

Town of Boscawen

Select Board

Final Minutes

Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 6:00pm

In attendance: Ed Cherian, Lorrie Carey, Paul Dickey, Alan Hardy, Kellee Easler, Katie Phelps, Tama Tillman, Gary Tillman, Dean Hollins, Tim Kenney, Kevin Wyman, Kearsten O'Brien, Barbara Randall, Fred Reagan, Mark Varney, Charlie Niebling, Bruce Crawford, Kate Merrill, Jason Killary, Haley Dilts-Brown, and Matt Burdick.

Excused: Sarah Gerlack and Nicole Hoyt.

This meeting is being held under a Declaration of Emergency by the Governor and by the Board. Under RSA 91-A: 2, III (b) the requirement of a physical quorum is waived and this meeting is being held entirely remotely, and is being recorded.

Selectwoman Carey motioned to approve the consent agenda with a revision to the Cash Handling Policy and authorize Town Administrator Hardy to use the signature stamp on behalf of the Select Board. Seconded by Selectman Dickey. All in favor.

New Business:

Planning and Community Development Director Kellee Easler presented an abatement to the Select Board. The abatement was recommended for denial by the Assessors. Selectwoman Carey asked if the basis of the denial had to do with the fact that the changes had occurred in a different tax year. Planning and Community Development Director Easler said yes.

Chairman Cherian motioned to deny the abatement for Map 183D Lot 24 and authorize Town Administrator Hardy to use the signature stamp on behalf of the Select Board. Seconded by Selectwoman Carey. All in favor.

Planning and Community Development Assistant Kearsten O'Brien presented a Timber Warrant for Map 49 Lot 11 to the Select Board for approval.

Selectwoman Carey motioned to approve the Timber Warrant 20.09.08 T for Map 49 Lot 11 and authorize Town Administrator Hardy to use the signature stamp on behalf of the Select Board. Seconded by Chairman Cherian. All in favor.

Fire Chief Tim Kenney presented the Harriman proposal to the Select Board. Harriman proposed three options for the future of the fire station. Option one utilizes the existing fire station and adds apparatus space, reconfigures the second floor and includes an addition. Option two includes all the suggestions from Option one with the exception of adding additional apparatus space. Option three eliminates the existing fire station and plans for a new building and a community room. Fire Chief Kenney said option two does not give the fire department the extra apparatus space, which they could truly use. Option three gives the Fire Department the extra space which could help with departure times to a call. Option one would be a lot money to put into a fifty year old building. Option three provides extra space for EMS if needed in the future. The community space would generate space for 120 to 125 people which could generate money for the Town. Chairman Cherian

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said that having that community space is a pretty important part of the plan for many purposes. Selectwoman Carey asked Fire Chief Kenney what type of longevity he is looking for out of the project. Fire Chief Kenney said that he is looking for about a 60 to 75 year longevity. Selectwoman Carey said that with option three you can have multiple uses for the Town along with a multiple use from an EMD stand point as well. Selectman Dickey said that he believes option three is better than option one but what we should think about is how much has the Fire Department added since the construction of the original building. Chairman Cherian said the next step would be to have a Public Hearing after Town Meeting.

Department Head Updates:

Emergency Management Director Mark Varney said that some people are getting called to move their vaccine dates up if available. The Steeple Gate Mall is changing their setup for how people are receiving the vaccine. They will be moving inside the old Sears department store.

Police Chief Kevin Wyman updated the Select Board that he submitted the paper work to the grant company for the K-9 grant and should be reimbursed sometime in March for \$4,000. He stated Boscawen Police Officers helped out with the Webster house fire.

Fire Chief Kenney said that the Fire Department had one member involved in helping with the Webster house fire.

Deputy Town Clerk Haley Dilts-Brown updated the Select Board that Norma Caporale will be starting her first day tomorrow in the Town Clerk/ Tax Collector's Office. The Town report is ready for pick up and the Town Clerk's office is getting ready for Town Meeting.

Town Administrator Hardy updated the Select Board about Town Meeting. Tuesday morning they will be going over to the school to do a sound check. Town Moderator Charlie Niebling said the organization by Deputy Town Clerk Dilts-Brown has been great and they are promoting absentee voting. He said they will process the absentee ballots around 3:00 PM. Emergency Management Director Mark Varney suggested putting up a petition for non-maskers to come in and vote through the back double doors in the northwest corner. Facilities Director for Merrimack Valley School District Fred Reagan said it possible to do that. Fire Chief Tim Kenney said they would need to check with Life Safety Officer Charles Bodien to make sure he is okay with it and to make sure they have the appropriate exit signs. Deputy Town Clerk Dilts-Brown said that she could bring out absentee ballots to non-maskers cars as another alternative. Chairman Cherian asked as far as Town Meeting voting goes everyone needs to wear a mask to vote and will only be allowed to vote in person. Town Moderator Niebling said that is correct.

Town Administrator Hardy presented the Facilities Director job description to the Select Board. Selectwoman Carey asked if there were no certifications being required for this position. Town Administrator Hardy asked what certifications Selectwoman Carey would recommend? Chairman Cherian said to keep in mind that adding more requirements without adding more pay or making

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it fulltime may make it more difficult to find someone for the position. Selectwoman Carey would suggest taking out no certifications in the job description. Chairman Cherian said that he agrees with Selectwoman Carey about taking out no certifications in the job description and to bring it back to next week's meeting.

Town Administrator Hardy asked the Select Board to start thinking about what they would like to do with Town Hall. Currently we are spending a lot of money and there is no sense in having it going to bills if there is no future for reopening. For example, we are paying for half of the dumpster that we are not contributing waste to, along with internet payments and more. Selectwoman Carey suggested having a Public Hearing on closing down the Town Hall for future use to get the public's ideas and thoughts on the issue. Selectman Dickey said it is ultimately the Select Board's decision on closing the Town Hall and asked Town Administrator Hardy to put together a list for the Select Board on the expenditures the Town is paying out each month for the Town Hall. Chairman Cherian said he agrees with Selectwoman Carey on having a public hearing.

Chairman Cherian made a motion to go into nonpublic RSA 91-A:3, II(b). Selectwoman Carey seconded. All in favor.

Chairman Cherian made a motion to come out of nonpublic RSA 91-A:3, II(b). Seconded by Selectwoman Carey. All in favor.

Chairman Cherian made a motion to go into nonpublic RSA 91-A:3, II(e). Selectwoman seconded. All in favor.

Chairman Cherian made a motion to come out of nonpublic RSA 91-A:3, II(e). Seconded by Selectwoman Carey. All in favor.

Selectman Dickey made a motion to go into nonpublic RSA 91-A:3, II(d). Selectwoman Carey seconded. All in favor.

Chairman Cherian made a motion to come out of nonpublic RSA 91-A:3, II(d). Seconded by Selectman Dickey. All in favor.

Selectman Dickey motioned to seal nonpublic minutes RSA 91-A:3 II (e). Seconded by Selectwoman Carey. All in favor.

Selectman Dickey motioned to seal nonpublic minutes RSA 91-A:3 II (d). Seconded by Selectwoman Carey. All in favor.

Motion made by Selectman Dickey to adjourn. Seconded by Chairman Cherian. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Kearsten O'Brien