

2024 MAR 14 PM 1:49

Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Open Session Meeting Minutes
Meeting Conducted Remotely via Zoom

Members Present: Joseph Botaish, James Anderson, Christopher Gallo, William Harrington,
Michelle Rouse

Members Absent:

Also present: Kevin Sweet, Town Administrator; Amanda Vasapollo, Administrative Assistant;

Called to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by Mr. Botaish. Followed by a roll call for attendance, all members and staff present.

Documentation:

February 6, 2024 Open Session Meeting Minutes

2024 Request for Sweatt Funds Applications

Public Hearing Notice for Request for Sweatt Funds

Presentation from Wrentham Engagement

Memo from Kevin Sweet regarding Town Meeting Dates

Annual Town Election Warrant with Debit Exclusion Question

Beano License Application for Hockomock Area YMCA

Draft letters to Governor Healey, Senator Rausch, and Representative Marcus Vaughn re MBTA

Communities Housing Bill

Email from Building Commissioner John Naff re La Familia

Email from Health Agent, John Roberston re La Familia

Donation Letter from Friends of Wrentham Senior Citizens

Snow and Ice Deficit Notice

Announcements:

Mr. Harrington read the following, Presidential Primary: Polling Hours will be held on March 5, 2024 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Delaney Elementary School, 120 Taunton Street. Voter Registration for the Presidential Primary Election will be held on Friday, Saturday, February 24th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at Town Hall - Main Lobby. Ballots may be dropped into the Ballot Dropbox (outside of Town Hall Main Lobby entrance). Presidential Primary – Early Voting – February 24th through February 29th – Town Hall
Annual Town Election: Voter Registration will be on Friday, March 22 from 9AM to 5PM at Town Hall,
The Annual Election will be held on Monday, April 1, 2024 from 7AM to 8PM at Delaney Elementary
Wrentham Recreation presents a Pickle ball Clinic on Thursday, February 29th at Wrentham Elementary see wrenthamma.my.rec.com.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Harrington, seconded by Mr. Gallo, the Board voted to approve the February 6, 2024 Open Session Meeting Minutes. Followed by a roll call vote, Anderson – n/a, Botaish – yes, Gallo – yes, Harrington – yes, Rouse – yes. Motion carries, 4-0.

PUBLIC HEARING – SWEATT FUNDS

Present were members of the Sweatt Fund Advisory Committee, including Greg Pazurcek, Bob Carr and Christopher Roman.

Motion made by Mr. Gallo, seconded by Mr. Harrington, the Board voted to open the public hearing for 2024 requests for Sweatt Fund Monies. Followed by a roll call vote, Anderson – n/a, Botaish – yes, Gallo – yes, Harrington – yes, Rouse – yes. Motion carries, 4-0.

Motion made by Mr. Harrington, seconded by Ms. Rouse, the Board voted to waive the reading of the public hearing notice for 2024 Sweatt Fund requests. Followed by a roll call vote, Anderson – n/a, Botaish – yes, Gallo – yes, Harrington – yes, Rouse – yes. Motion carries, 4-0.

Mr. Pazurcek led the review of the 2024 Sweatt Fund Requests. Applicants were reviewed as follows, Conservation Commission, Council on Aging, Fiske Public Library, Cultural Council, Landscape & Memorial Committee, Open Space Committee, Public Health Nurses, Recreation Commission, Board of Selectmen and Wrentham Public Schools. The Sweatt Fund Advisory Committee and the Select Board had an opportunity to ask the applicants questions.

Motion made by Mr. Gallo, seconded by Mr. Harrington, the Board voted to close the public hearing for 2024 requests for Sweatt Fund Monies. Followed by a roll call vote, Anderson – yes, Botaish – yes, Gallo – yes, Harrington – yes, Rouse – yes. Motion carries, 5-0.

Discussion of Wrentham Engagement Candidates Forum

Present was Julie Garland, Joe Stewart, and Jerry McGovern

Mr. Stewart and Ms. Garland presented, they reviewed the mission of the Wrentham Engagement Candidates Forum, presented data from Town Meeting and Annual Town Elections, and reviewed upcoming events.

A discussion took place amongst the Board, Mr. Sweet, Ms. Garland and Mr. Stewart regarding the collaboration of disseminating information with the Wrentham Engagement Candidates Forum.

Vote to Open (March 1st) and Close (April 8th) the Warrant for the June 3, 2024 Spring Town Meeting

Motion made by Mr. Harrington, seconded by Mr. Anderson, the Board voted to open the Warrant for the June 3, 2024 Spring Town Meeting on March 1, 2024 and to close the Warrant on April 8, 2024. Followed by a roll call vote, Anderson – yes, Botaish – yes, Gallo – yes, Harrington – yes, Rouse – yes. Motion carries, 5-0.

Review of Language for Tri-County Debt Exclusion Ballot Question

Present was Mike King, Finance Director/Treasurer-Collector

Mr. King spoke, reviewed the ballot question language for the Tri-County School Building Project debt exclusion that has been draft by bond counsel.

Mr. Sweet spoke, recommended the approval of this language to cover the towns obligated/required for this project. Mr. Sweet gave a review of timeline for upcoming payments.

A discussion took place amongst the Board and Mr. Sweet regarding best practices for educating and informing voters on the question.

Vote to Sign Warrant for April 1, 2024 Annual Town Election

Motion made by Mr. Anderson, and seconded by Ms. Rouse, the Board voted to sign the Warrant for the April 1, 2024 Annual Town Election. Followed by a roll call vote, Anderson – yes, Botaish – yes, Gallo – yes, Harrington – yes, Rouse – yes. Motion carries, 5-0.

Notice of Beano License Application for Hockomock Area YMCA

Present was Amy Doyon of the Hockomock Area YMCA

The Board reviewed the Beano License Application for the Hockomock Area YMCA.

Motion made by Mr. Gallo, seconded by Mr. Harrington, the Board voted to approve the use of electronic signatures on the Beano License Application for the Hockomock Area YMCA as the Board has no objections to the license being issued. Followed by a roll call vote, Anderson – yes, Botaish – yes, Gallo – yes, Harrington – yes, Rouse – yes. Motion carries, 5-0.

Review and Vote to Sign Letter to Governor Healey, Senator Rausch & Representative Vaughn regarding MBTA Communities Housing Bill

The Board reviewed the drafted letters to be submitted to Governor Healey, Senator Rausch, and Representative Vaughn. Feedback was provided to modify the letters and to table signing of the documents until the next meeting. The Board discussed their opposition to the mandate and next steps.

Status Update on La Familia Restaurant Opening

Mr. Botaish spoke, reviewed the updated provided by the Building Commissioner John Naff and Health Agent John Roberston.

A discussion took place amongst the Board and Mr. Sweet regarding next steps and future enforcement for the establishment.

Gift Acceptance – Friends of Wrentham Senior Citizens

Mr. Harrington read the following into the record, Gentlemen: The Friends of Wrentham Senior Citizens, Inc. are pleased to enclose a check in the amount of \$5,000.00 for the purpose of funding designated activities, programs and services at the Wrentham Senior Center for the benefit of the Wrentham Seniors who wish to participate. This Grant is to be used towards the following activities, programs and services in 2024 for the Wrentham Seniors: Activity instructors, Life-Line Protection Plan, Bus Transportation for Senior Trips. It is understood that the Treasurer of the Council on Aging will provide an accurate accounting of the disposition of funds to the Treasurer of the Friends of Wrentham Senior Citizens, Inc., on a regular basis. We are pleased to provide this Grant to the Town of Wrentham for the benefit of the Wrentham Seniors.

Motion made by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Harrington, the Board voted to accept the donation in the amount of \$5,000 from the Friends of Wrentham Senior Citizens, Inc. for activity instructors, lifeline protection plans, and bus transportation for senior trips. Followed by a roll call vote, Anderson – yes, Botaish – yes, Gallo – yes, Harrington – yes, Rouse – yes. Motion carries, 5-0.

Snow and Ice Deficit Notice

Mr. Botaish and Mr. Sweet spoke provided an update on the Snow and Ice Deficit.

Update on Metacomet Emergency Communications Center (MECC)

Mr. Sweet spoke, provided an update on discussions on the potential regionalization of the Metacomet Emergency Communication Center (MECC) and Southeastern Regional (SEMREC). Mr. Sweet listed out some of the benefits to regionalization and noted next steps in the process.

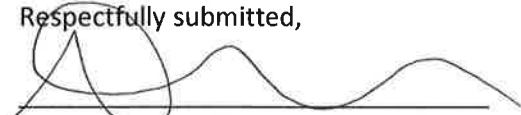
Town Manager's Report

Mr. Sweet, provided an update on the FY25 budget process.

Adjournment

Motion made by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Rouse, the Board voted to adjourn the open session meeting at 9:12PM. Followed by a roll call vote, Anderson – yes, Botaish – yes, Gallo – yes, Harrington – yes, Rouse – yes. Motion carries, 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,



A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large loop followed by a series of smaller, connected loops, positioned above a horizontal line.

Amanda Vasapollo, Executive Assistant