

Regular Session Minutes – Select Board Meeting
Remote Participation Meeting
January 18, 2022

PRESENT: Town Manager Sarah Stanton, Chair Margot Fleischman, Clerk Emily Mitchell, William Moonan, Bopha Malone, Edward Pierce.

ALSO PRESENT: Ben Thomas, Finance Committee; Attorney Pam Brown, Brown and Brown, PC; David Manugian, Director, Department of Public Works; Rick Rosen, Council on Aging; Barbara Aldoriso; John Christopher; Susan Schwartz, Cultural Council; Christine Rabinowitz, Energy and Sustainability Committee; Mike Rosenberg, *The Bedford Citizen*; Bedford TV.

The Select Board members were asked to announce that they were present: Ms. Mitchell present; Ms. Fleischman present; Ms. Malone present; Mr. Moonan present. Mr. Pierce joined the meeting after roll call.

22-09 Public Comment

There were no public comments.

22-10 Department of Public Works

North Road and Chelmsford Road - Contract Amendment 3.

Ms. Stanton stated that the cost of the project is a total lump sum of \$68,860. This amendment addresses the out-of-scope items and additional staff hours Green International undertook at the request of the Town. Ms. Fleischman asked about the abandonment of corrugated metal. Mr. Manugian said that the DPW does on occasion abandon a pipe by pulling it out of the ground so that they can replace it with a new pipe or fill it in and not take it out of the ground.

Mr. Moonan moved that the Select Board authorize Amendment 3 for North Road and Chelmsford Road intersection with the Green International

Affiliates in the amount of \$68,860, and authorize the Town Manager to sign on behalf of the Select Board. Ms. Mitchell seconded.

The Select Board was polled individually: Ms. Fleischman aye; Ms. Mitchell aye; Ms. Malone aye; Mr. Moonan aye. The motion passed 4-0-0.

310 The Great Road - Request to Delay Sewer Fee Payment

Ms. Stanton stated that Lexington Holdings is requesting a deferral of sewer-related connection fees until prior to the issuance of certificates of occupancy.

Mr. Moonan moved that the Town approve deferral of sewer connection and sewer I/I fees for 310 Great Road in accordance with the memo from Public Works dated January 11, 2022, with all fees to be paid prior to any issuance of certificates of occupancy. Ms. Malone seconded.

The Select Board was polled individually: Ms. Fleischman aye; Ms. Mitchell aye; Ms. Malone aye; Mr. Moonan aye.; The motion passed 4-0-0.

Materials: 310 Great Road II Fee Deferral 2022-01-11, GIA Amendment 3_All Docs

22-11 Consent Agenda

Regular Session Minutes - January 10, 2022.

Ms. Fleischman requested that a word change be made under 22-0-4 Final Vote-FY23 Capital Budget Presentation: replace the word **can** with the word **could** in this sentence:

“She also stated that even though CapEx does not support funding the MUNIS software conversion, the Select Board ~~can~~ could decide to put it on the Warrant now or in the Fall.”

Mr. Moonan asked that agenda items that are marked with “This agenda item was taken out of order” be listed chronologically in the minutes.

Mr. Moonan moved the Select Board approve the January 10, 2022 Meeting Minutes as amended. Ms. Malone seconded.

The Select Board was polled individually: Ms. Fleischman aye; Ms. Mitchell aye; Ms. Malone aye; Mr. Moonan aye. The motion passed 4-0-0.

Materials: 01102022 Select Board Minutes -Draft

22-12 Town Manager's Report

COVID-19 Update:

The number of COVID-19 cases in Bedford reported between December 26 and January 8 was 571. As of Friday, January 14, Bedford's 14-day positivity rate is 17.3%, with the statewide rate at 21.5%. Two successful booster shot clinics were held by the Health Department last week. Thursday's clinic served ages 12+.

The Town distributed more than 500 at-home test kits (each containing two tests) to seniors at Middlesex Community College on Friday. The Town is also working with Youth & Family and COA to reach low-income households and households that do not drive. Part of this outreach was through drive-through and delivery food bank distribution last week. Ms. Mitchell asked about the replacement of pool testing in schools with the state's new at-home rapid test distribution plan, and if there is a projected date for the roll-out. Ms. Stanton stated that the tentative date would be January 31.

Annual Town Meeting Warrant – Update

Ms. Stanton stated the there will be a draft Warrant next week. Tentatively there are 24 articles on the Warrant. There are no Planning or Zoning articles, and one salary bylaw amendment. Work is underway to get the budget to the

Select Board by the week of January 24. Ms. Stanton said that she is \$213 over guidelines, coming in at the 2.5% guideline recommended by Finance Committee. Ms. Stanton gave a high-level overview of the budgetary exercises that she and her staff and department heads are working through, given tighter budgetary constraints for FY23.

22-13 Open Discussion and Liaison Reports

Mr. Moonan reported that he attended the Council on Aging (COA) meeting. The Bedford Local Transit (BLT) has been relaunched with a new van driver and van. In the FY23 COA budget they are requesting to expand hours for a staff member to fulltime.

Ms. Malone reported that she attended the Finance Committee Meeting (FinCom) and the Recreation Committee meeting. In order to fund increases in wages, to bring employees up to the state minimum wage, there will be an increase in fees. Kids Club enrollment is consistent. The committee also heard about the demand for Pickleball courts. The Committee is supportive of this effort.

Ms. Mitchell reported that Library Trustees met. They are also affected by bringing employees up to minimum wage. They are evaluating arrangement of duties and titles among staff members, as well as staff retention. The Cultural Council is working on an official press release for the upcoming grant cycle. For this year's grant cycle, they awarded 32 grants for a total of \$14,277. Ms. Mitchell also attended the Finance Committee meeting. MassPort is presenting the Annual Noise Report for 2020 to the Hanscom Air Force Advisory Commission (HFAC) this evening. She also attended the Bedford Embraces Diversity Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast event.

Mr. Pierce reported that the Conservation Commission met last week. Middlesex Community College wants to repave an area behind the Veterans Administration building. There is no firm commitment for this project. Mr. Pierce also attend the Planning Board Committee meeting, where the members discussed two-family and multi-family housing. He attended the Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Youth and Family Services meeting.

Ms. Fleischman reported that she attended the MBTA community's webinar about the new regulations coming down for housing in communities that have MBTA bus services. This topic will be added to a future Select Board agenda. She also attended a Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) meeting. They had a discussion around needing technical assistance for Great Rd, Bedford St etc.

Mr. Moonan moved to adjourn. Ms. Malone seconded.

The Select Board was polled individually: Ms. Fleischman aye; Ms. Mitchell aye; Ms. Malone aye; Mr. Moonan aye; Mr. Pierce aye. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Approved as Record Copy

Respectfully submitted by Eileen Blanchette