

Board of Selectmen

June 18, 2019
Regular Session 7:00pm

Present: Ms. Karen Johnson, Ms. Mary Power, Mr. Joe Fisher, Mr. Tom Mayo, Town Administrator, Ms. Michelle Monsegur, Assistant Town Administrator.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Power made a motion to approve the minutes dated June 4, 2019. Mr. Fisher seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Public Comment

No comments.

Review and approval of repurposing operating budget for capital, inter-department, intra-department, and Reserve Fund transfers for FY 2019.

Sue Nickerson, Town Accountant, provided details, by department, for each transfer. Department Head Managers Randy Sylvester, Deputy Chief David Jones, Fire Chief Steve Murphy, were present and addressed questions and comments from the Board.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to Selectmen-Legal Services in the amount of \$455,000. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to DPW-Snow & Ice in the amount of \$248,751. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to Selectmen Expenses in the amount of \$85,000. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to Fire Overtime in the amount of \$80,000. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to Workers Compensation in the amount of \$41,315. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to Employers' Medicare Taxes in the amount of \$37,500. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to Town Meeting Expenses in the amount of \$27,202. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to Unemployment Compensation in the amount of \$25,000. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to Town Engineering Salaries in the amount of \$18,100. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to Town Engineering Expenses in the amount of \$11,950. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to Town Engineering Expenses in the amount of \$10,000. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to Harbormaster R&M Grounds in the amount of \$9,001. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to Elder Services Salaries in the amount of \$8,400. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to Elder Services R&M Vehicles in the amount of \$3,000. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to Town Meeting Custodians in the amount of \$1,671. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Inter-Department Transfers:

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend an inter-department transfer to Town Hall Capital Outlay from Group Insurance in the amount of \$84,216. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend an inter-department transfer to DPW Capital Outlay from Group Insurance in the amount of \$44,000. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend an inter-department transfer to GAR Hall R&M from Veterans Benefits in the amount of \$1,700. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Intra-Department Transfers:

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend an intra-department transfer from DPW Wages to DPW Road Building Drainage in the amount of \$130,000. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend an intra-department transfer from DPW Transfer Station Expense to DPW Transfer Station Capital Outlay in the amount of \$30,000. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend an intra-department transfer from DPW Transfer Station Expense to DPW Transfer Station Wages in the amount of \$27,000. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Police Department Requests for Repurposing of Capital Funds & Intra-Department Transfers:

Ms. Power made a motion to **repurpose** \$25,841 of Police Department Salaries for FY19 Capital Radio Enhancements. Mr. Fisher seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Ms. Power made a motion to recommend an intra-department transfer from Police Department Salaries to Police Department Capital Outlay in the amount of \$25,841. Mr. Fisher seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Ms. Power made a motion to **repurpose** \$16,550 of Police Department Salaries for a Video Recording System. Mr. Fisher seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Ms. Power made a motion to recommend an intra-department transfer from Police Department Salaries to Police Department Capital Outlay in the amount of \$16,550. Mr. Fisher seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Ms. Power made a motion to recommend an intra-department transfer from Police Department Salaries to Police Department Expenses in the amount of \$16,025. Mr. Fisher seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Mayo departed the meeting to attend the Advisory Committee meeting that was running concurrently.

Plaza Azteca: Change of Manager

Maria Bravo present.

There were questions and comments from the Board which were addressed by Ms. Bravo.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to approve the request of Plaza Azteca Hingham, Inc. for a Change of Manager from Ubaldo Melendez to Maria Bravo; subject to the successful processing of a CORI background check and approval of the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Coyote Awareness Update

Animal Control Officer, Leslie Badger, and Police Chief, Glenn Olsson presented.

They reported that the Police Department has been working with the Environmental Officers in our area, Mass Fish and Wildlife, and New England Wildlife Center in order to gain new information that could help combat the coyote population in Hingham. These conversations will continue with the state.

Ms. Badger had prepared a package for the Board which contained coyote sighting reports, a map depicting where the coyotes have been spotted, and educational information.

The Board thanked Ms. Badger and Chief Olsson for the quick response to residents' concerns and for providing the public with this valuable information.

Gas Main Installation on Main Street/Route 228: Phase II Update

Ms. Monsegur provided an overview that indicated new staging site for Phase II will be behind the Central Fire station. Most of the work will take place at night. The National Grid point of contact person is Dennis McCaffery: 781-794-3515. There is a traffic plan in place to detour nighttime traffic. Door hangers and website postings will take place for effected areas.

Public comment: Ed Demko, 18 Bradley Bradley Park Drive (question was not pertaining to current topic and he was informed by Chair Johnson that he should have presented his question during the Public Comment session. His question was not addressed. Chair Johnson offered to speak with Mr. Demko after the meeting.

Water Company - Process Update

Ms. Monsegur read a statement prepared by Tom Mayo:

The Town (including the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator's staff, legal team, volunteers and others) have been working diligently towards an orderly transition of ownership from Eversource to the Town of Hingham. To that end, many meetings have been held since Town Meeting in April to move the transition forward. These include three meetings with Aquarion's Capital projects team; five meetings with Eversource's transition team; a meeting with Eversource, Aquarion, and Town officials at the DEP offices in Boston; and other meetings (including discussions with Hull and Cohasset).

These meetings and discussions have resulted in a better understanding of expectations during this "good husbandry" period leading up to this significant asset purchase. Further, by working together, we have come to a resolution on a pending DPU hearing, thereby saving significant potential legal expenses. We have coordinated the Town's road building schedule with any potential infrastructure improvements. We hope to bring on a Transition Water Superintendent to assist with many of the near-term transition related tasks that lay ahead, and we have interview several candidates for the Transition and Evaluation Committee and the Citizens Advisory Board.

Much work has been done and much more is before us. We have received some calls from property owners in town with questions about their current water service or requests for new water service in connection with upcoming projects. As of this date, the water system transition process has not yet been completed, so all water-related applications and inquiries should still be directed to Aquarion as the current operator of the water system. As I mentioned earlier, the Town and Aquarion are in communication on a weekly, if not daily, basis. We appreciate everyone's patience while we work through this very complex transition of ownership responsibilities for this vital public resource.

Goals and Objectives

Ms. Johnson stated that the Board will be assessing goals and objectives and will be working from a document that Ms. Power presented 3 years ago.

Appointments

Mr. Fisher made a motion to reappoint Mario Romania, Michael Mercurio and Joseph Freeman as Associate Members to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a one-year term ending June 30, 2020. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Ms. Power made a motion to reappoint Larry Linder to the Community Preservation Commission for a three-year term ending June 30, 2020. Mr. Fisher seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Votes

Ms. Power made a motion to approve the issuance of a Special (One Day) Wine and Malt Beverages license to Kelsey Strout on behalf of the McCourt Foundation for the Tour de South Shore Bike/Walk event to be held at Wompatuck State Park on Saturday, September 21, 2019 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Mr. Fisher seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to approve the issuance of a Special (One Day) Wine and Malt Beverages license to Beth MacLeod Largent on behalf of South Shore Conservatory for the Summer Spotlight Series to be held at the South Shore Conservatory on July 13, 20, and 27, 2019 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Ms. Power made a motion to approve the issuance of a Special (One Day) Wine and Malt Beverages license to Fred Pahl on behalf of Alma Nove for the Hingham Shipyard Yacht Show to be held at Hingham Shipyard Marinas on June 21, 2019 from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Mr. Fisher seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Ms. Power made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Comprehensive Master Plan Agreement, as amended. Mr. Fisher seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to approve the request of Coggeshall Group, LLC d/b/a Crow's Landing for a Change of Operational Hours as follows: Wednesday through Friday: 5:00 PM until Midnight; Saturday: 2:00 PM to Midnight; Sunday: 10:00 AM to Midnight. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Fisher made a motion to determine that the financial interest of Mario Romania in matters relating to a zoning application for the property at 11 Bank Avenue and 103-105 North Street is not so substantial as to be deemed likely to affect the integrity of the services which the Town may expect from him acting as an associate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals on such application. Ms. Power seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Selectmen/Town Administrator Reports

Ms. Monsegur - Nothing to report.

Mr. Mayo - Absent.

Ms. Power – Attended Plymouth County Commissioner's Annual meeting where 27 selectmen were in attendance.

On Friday, Troop 1, Dennis Johnson (son of Jeanie and Fred Johnson) achieved rank of Eagle Scout.

Shout out to the Hingham Boy Scouts Troop 4 for rescuing 8 canoeists that were in trouble on the Androscoggin River in Maine. The Troop had just finished their canoe rescue training and were able to bring several of the people to safety.

Mr. Fisher – Reported on Compressor Station meeting that was held last night in Weymouth. Representative Steven Lynch invited representatives of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, or PHMSA, to come hear from the community.

Numerous federal, state and local representatives attended. Dr. Elizabeth Eldredge – Chairwoman of the Hingham Board of Health, attended the meeting in Weymouth on behalf of Hingham.

There were 100-150 in attendance and all against the Compressor Station.

Representative Lynch stated: "I think at the outset it's fair to say that there remains a deep and abiding frustration among most, if not all, of the people who gather here tonight with the FERC regulatory process thus far. We don't

believe that FERC has listened to us. And, we don't believe that the courts have listened, and we don't believe that we've been treated fairly".

1. This Compressor Station should be in a rural area, not on Rte 3A in Weymouth.
2. This area is a high consequence area due to high density, environmental threat and potential threat to maritime vessels as well as automotive traffic.

Ms. Johnson –

Extended congratulations to Jody Nash, recipient of a Community Partner Awarded by The ARC of the South Shore. Ms. Nash has been an advocate for children with special needs both in a volunteer capacity and as a parent of a child with special needs.

Attended Annual Girl Scout Court of Awards ceremony held in the High School auditorium.

Congratulated Girl Scout Gold award recipient Hannah Mary Theresa Boucher. Her award was for her Nutrition, Fitness and Stress Management Empowerment Program for Middle School and High School girls.

Kelli Jordan received her Silver award for her Food Allergy Buddies project.

Emily O'Connor received her Silver award for her Senior Citizens Share Experience project.

Grace Howe-Roberts, Christina McGrath, Leah Boucher and Kaitlyn Oravitz received their Bronze award for End School on a Kind Note!

All, well deserved!

William Bryant was recognized by the Historical Society for his excellence in History.

Hingham Sports – successful Division 1 South Championship – overtime win over Duxbury. Successful sports season - wished them good luck.

Recognition given to Brenda Black who is stepping down from the Cleaner Greener Hingham committee formerly known as the Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee. Ms. Black has been very committed during her 13 year tenure on this committee. The Board prepared a Certificate of Appreciation for Ms. Black which Ms. Johnson recited.

Meeting adjourned at: 8:35pm
Approved June 24, 2019

Sally Sinclair

Documents: A complete meeting packet of supporting documentation is on file and available for public review in the Board of Selectmen's Office.

