

SELECT BOARD
TOWN OF NATICK

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Conducted in the Edward H. Dlott
Meeting Room and via Zoom
November 2, 2022
6:30 PM

PRESENT: Paul R. Joseph, Chair; Michael J. Hickey, Jr., Vice-Chair; Bruce T. Evans, Clerk; Richard Sidney

ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator, James Errickson; Deputy Town Administrator-Operations, Jon Marshall; Miki Wolfe, Director of the Morse Institute Library; Paul Carew, Director of Veterans' Affairs; Chief of Police, James Hicks; Executive Assistant, Joan McNamara

ABSENT: Kathryn M. Coughlin

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Statement Regarding Matter(s) Involving James Quilty

Chair Joseph read a prepared statement this evening regarding matters involving James Quilty. The full statement is attached to this evening's agenda. Also attached to the agenda is a full Press Statement which outlines past events as well as ongoing matters. The Select Board will be voting to approve the statement and will not be answering any other questions pertaining to this matter this evening.

On a motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Hickey, the Board voted to 4-0-0 to approve the statement as read by the Chair.

B. Congratulations to Natick Service Council on 60th Anniversary

Chair Joseph made an announcement that earlier this year we had signed a proclamation celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Natick Service Council. They will be hosting their anniversary gala this Friday. We wish to once again wish them congratulations on their 60th anniversary.

C. Announcement from Miki Wolfe, Director of the Morse Institute Library attached

Ms. Wolfe, Director of the Morse Institute Library, made an announcement before the Board this evening. The full announcement is attached to this evening's agenda. Ms. Wolfe would like to recognize that the library is able to offer sustainable-sourced period supplies free to the public via the Aunt Flow vending machines. This has been made possible with a grant from the Metrowest Health Foundation.

D. Thanks and recognition of Sheila Young

Paul Carew, Director of Veterans' Affairs, was present this evening, to celebrate and recognize Sheila

Young, who worked for the Town of Natick's Council on Aging and Dept. of Veterans' Affairs for over 20 years. Sheila retired on November 1, 2022, and will be greatly missed.

E. Veterans' Day events

Jon Marshall, Deputy Town Administrator – Operations, announced that next week is Veterans' Day and there will be a series of events that will take place throughout the day. Kindly visit our website for further information on those events.

PUBLIC SPEAK

1. Jeff Besson wished to speak on the Quilty matter, but given that this topic is listed as an agenda item this evening, the Board did not allow statements on that topic.

2. Roger Scott made comments on the Charles River Dam in support of saving the Dam.

APPOINTMENTS

A. Interviews and Appointment to the Transportation Advisory Committee

1. Courtney Harris
2. Wayne Chouinard

Ms. Courtney Harris and Mr. Wayne Chouinard were both before the Board this evening to interview for one opening on the Transportation Advisory Committee. Both candidates were interviewed.

After interviews, Mr. Hickey put forward a motion for a vote in support of Mr. Chouinard which did not pass and Mr. Evans put forward a Motion for Ms. Harris which did not pass. Due to the tie vote, the Board will push this item forward on our next agenda. Mr. Ostroff, Chair of the Committee, also recommended that the Board consider expanding the committee by one. Mr. Hickey commented that he generally was not in support of making a committee larger in this type of instance.

B. Interview and Appointment to the Historical Commission

1. Holly Glidden

Ms. Glidden was before the Board this evening to interview for an appointment to the Historical Commission. After that interview, Mr. Hickey proposed a motion, seconded by Mr. Evans, to appoint Ms. Glidden to the Historical Commission by a 4-0-0 vote by the Board.

C. Interview and Appointment to the Economic Development Committee

1. Violet Kabaso

Ms. Kabaso was before the Board this evening to interview for an appointment to the Economic Development Committee. After that interview, Mr. Sidney proposed a motion, seconded by Mr. Hickey, to appoint Ms. Kabaso to the Economic Development Committee by a 4-0-0 vote by the Board.

D. Interviews and Appointments to the Cable Advisory and Information System Advisory Boards

1. Kevin Cullinane

Mr. Cullinane was before the Board this evening looking to be appointed to both the Cable Advisory and Information System Advisory Boards. In the past, according to our records, these appointments have gone "hand in hand". Volunteers who have joined one committee also apply to the other committee as the work on both Boards are intertwined.

Mr. Hickey and other Board members discussed that issue and wished to bring the topic back to the next agenda to have the Chair of the Boards, Mr. Szretter, speak to those appointments. As far as the vote this evening, the Board decided to vote only on the appointment to the Information Systems Advisory Board.

On a motion by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Evans, the Board voted 4-0-0 to appoint Mr. Cullinane to the Information Systems Advisory Board.

DISCUSSION and DECISION

A. Parking Fees 2023

Mr. Errickson, Town Administrator, presented a memo to the Board this evening outlining the history of parking fees during the pandemic and Town Administration's recommendations moving forward into calendar year 2023. That memorandum is attached to this evening's agenda.

Mr. Errickson noted that the pandemic does continue to have an impact on the demand for Natick Center parking, including the parking supporting downtown businesses. Mr. Errickson noted that given demand appears to be still rebounding, making adjustments to the Business Parking Pass program at this time is not recommended. With this in mind, Town Administration recommends that there be no change to the cost of Business Parking Pass fees for the 2023 calendar year, keeping the rate at \$385 annually.

Mr. Errickson also stated that Administration will be bringing back the topic of the lease with the Archdiocese at a later date.

On a motion by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Sidney, the Board voted 4-0-0 to approve the parking fees for 2023, as recommended by Town Administration.

B. Approve Safety Committee Recommendations submitted by Chief Hicks

Chief Hicks was present this evening before the Board and acting as Chair of the Safety Committee. Chief Hicks read each Safety Committee recommendation aloud and discussed each item fully with the Board. The full list and memorandum from Chief Hicks is attached to this evening's agenda.

A resident, Tom Civitenga, a resident of Oak Street, also spoke regarding the proposed sidewalk at Oak Street and Orchard and believes that the existing crosswalk at Melvin and Oak is sufficient. Chief Hicks did want to make sure that residents knew that the existing crosswalk is going to remain the same and is not

going to be removed. This is just going to be the addition of a second sidewalk. The Board had a lengthy discussion about the location of the additional crosswalk and agreed with the Safety Committee about the location.

Mr. Ostroff, Chair of the Transportation Advisory Committee, addressed the Board under this topic regarding the changing of speed limits on a street by street basis. Mr. Ostroff is requesting that the Board take another look at the process itself and his suggestion would be to look at this process more strategically.

On a motion by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Hickey, the Board voted 4-0-0 to approve the recommendations of the Safety Committee with the exception of the Fiske Road clarification and with exception to the public hearing for address change.

On a motion by Mr. Sidney, seconded by Mr. Hickey, the Board voted 4-0-0 to schedule a public hearing for the address change.

C. Sanctuary Community Policy

Due to Ms. Coughlin's absence, the Board wishes to discuss this policy when the full Board is present, so will move this agenda item to another evening.

D. Select Board Policy Off Premises Licenses

Town meeting had submitted a Home Rule petition a while back to seek three beer and wine off premises licenses targeted for Natick Center. We did find out that after the 2020 Census that we had eight malt and wine off premises license for the Town. We also gained one additional All Alcohol license after the 2020 Census due to the population increase.

Last July we had been asked to work on an alcohol policy for consideration and review. At this point we do have a draft policy. Mr. Errickson is recommending that Administration continue to work with Mr. Hickey as the representative for the Board and bring this back to the Board at the end of November, 2022.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Parks and Recreation Request to accept Donations for the months of August and September, 2022
- B. Approve Recreation and Parks Commission Recommendation of Approval for use of the Natick Common for:
 - 1. St. Patrick's Parish to display their Christmas Creche from December 8, 2022, until January 9, 2023;
 - 2. Natick Recreation and Parks Department to host Spooktacular on October 29, 2022, from 12:00-4:00pm and Holiday lighting on November 27, 2022, from 3:00pm-5:30pm;
 - 3. Milestone Church to host Christmas in MetroWest on December 3, 2022, from 8:00am- 2:00pm
- C. Approve Natick Center Cultural District's Request for free two hour parking from November 25, 2022, through January 2, 2022

- D. Approve Change of Officers and Change of Manager request for Colwen Management, Inc., d/b/a Residence Inn by Marriott Natick
- E. Approve North Center Productions, Inc.'s Request to Occupy a Public Way for Filming

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

SELECT BOARD CONCERNS

Mr. Hickey has asked that Administration to reach out to Stonegate for an update on the St. Pat's project and perhaps come before this Board for an update.

On a motion by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Evans, the Board, by Roll Call vote, voted 4-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 PM.

The Roll Call vote was as follows:

Mr. Hickey	Yes
Mr. Sidney	Yes
Mr. Evans	Yes
Mr. Joseph	Yes


Richard Sidney, Clerk

November 2, 2022, Select Board Meeting Minutes Approved by the Select Board on May 3, 2023

All documents used at this Select Board meeting are available at:

<https://naticktown.novusagenda.com/agendapublic/MeetingView.aspx?MeetingID=1060&MinutesMeetingID=-1&doctype=Agend>