

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
March 20, 2024**

PRESENT: Daniel Trabucco (Chair), Steve Ciciotti (Vice Chair), Tracy Marino (Clerk), John G. Brown, Jr., (Selectman), Richard Flynn (Selectman), William Chenard (Town Manager), Gene Fulmine (DPW Director), Joe Daiute (Highway Foreman), Kathleen McCarthy (Treasurer/Collector), Jeanne Gigliotti (Chief Assessor), Michael Buckley (Accountant), Linda Peterson, Jeff McMaster, and others.

At 7:00 pm Mr. Trabucco opened the meeting by reading the Chairman’s statement.

POLE HEARING: JOINT PETITION, NATIONAL GRID & VERIZON: WASHINGTON STREET – INSTALL ONE JO POLE ON WASHINGTON ST. REMOVE ONE JO POLE ON WASHINGTON ST, INSTALL UNDERGROUND FACILITIES ON WASHINGTON ST. REPLACE POLE P107-1 AND ACCOMPANYING RISER IN SAME LOCATION AT EXISTING

Ms. Marino made a motion to grant approval to National Grid and Verizon on their joint petition also known as plan #30703943 to install one JO Pole on Washington Street. Remove one JO Pole on Washington Street. Beginning at a point approximately 50 feet North of the centerline of the intersection of Washington Street and Reservoir Road and continuing approximately 30 feet in a Southeast direction. Install underground facilities on Washington St. Replace Pole P107-1 and accompanying Riser in the same location as existing, seconded by Mr. Brown, the motion passed unanimously.

VOTE RECOMMENDATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR VACANCY APPOINTMENT: JEFF MCMASTER

Linda Peterson of Advisory spoke to the board regarding the recommendation. Ms. Peterson made a motion to approve the request for appointment of Jeff McMaster to the Advisory Committee, term to expire June 30, 2026, seconded by Ms. Marino, the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSS, POSSIBLE VOTE: SUPPORT AND SIGN LETTER TO DEP TO REQUIRE HOLTEC-PILGRIM AND HDI TO MONITOR AND REPORT TO DEP EMISSIONS FROM EVAPORATED CONTAMINATED WATER CONTINUOUSLY/IN REAL-TIME

Mr. Ciciotti discussed the proposed letter and noted that it is relative to the Plymouth Nuclear Power Plant. He stated that the Plymouth Health Agent recommended the letter of support. Discussion ensued on the request for the letter. Ms. Marino made a motion to sign a letter to DEP to require Holtec-Pilgrim and HDI to monitor and report to DEP emissions from evaporated contaminated water continuously and in real time, seconded by Mr. Ciciotti, the motion passed unanimously.

VOTE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 6, 2024

Ms. Marino made a motion to approve the minutes of March 6, 2024, seconded by Mr. Brown, the motion passed unanimously.

TOWN MANAGER’S BUDGET PRESENTATIONS: DEPARTMENTAL BUDGETS

Mr. Chenard presented departmental budgets along with the relevant department heads that were present. He began with the Chief Assessor, Jeanne Gigliotti. She discussed her departments requests for the board as well as the challenges faced with upgrading Assessor software. The total request was for \$333,982, which Ms. Gigliotti noted reflected major cuts. Mr. Chenard noted that he had noted on each departmental budget what those department wish list items were. Mr. Chenard and Treasurer-Collector Kathleen McCarthy discussed the department’s budget, which had a FY25 request of \$498,552. She noted that the cuts would affect tax title and passing along a fee to residents who choose to pay bills online. Mr. Chenard and Mr. Buckley discussed the Town Accountant’s budget, which had a FY25 request of \$225,493. Mr. Trabucco asked if the town needed a full-time accountant, to which Mr. Buckley stated that he did not believe so at that time. Mr. Chenard, Mr. Fulmine, and Mr. Daiute presented the Department of Public Works budget, which had a FY25 request of \$1,462,976.

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Mr. Chenard moved through the rest of the departmental budgets that fall under his general authority and reviewed the cuts to those budgets. He reviewed the Select Board & Town Manager (\$509,145), Inspectional Services (\$532,863), Advisory (\$5,750), Town Clerk (\$169,940), Elections (\$90,250), Registrars (\$16,400), Facility Maintenance (\$316,073), & Town Wide Utilities (\$236,402). Mr. Chenard concluded his budget presentation and addressed specific questions and/or comments by the board.

LIAISON UPDATE

Mr. Brown stated that the Council on Aging had a great turnout for the Senior Circuit Breaker. Mr. Brown also recognized Bridges by Epoch for their recent accreditation.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion and Possible Vote: Letter to House Speaker Regarding Postponement of Rep Vacancy Election to November: Mr. Trabucco stated that he had not had an opportunity to write the letter and was content to push the discussion to the next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Brown announced the American Legion Event with Tuskegee Airman, Howard Carter, on March 28, 2024, at 6pm at Town Hall. Ms. Marino announced the upcoming library events as well as community clean up day and the fish fry event. She also stated that there are now Friends of the Community Center meetings occurring, and they take place at the Council on Aging.

COMMUNITY COMMENT

Resident Katrina suggested using high school students for DPW summer help, to which Mr. Chenard responded that most high school students were not the legal age to operate that type of equipment.

Mr. Trabucco read the upcoming issues. At 8:32pm, Mr. Ciciotti moved to adjourn, Mr. Brown seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

MATERIALS & EXHIBITS

FY25 Budget Presentation (TM Office)

Minutes (TM Office)

Pole Hearing Petition (TM Office)