



Board of Selectmen

Date of Meeting: Monday, December 6th, 2021
Time: 6:00 PM – 6:37 PM
Members Present: Chair Matt Mecum; Selectmen Jamie Underwood and Seth Ridinger; April Steward, Town Administrator; Finance Committee, and Alison Mack, Administrative Assistant to the Board

The meeting commenced at 6:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Vote to approve/sign contract, John Annunziata, Boylston Police Chief:

Seth Ridinger made a motion to appoint John Annunziata as the Boylston Police Chief and further moved to approve/sign John Annunziata's contract as Boylston Police Chief, Jamie Underwood seconded. Voted all in favor. Matt: Yes, Jamie: Yes and Seth: Yes.

Both John and the Board of Selectmen signed the contract.

Pinning Ceremony for Police Chief John Annunziata:

Town Clerk, Dawn Porter swore John Annunziata in as the new Police Chief for the Town of Boylston, Massachusetts effective today. The crowd of Boylston Police Officers, Board of Selectmen, John's family, friends, and other members in the audience cheered and congratulated John. John's husband Scotty pinned him. John thanked the Board.

Matt Mecum took a second and thanked Interim Chief Barbato for stepping into that role during the time it took to go through the process.

Special Town Meeting Warrant articles for discussion:

April Steward walked the Board and Finance Committee through the warrant and determined who would read each article.

Article 1: Majority voted is needed for this to pass. Eric Hoffses from Parks and Rec will read the Article. Finance Committee voted in favor of Article 1.

Article 2: Seth will read the article. Finance Committee voted in favor of Article 2.

Article 3: Board of Assessor member will read the article. Finance Committee voted in favor of Article 3.

Article 4: Jamie will read the article. Finance Committee voted in favor of Article 4.

Article 5: Matt stated he will read the article or will ask Mark Shepard to read it since he is a resident in town. Officer Barbato or Chief Annunziata is ready to speak to this article if needed. Voted in favor of Article 5, with reservation of adding a cruiser to the Special Town Meeting. They will speak to the fact that in our annual budget we have a police cruiser, and this will be in addition to that.

Seth asked if it was safe to say that for Article 1 the Board of Selectmen was unanimous in its support. Jamie responded yea.

Seth mentioned that Stephen Madaus had sent out a memo outlining some legal issues that our Town Planner had requested some verification on and said he would be willing if the board was okay with it to attend the Planning Board meeting tomorrow night in case there are any questions about the memo or any legal issues. Jamie stated that he should probably be there for the Planning Board but it's not the Board of Selectmen decision to say that.

Matt made one more point regarding Article 1, he assumes that we are going to get questions about the order of conditions that are with that property, and we need to be clear that we are voting tonight to appropriate the money, we are not purchasing the property tonight. We are working with the Greater Worcester Land Trust and the prior owners to be sure that the order of conditions is taken care of before we take over the property. Moderator Kim Rozak asked if the Board would be comfortable with her answering or responding to any person who stands up with a question about the nature of the property and so on, to say that's not really the issue before the Special Town Meeting. Matt stated yes, he is comfortable with her doing that. If it's not in the best interest of the town, we are not going to do it. Stephen stated that he would defer for the Selectmen to answer the question. If they continue to get the same question again, then Kim can step in.

Finance Committee asked if there was another point in time where the town would be voting on this? Seth responded only if there is some money that is required to do any improvements, but there is no requirement on the board. Matt stated that there is an outstanding order of conditions and if we go buy it without taking care of that, then we are responsible, in which the estimate that Graves gave us was a considerable amount of money. We are going to make sure that is taken care of long before we sign any agreement. April stated that Graves Engineering gave an estimate off of prevailing wages if the Town of Boylston was to do the job and that estimate was \$170,000 to grade the slopes, loam the seed, stabilization, removal of stumps and tailings and hydroseeding. Matt stated that he thinks we can get it done before we are responsible for it. April stated that right now it seems that the developer is amicable to working with the town and Greater Worcester Land Trust. We did put out an agreement and we have not received any word back to see if they would enter into that agreement stating that they would take care of those order of conditions; April gave it to them today, so they have not had time to get it before their legal counsel and respond.

At 6:37 PM, Jamie Underwood made a motion to adjourn, Seth Ridinger seconded. Voted all in favor. Matt: Yes, Jamie: Yes and Seth: Yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Mack, Assistant to the Board of Selectmen

Meeting Materials

Agenda
Special Town Meeting Warrant

On File in The Board of Selectmen's Office
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