

Tuesday, March 26, 2024
Select Board Meeting Minutes
Gala Meeting Room
Town Hall, 40 South Street
7:00pm

Members Present:
Mark Elfman, Chair (ME)
Leah Gibson, Clerk (LG)
Dennis Keefe (DK)
Seth Ferguson (SF)

Also Present:
Paige Duncan, Town Manger (PD)
Katie Lang, Executive Assistant (KL)

*Attendance via Zoom

All Select Board meetings are recorded and broadcast by Foxboro Cable Access on Government Channel 22/38 and at FCATv.org/live

1. 7:00pm - Citizen's Input

Randall Lyons, 59 Carroll Drive - thoughts on the Recreation Board and support for Renee Tocci, the Recreation Division Director. Complaint from Friday March 1st and follow up on March 4th before the March 11th Recreation Board meeting which was cancelled. Thank you to FHS Logo/Emblem Committee which is looking to a new logo. Support of the upcoming School Committee elected board vote. Asking for members of the Recreation Board to step down and for the Select Board to add addressing the Recreation Board complaint at the next meeting.

2. 7:05PM - Use of Public Way for the Memorial Day Parade - May 27th 2024

Discuss & Vote on Use of Public Way application for the Town's Memorial Day Parade on May 27th 2024. To assemble in the back parking lot of the Church of Emmanuel, parade to proceed right, onto Central Street, to South Street & around the common. Marc Craig, Human Services Director & Lauren S, Acting Veteran Services Director. 9:30am road closure. Ceremony on the Town Common. Doug Smith, retired Veteran will lead the service followed by roll call and salute. Lunch to follow at the VFW. Road closure till noon.

Motion to approve the Use of Public Way application for the Town's Memorial Day Parade on May 27th 2024. To assemble in the back parking lot of the Church of Emmanuel, parade to proceed right, onto Central Street, to South Street & around the common, by L. Gibson, 2nd by S. Ferguson.

Approved. 4-0.

3. 7:10pm - Ballot Language Finalized for Annual Town Election on May 6th 2024

Select Board to Discuss & Vote on final ballot language. Bob Cutler, Town Clerk. Debt exclusion requires a ballot vote. One through ballot and then the funding vote at Town Meeting for it to be operational. Bond counsel and Town counsel has reviewed. Ballot has been prepped. Withdrawal for candidates is April 3rd. Want ballots to be printed April 4th to prepare. Paige Duncan to work with Maura Buckley, Communications Specialist to do short videos on DPW, 76 Main Street and the Police Women's Locker Room to give a summary and view of what the plan is for each warrant article. Working on plans with Foxboro Reporter, FCA, on repeat, and the Warrant Review. Any information and signs, needs to be 150ft away from the voting area. Debt exclusion v override overview will be on the website to break it down. If these do not pass at election, they will be tabled at Town Meeting.

Motion to approve the final ballot language for Annual Town Meeting as presented, by L. Gibson, 2nd by S. Ferguson.

Approved. 4-0.

4. 7:20pm - Health Department Update

Director of Public Health, Matt Brennan to give an update on the Health Department. Possibly of televising the next Board of Health meeting since it is more educational. Might be the only thing on the agenda so it will be brought to the Chair.

Land Use & Economic Development will not be coming in next meeting so this will be tabled until we find a new Planner.

5. 7:40pm -FY24 Capital Improvement Requests

Review & Vote on FY24 Capital Improvement Requests. This was supposed to be on a Fall Town Meeting but we could not have any financial matters on their since it was too close to setting the tax rate. These has been pushed to this meeting. CIP has met and approved. This is a housekeeping item from previous year and due to timing it has been pushed. They money has been put aside. Dennis as the representative, all well put together. Free Cash listed is from FY 2024.

Motion to approve the FY24 Capital Improvement Requests, by L. Gibson, 2nd by S. Ferguson.

Approve. 4-0.

67:45pm - Parking Review

Discuss Commercial Parking Per Spot License Fees for July 1, 2024. Staff brought up this item. Walpole is trying to remain consistent with Foxborough. Rates have not been increased in the last 15 years. Bring \$7 per spot to \$10 per spot. Some lot holders have been ok with the possible increase and others might be upset about it. Will need to look at an analysis so the fee is not an overcharge, that the Town is not making a profit. Will look at the overall inflation, cost of Building Department services, Police, Fire, Town Manager's office time to make sure that we are looking at a justifiable increase.

Discuss rules & regulations for 15-17 Market Street. Public parking with regulations. No commercial. No overnight except for snow emergencies. 14 spots. Concerns about new apartments parking there. Want this lot to be open for economic development, not someone's driveway. Just want to set framework. Maybe close lot from midnight to 6am?

Linda Shea, 20 Market Street. No real problem right now with overnight but might be different with the apartment building. Good flow during the day for Station One and Orpheum. Doesn't look finished. Hoping for some landscaping. No overnight. Well used by the businesses in the area.

Mark Duffey, Judy's. Thankful that the lot was paved. Helped our employees, tenants and uptown over all. Want it for public use. Working very well over all.

No overnight parking for the other Town lots. Only during a snow emergency. Want to be consistent. Want to make sure Police can make sure they feel they can monitor. Want to table and allow for others to comment.

7. 7:55pm - May 13th 2024 Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Review & Discuss Citizen's Petition regarding the Code of the Town of Foxborough, Duties & Elected Officials.

Came in late.

Heather Harding, 14 North High Street.

This would not be retroactive, just moving forward. Renamed one of the baseball fields, in the past the Board would have voted and move forward but the Select Board changed the bylaws so that name change, had to be brought to Town Meeting. Just looking to see if the Board would add the petition or discuss the merits as well. Town Counsel to give perspective on the language. Applicant suggested for Select Board to open the warrant but if Town Counsel says the wording is not lawful, then applicant would withdraw. Applicant to speak with the School to loop in. Holding the petition another 6 months will let this be played out correctly.

Motion to not reopen the warrant for the citizen's petition, by L. Gibson, 2nd by S. Ferguson.

Approved. 4-0.

Review & Discuss Citizen's Petition regarding a feasibility Study to construct a pathway from Uptown to Gillette Stadium and other areas by John Mahoney.

John Mahoney, 41 Putnam & Jack Martin, 66 Summer Street.

Most favorable would be uptown to the Stadium with no fence jumping. To get the downstream funding, it would require looking at this all together – all three pieces together. Looking for bike paths and more walkable trails.

Kraft Group is interested by not prepared to commit to anything in terms of a location. They feel Putnam Way and back entrance to Revolution fields are backhouse entrances. We do not have the original proposed area along the railroad tracks so this is a bit different. Bog question will be what the Stadium is bringing to the table.

9.0 Discuss the Annual Town Meeting Warrant before Select Board signs April 9th 2024.

Draft of the warrant but not finalized. Refining the language. 30 articles total. Possible 2 nights. First night would be budget, DPW, Police Women's Locker Room, Community Center and keep going to see how late it goes and then possible second night possibly starting and then ending with MBTA to draw people back and keep people in their seats. Discussion on reading the line items in the budget was brought up and the Town Moderator, Frank Spillane, is considering.

8. 8:10pm - Town Manager's Update

Around Town Updates:

- Community Center –
2019-2021 Feasibility Study
In early 2019, Foxborough residents began advocating for an Intergenerational Community Center to improve access to programs and services provided by the Council on Aging and Recreation Departments. Through this advocacy, the Fall 2019 Town Meeting approved \$40,000 to conduct a Feasibility Study. Bargman Hendrie Architypes was hired in early 2020 through the procurement process. Unfortunately, COVID-19 drastically impacted the data collection and public information gathering process of completing a Feasibility Study during the allotted time. In June 2021, the Director of Human Services presented to the Select Board a completed Feasibility Study which highlighted the need for a potential new Community Center to be located at 1 of 3 sites off of Payson Road. A copy of this study can be found [HERE](#).

2022 Human Services Reorganization

With the retirement of long time Recreation Director, Debbie Giardino, Town Manager, Bill Keegan, reorganized the Human Services Department to include 4 "divisions". These divisions include Recreation, Veteran Services, Council on Aging, & Human Services. The Assistant Recreation Director, Renee Tocci was promoted to Recreation Director and the entire Department was led by Marc Craig as the Director of Human Services. This reorganization has allowed for coordination of services and programs with the goal of establishing a Community Center in the future. The reorganizational chart can be found [HERE](#).

2024 "FOXBORO WARD" PROPERTY

Residents will have the opportunity to cast their votes to finance the purchase via ballot on May 6th, with final approval sought at the Town Meeting on May 13th. Pending town voter acceptance, the anticipated closing date is August 1st, marking the beginning of an exciting new chapter for Foxborough.

- Mold Investigation Report from Terracon (August 2022) can be found [HERE](#).

("Indoor airborne mold spore concentrations were well below the outdoor concentration...")

- Mold Investigation Report from Heaton Environmental (July 2023) can be found [HERE](#).

("No visible mold was noted, Air tests showed relatively normal mold levels")

- Detailed floor plans of the church can be found [HERE](#).

- Original announcement of purchase (& relevant updates) can be found [HERE](#)

- [MBTA communities](#) – Planning Board to hold another public hearing on April 11th. Discuss during warrant discussion. Will reopen. Town Moderator would like a decision from the Board before Town Meeting.
- [ADA self-evaluation/transition plan](#) - by June 30th (\$250K grant). Marc Craig took the lead for me on this.
- [Town Counsel](#) – RFQ went out this morning. Hope to bring proposal to board in April.
- [Bench](#) – We have many applications. Deadline is end of March. See website.

Human Resources Updates:

- Made an offer to Veteran's Services Officer today
- Human resources specialist (part time) to start 4/1
- [Current Open Positions](#) - interviewing
 - Director of Land Use and Economic Development
 - Water Tech

Communications Updates:

- [Maura](#) – doing great with communication
- Website – a lot of work. Utility news.
- Emergency notifications – beginning to be trained on this
- [FCA](#) - Scheduling cable shows on major TM articles

Use of Town Property Permits:

Memorial Day on the Town Common Ceremony. May 27th 830am (set up) till noon. Rabies Clinic with the Board of Health on April 6th and Hazardous Waste Day at the DPW on March 30th.

[9. 8:20pm – Selectmen's Update](#)

New Business - Varsity Girl's Basketball State Champions!

10. Action Items

Veteran Services Advisory Committee Appointment - Appoint Cyril "Paul" Dumas to the Veteran Services Advisory Committee term to end May 31, 2025.

Motion to appoint Cyril "Paul" Dumas to the Veteran Services Advisory Committee term to end May 31, 2025., by L. Gibson, 2nd by S. Ferguson.

Approved. 4-0

Police Donation - Accept a donation for the Junior Police Academy from the Foxboro VFW Post in the amount of \$1,500.00

Motion to accept a donation for the Junior Police Academy from the American Legion in the amount of \$1,500.00, by L. Gibson, 2nd by S. Ferguson.

Approved. 4-0

Historical Commission Donation - Accept a donation for the Cemetery Restoration Fund from Bruce Jacobson & an anonymous donor in the amount of \$250.00

Motion to accept a donation for the Cemetery Restoration Fund from Bruce Jacobson & an anonymous donor in the amount of \$250.00, by L. Gibson, 2nd by S. Ferguson.

Approved. 4-0

Select Board - Approval of Minutes from March 12th 2024 meeting.

Motion to approve Select Board meeting minutes from March 12th 2024., by L. Gibson, 2nd by S. Ferguson.

Approved. 4-0

13. Adjourn

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by L. Gibson, 2nd by S. Ferguson.

Approved. 4-0

Agenda documents:

15-17 Market St 03262024

Annual Town Meeting Warrant_051324__DRAFT_032124

Department Yearly Presentation 24

Heather Harding Note

Historical Commission Donation

76 Main St Locker Room Expansion - Articles and Motions and Ballot Questions (1)_FINAL

052724_Memorial Day Parade Application

052724_Memorial Day Town Common License

DPW Project Article and Motion and Ballot Question (2)_FINAL

Dumas_VSAC

PD Donation

031824_Citizens Petition 2

031224 Minutes

FY24 CIP Additional Approved Requests 3.12.24

Citizens Petition