he would potentially be able to hire someone on July 1st. April also stated that one issue they are falling into is that they have to be an EMT/Fire Fighter; Joe stated that it's been a hard time staffing firefighters/EMT.

Eric Johnson and John McQuade to discuss Commercial Inspection fees:

Eric: Received a lot more information from the last time we were here; plumber who did it cleared up a lot of grey areas.

Tony: We also have a contingency put in there for unforeseen inspections. If the contractors want to continue doing certain things, they will have to pay an additional fee.

Jim: You three are all happy with the way things are here. John McQuade said yes.

John: To be close to similar towns. Shrewsbury, Westborough and Northborough all do it per unit.

Tony: The only other discussion that they need would be is to figure out how they get paid for the additional time.

April: Stephen Madaus is working on an additional account.

Jamie Underwood made a motion to approve the new plumbing and wiring schedule. Matt Mecum seconded. Voted all in favor.

Tony: Somehow get together with the DPW, Fire Chief, Police Chief... etc...

- Emergency Preparedness Plans

Antonio Rame: Eagle Scout Project Presentation:

Troop 227

Resident: 620 Main Street.

Coming today to ask approval from the BOS to do an Eagle Scout Project

- Chosen: Trail system: 2 unused old monkey bar structures
- Planning on dismembering the top piece, cutting, digging them down about 2 feet, filling it in with gravel and topsoil
- Spoke with the Chief of Police: doesn't think people have been using them
- Met with Parks and Rec Board previously in January; excited about the project

Jim stated that he wants to take something down that is a liability to the town, take it out of the trail behind the Town Hall and clean up the area; with help of others. Antonio mentioned that he is looking to do it sometime around May-April: Other members are going to be helping out as well. Highway Dept is going to be looking over the project as they are responsible for the care of the trails behind the Town Hall. The board agreed it is a great plan.

Jamie Underwood made a motion to allow the approval for Antonio Rame to do the work down at the monkey bars, Matt Mecum seconded. Voted all in favor.

Parks and Recreation discussion with BOS:

Claudine Underwood came before the Board because she was worried about what had occurred after the Parks and Recs rental of the Town House for a Pet Clinic the previous weekend.

- Serviced about 20 dogs and 10 cats at the event
- Gerry Quam brought up that it was an extremely well-run event by Parks and Rec and hopes it continues to happen yearly

Claudine stated that she was there making sure people we not abusing the facilities, to respect the Town House; the Parks and Rec Coordinator Crystal reached out to Claudine the following Monday and forwarded her a message that she received from Alison Mack that asked if anyone had cleaned up the town house as she had received a message from the Facilities Tech that the town house was left a mess; dog hair and scratches on the floor.

Claudine's main concern coming before the board is that she is worried that this is going to be a conflict every time that Parks and Rec uses the facilities; They were given a 6-month period to use the facilities for free. Claudine asked Crystal to take photos of the Town House after the event and stated that the photos did not show any dog hair or scratches on the floor. Claudine asked what they needed to do to make sure that this doesn't happen, and they aren't here to cause problems; they are having a hard time getting people on the board and their chair is not pulling papers for next year.

Alison stated that it is normal business procedures on Monday mornings after an event at the Town House for Bob to come and tell Alison the condition of the Town House, she makes note of it on the calendar for the Town House and they determine if there is a need to hold the security deposit or not and reach out to the renter and discuss any issues. Alison discussed the conversation between herself and Bob and mentioned that she was completely taken aback by this coming before the

Board of Selectmen as she and Crystal have had multiple conversations in her office regarding Parks and Rec and having a successful use of the Town House.

Matt Mecum stated that it seems that there is a little bit of miscommunication and it seems at times there is some animosity from both sides. He reminded everyone that we are here to serve the community and does not need to turn into anything bigger than that. Regarding handling something like this in the future, Matt suggested calling to meet at the Town House Monday mornings to review the event, or figure something out that works for everyone.

Claudine stated that she would like water under the bridge, start again and in 6 months when they continue to leave it in this condition and where they don't feel as though they have to take pictures, they can continue to use the Town House; providing programs for the entire community.

Claudine mentioned that Crystal felt as though she was being picked on, Alison responded that was not her intention at all and mentioned she understood how Claudine could think that due to the italicized statement in her email, but was very surprised as she had discussed sending Crystal an update email after every event. Jim stated that there is obviously a disconnect. April mentioned that picking up the phone translates better. Jamie mentioned that a lot of this could stem from 2-3 years ago with parks and rec not getting allowed near the Town House; a lot of that still resonates with their board. Matt Mecum mentioned water under the bridge. Conversation regarding thoughts and ideas about the Pet Clinic continued for a short period.

Permit Application: One Day Liquor License Request: Bourassa Graduation Party: Boylston Town House: Saturday, June 6th from 8AM - 5PM

*On agenda, it was from 8am-4pm but the request at the table was changed to 8am-5pm

Matt Mecum made a motion to approve the one-day liquor license for the Bourassa Graduation Party, Saturday, June 6th from 8am-5pm, Jamie Underwood seconded. Voted all in favor.

At 8:03 PM, The Board took a short recess. The Meeting reconvened again at 8:28 PM.

Recognition and Awarding of Citations to Rocky Pond Ice Rescuers

State Representative Harold Naughton came to the BOS Meeting to present citations to the men that were apart of the Rocky Pond Rescue. Three other men were a part of the rescue but were not able to make it to tonight's meeting: Bill Henderson, Bill Henderson Sr. and John Hale.

April stated that Mr. Bartlett was able to make it out onto the ice and pull the victim from the water onto a raft, which probably saved his life. His son Randy also proved himself to be a great mechanic as he was able to get the hover craft going after it stalled out on the water.

Representative Naughton mentioned that they are looking at a public safety bond, so that is something that may be coming up. He mentioned that he has been doing this job for 26 years and it never ceases to amaze him that the small towns, people are always there for each other and come together in times of need. Representative Naughton mentioned a story with his father at Clintons Old Timers Pub where he pointed to everyone in the bar and said that they are everyday hero; when the time is needed, everyone comes together.

Harold presented citations to the three members and congratulated them on their selfless act of heroism on behalf of another's life on Rocky Pond in Boylston.

At 8:40 PM Jamie Underwood made a motion to adjourn, Matt Mecum seconded. Voted all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Mack, Assistant to the Board of Selectmen

Meeting Materials

Agenda	On File in The Board Of Selectmen's Office
Meeting Sign- In Sheet	On File in The Board Of Selectmen's Office
Town Administrator's Report	On File in The Board Of Selectmen's Office
Eagle Scout Service Project Proposal	On File in The Board Of Selectmen's Office
PD Report and Statistics	On File in The Board Of Selectmen's Office
Building Department Report and Permits	On File in The Board Of Selectmen's Office
Electrical Wiring Permit Fees	On File in The Board Of Selectmen's Office
Plumbing and Gas Permit Fees	On File in The Board Of Selectmen's Office
Highway Department Report	On File in The Board Of Selectmen's Office
02/24/2020 Meeting Minutes	On File in The Board Of Selectmen's Office
A.Mack and Claudine Underwood Email	On File in The Board Of Selectmen's Office