

**Minutes
Board of Selectmen
Stow Town Building – Whitney Room
February 11, 2020**

Present at the meeting that was held at the Town Building were James Salvie, Brian Burke, Cortni Frecha and Thomas Ryan.

Town Administrator William Wrigley and Administrative Assistant Maureen Trunfio were also present. Mr. Salvie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Chair's Comments: The Chair reported that the deadline for registering to vote in the March 3rd primaries is February 12th. He noted that the next Selectmen's meeting will be held at Pompo on February 25th. The Clerk asked the Chair to mention that early voting will take place at Town Building the week of February 24th. He said that Town Census forms are due by the end of February. He reported that dog licenses are still available.

Minutes: *Mr. Ryan moved to accept the meeting minutes of the January 28, 2020 meeting as amended. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Mr. Burke seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously*

Ms. Frecha moved to accept the meeting minutes of the February 1, 2020 meeting with amendments. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Correspondence: Mr. Salvie mentioned that the MMA will be hosting several Selectmen's Legislative Breakfasts and that he is considering attending the one to be held in Littleton and invites all to consider it. He noted that there was a letter from the March for Meals program and encourages all to consider picking a day to volunteer for the program.

Appointments to Open Space Committee

Natalie Ferjulian Forsythe and Kathy Sferra were present and expressed interest in serving on the Open Space Committee. The Board spoke with them and voted unanimously to appoint them.

On the recommendation of the Open Space Committee, Ms. Frecha moved to appoint Natalie Ferjulian Forsythe to the Open Space Committee, to complete the remainder of an unexpired three-year term expiring June 30, 2020.

And

On the recommendation of the Open Space Committee, I move to appoint Kathleen Sferra to the Open Space Committee, to complete the remainder of an unexpired three-year term expiring June 30, 2021.

Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously

Appointment of Full-time Firefighter/EMT

Mr. Salvie mentioned that this item would be addressed at the meeting scheduled for February 25, 2020.

Lighting for Autism Awareness Month (April)

Residents Kevin and Melissa Whalen were present to request permission from the Town to use blue lighting at the Pompo Community Center to raise awareness for Autism. April 2nd is Autism

Awareness Day and the Whalens have rented out the large room at the Pompo Community Center for a fund-raising party that evening. They commented that all are invited. For further information, please contact the Selectmen's Office.

Ms. Frecha moved to allow Kevin Whalen to install temporary blue lighting at the Pompo Community Center for the month of April for Autism Awareness Month, observing and following guidelines set forth by the Building Commissioner. Mr. Burke seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Donation of Benches

Mr. Salvie recused himself for this portion of the meeting and Ms. Frecha chaired for this portion of the meeting. She explained that the Stow Recreation Department and the Conservation Department have organized the opportunity for donations to be made for maintenance-free benches and picnic tables at the new community park. A number of individuals and organizations have contributed 4' and 6' benches with plaques and one picnic table..

Mr. Ryan moved to accept the gift of eleven (11) benches and a picnic table, purchased with funds donated by E.T. & L. Corp, Lee Coopridier, Katie Fisher, Linda Fletcher Denaro, Ed & Alice DeLuca, Elaine Sanfilippo, the Stow Lions Club, Kathy Sferra, Jim Salvie, Clif & Diane Smith, Jody Newman, and Bette Sumner, approved by the Recreation Department, to be placed in the Town Center Park. Mr. Burke seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Mr. Salvie returned to chair the remainder of the meeting.

Signing of multiple representation disclosure form for KP Law for the "Making the Connections" Intermunicipal Agreement

The Chair's opinion was that a more thorough explanation regarding the nature of the service of the Intermunicipal Agreement was needed before the disclosure would be signed, and the Board agreed.

Creation of Town Administrator Screening Committee and Appointments to the Committee

The Chair stated that all candidates are considered good choices and that the Moderator's earlier choices of three narrowed the field somewhat. He explained that the Selectmen utilized a point grading system, but that the Board was not bound by the scores tallied and presented at this meeting. Earlier in the process, the Town Moderator, who was also present for the candidate interviews and also present at this meeting, chose to appoint Karen Meyer, Alyson Toole and Ross Perry.

Ms. Frecha stated that her top two picks were Craig Martin and Nicki McGachey. Mr. Ryan stated that his top picks were Craig Martin and Deb Woods. Mr. Salvie stated that his top picks were Deb Woods and Nicki McGachey. Mr. Burke said that Deb Woods and Ellen Sturgis were his top choices.

Pursuant to Town of Stow Charter section 4-6, Mr. Ryan moved to create a Town Administrator Screening Committee and to designate the committee as Special Municipal Employees. Ms. Frecha seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. He further moved to appoint Craig Martin to the Committee. Ms. Frecha seconded the motion and the vote was tied. Mr. Ryan and Mr. Salvie, aye. Mr. Burke and Ms. Frecha, nay.

Mr. Burke moved to appoint Nicki McGachey to the Town Administrator Screening Committee and Ms. Frecha seconded the motion. It was passed unanimously. Mr. Salvie moved to appoint Deb Woods to the Town Administrator Screening Committee Ms. Frecha seconded the motion and it was passed 3:0:1. Mr. Salvie, Ms. Frecha and Mr. Burke, aye. Mr. Ryan abstained.

Town Administrator Overview of Preliminary FY-2021 Budget

Mr. Wrigley provided a brief update on the development of the FY-21 budget. He noted that a more developed budget will be discussed at the Joint Boards Meeting at the next Selectmen's Meeting to be held on February 25th.

Liaison reports

Mr. Burke reported that LACAC has met with an attorney to determine whether they may want to employ his services. He mentioned that the Finance Committee has not met in the last week, but will be meeting next week to discuss budgets.

Mr. Salvie reported that he and the Town Administrator had met with the Chair of the Nashoba Regional School Committee to discuss the proposed increase from three representatives to four for each member town. He added that he had reached out to the current members from Stow and they are indifferent to this change and are working with DESE (Department of Elementary and Secondary Education) on this issue. He said this would need to be added to the Town Election Ballot, and that would appear on the Selectmen's next agenda.

Mr. Ryan reported that Chief Landry is working on getting the pieces in place to hire the full-time firefighter and hopefully that would occur at the Selectmen's next meeting. He said that he has met with the Superintendent of Streets last week and they have some new ideas. For example Mr. Nadeau mentioned putting on a public forum to discuss potential plans. Mr. Ryan announced that the Town Hall Building Committee would be holding a public forum in March.

Ms. Frecha reported that CPC now has five projects that will be presented at Town Meeting to request funding. She said that she had nothing to report from SMAHT or the Conservation Commission. Mr. Salvie mentioned that on March 4th at 8 p.m. the Conservation Commission would be discussing the Eversource/DCR notice of Intent, Stormwater Report and Plans and final EFSB decision in advance of the Eversource hearing.

Adjournment

At 8:52p.m., Ms. Frecha. moved to convene in Executive Session, pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, section 21(a) (3), for the purpose of discussing possible litigation and to review Executive Session minutes, and to adjourn thereafter. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Roll call vote: Mr. Burke, aye, Mr. Salvie, aye, Mr. Ryan, aye and Ms. Frecha, aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Trunfio, Administrative Assistant

YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjfbkJNkf3c>

Documents used at this meeting. Items can be found in the Selectmen's Office filed with meeting folder:

Town Administrator's 2/11/20 draft FY-21 preliminary budget