

SELECT BOARD
TOWN OF NATICK

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Conducted in the Edward H. Dlott
Meeting Room and via Zoom
September 7, 2022
6:30PM

PRESENT: Paul R. Joseph, Chair; Michael J. Hickey, Jr., Vice-Chair, Bruce T. Evans, Clerk, Kathryn M. Coughlin

ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator, James Errickson, Deputy Police Chief, Brian Lauzon; Miki Wolfe, Director of Leonard Morse Library; Executive Assistant, Joan McNamara

ABSENT: None

Chair Joseph called the meeting to order at 6:42PM

Chair Joseph stated that the Board has listed an Executive Session for this evening but that **they will not be meeting in Executive Session this evening** and thus that portion of the meeting tonight has been cancelled.

A. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(3) - To discuss strategy with respect to litigation where an open meeting will have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares - Linda Valentin, et al v. Town of Natick, et al, Docket No. 21- CV- 10830 (D. Mass.)

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a Moment of Silence was observed for those who serve our country.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. West Nile Virus detected in mosquitos

We announced last week and wanted to remind the public that West Nile Virus was detected in mosquitos in the area. Kindly read the memo attached to this evening's agenda as well as a letter from the Board of Health.

B. Miki Wolfe Freedom to read wall

Ms. Wolfe, Director of the Leonard Morse Library was present this evening before the Board. Ms. Wolfe wished to speak about the art installation in front of the library to inspire the 'Freedom to Read' which is discussed during banned book week which is September 18-24th of this month. Ms. Wolfe also wanted to announce and celebrate the Morse Institute Library's 150-year anniversary celebration.

C. Town Administrator Errickson wished to remind folks that Natick days are this weekend on September 10th and 11th, 2022 from 10-3:00pm.

SELECT BOARD UPDATES

None

PUBLIC SPEAK

None.

DISCUSSION and DECISION

A. Consider 2022 FATM Articles

The Select Board and Town Administrator reviewed the following Articles on the 2022 Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant for consideration this evening:

Article 14 - Create a Natick Town Bylaw to provide for Tax Payment Agreements
We will bring this Article back to the Board when it is ready to be discussed. Final review is being done by Counsel for correct wording.

Article 16 - Town Clerk from Elected to Appointed Position
We will be bringing this back to the Board. The final language is still being worked on.

Article 17 - Mathworks Mitigation Fund Re-appropriation
On a motion by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Evans, the Board voted 4-0-0 to recommend favorable action on Article 17.

Article 18 - Home Rule Petition: Remove Minimum Seating Capacity Requirements for all Alcohol and Wine and Malt Beverages on Premises Licenses
On a motion by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Ms. Coughlin, the Board voted 4-0-0 to recommend favorable action on Article 18.

Article 24 - East Central/Union Street Intersection (southern side)
Ms. Loomis, Director of Community and Economic Development was not present this evening. Mr. Errickson recommended that this Article be brought back to the Board after further review of the language with Ms. Loomis present. The Board had no action on the Article this evening.

Article 25 - Establish Charter and By-Law Review Committee
On a motion by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Evans, the Board voted 4-0-0 to recommend favorable action on Article 25.

Article 27 - Survey and Roadway Layout Plan for Pinewood and Hillcrest Avenues
Elizabeth Eichfeld, the sponsor of Article 27, presented her Article before the Select Board this evening. A board member responded to Ms. Eichfeld by stating that there are 23 miles of unaccepted roads and streets in the Town of Natick. The argument for this Board member is that why would this neighborhood be different than any other neighborhood in Natick that is looking for street acceptance. After further discussion by the Board, they voted the following:
On a motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Ms. Coughlin, the Board vote 2-1-1 to recommend

favorable action on Article 27.

Article 29 - Natick Charles River Dam

Attached to this evening's agenda is a memorandum from the Town Administrator to the Finance Committee regarding Article 29. Mr. Errickson did note that in this Article, the petitioner is seeking funding from Town Meeting to repair the dam. Mr. Evans noted that this evening, during their meeting, the Charles River Advisory Committee's 17 members voted to release their final report. The vote on the Charles River Dam itself was a 15-2 vote. Two people did not take the super-majority vote. The Board will be receiving a copy of the report within a couple of days.

Saul Beaumont spoke before the Board this evening regarding his Citizens petition, now Article 29. The Board did not take any action on Article 29 this evening.

B. Continuation of Public Hearing: Modification and/or amendment of the Rules & Regulations for the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages

Board members focused their continued discussion this evening around the following areas:

1. Food and Alcohol – The current language is that “35% of gross receipts (to be certified by a Certified Public Accountant) is to be derived from alcoholic beverages” is to be seen as a reasonable standard. Mr. Joseph, in his memorandum was suggesting that the number itself be taken out but not the general language. The Board had a roundtable discussion and the following members also spoke:

Mr. Carew, Director of Veterans' Affairs was also present to address the Board, and spoke to alcohol and people in recovery.

Donald Breda, member of the Board of Health, and Ms. Sugarman of Natick 180 also addressed concerns over the policies. Mr. Joseph stated that looking forward he hoped that this could be a collaborative process amongst Natick 180, the Board of Health and the Select Board. Deputy Chief Brian Lauzon also addressed the Board on the policy.

On a motion by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Evans, the Board voted 4-0-0 to eliminate the 35% of gross receipts reasonableness standard language that is currently contained within the two on premise license policies (100-seat alcohol policy) and the (beer and wine license) as well as the related requirements of providing financial statements in those policies and to the extent included in the general policy as well as conforming language changes to modify the incidental requirement.

2. TIPS Training the Board wishes to continue TIPS training in person. (remains the same, so no action needed).
3. Seating Requirements – this portion will be going to Town Meeting

On a motion by Ms. Coughlin, seconded by Mr. Evans, the Board voted 4-0-0 to close the Public Hearing.

- C. Roadway and construction projects status and progress update - S. Main and Washington Ave. Coordination with Eversource and utility companies regarding utility pole placements/removals affecting construction


Mr. Errickson spoke this evening on Mr. Marshall's behalf. He noted that since our last update Verizon, as well as our other vendors, have been far more responsive. Comcast and RCN are planning on being out at the S. Main St. and Washington Avenue sites this week. These vendors team up with the same sub-contractors to do the work at the poles. Once that work is completed, Verizon can then follow-up and do their work. Eversource will then follow-up with pole removal after Verizon has done their work. We are hoping that all poles will be removed by the end of the season.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Meeting Minutes
 - 1. Select Board Meeting Minutes June 8, 2022
 - 2. Select Board Meeting Minutes June 15, 2022
- B. Weekly Warrant Review
 - 1. August 30, 2022
- C. Approve block party request for Lys Hunt
- D. Approve Whittier Street Block Party request
- E. Authorize the Chair to sign a letter of support for Boston MPO/MAPC Safe Streets for All Grant Application to USDOT
- F.

On a motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Hickey, the Board voted 4-0-0 to approve all items on the Consent Agenda.

On a motion by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Ms. Coughlin, the Board voted 4-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 10:01pm.



Bruce T. Evans, Clerk

September 7, 2022, Select Board Meeting Minutes Approved by the Select Board on November 30, 2022.

All documents used at this Select Board meeting are available at:
<https://naticktown.novusagenda.com/agendapublic/MeetingView.aspx?MeetingID=1056&MinutesMeetingID=-1&doctype=Agend>