

Select Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 3/21/2023

Members in Attendance: Arthur Doyle, Chair; Michael Zullas, Vice Chair; Richard G. Wells, Jr., Secretary; Erin Bradley, Member; Roxanne Musto, Member; Nicholas Milano, Town Administrator and Lynne DeNapoli, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Select Board (Zoom/Webinar)

Guest: Attorney Kevin Freytag, office of Town Counsel

Meeting Location: Hybrid from the Community Room at the Council on Aging

Time Meeting Called to Order: 7:00PM

Time Meeting Called to Order: 9:36PM

Time Executive Session called to Order: 9:22PM

Time Executive Session adjourned: 9:36PM

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Doyle called the Select Board meeting to order at 6:30PM. He introduced the Members of the Board and Staff and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Comment

Bryan Fors, Chair of the Fire Station Building Committee

Mr. Fors extended his appreciation to the Select Board for their hard work and dedication.

4. Discussion/Approval - Acceptance of a Donation in the amount of \$275,000 to the Milton Fire Department for health and safety equipment

Mr. Brian Fors, Mr. Webster Collins and Chief Christopher Madden, members of the Fire Station Building Committee were invited by Chair Doyle to join the meeting. Mr. Collins presented the Town of Milton and the Milton Fire Department with an anonymous donation of \$275,000 for health and safety equipment.

Mr. Wells moved to accept the donation in the amount of \$275,000 to the Milton Fire Department for health and safety equipment. The motion was seconded by Ms. Musto. The Board voted all in favor.

Chair Doyle expressed his appreciation to Mr. Collins, the anonymous donor and the Fire Station Building Committee for their support and dedication to the Town of Milton.

Chair Doyle noted that the Board Members are going to take agenda item #

14. Discussion/Approval – Contribution of \$12,500 to the Milton Coalition from the Mulcahy Family - Mike's 5K to Crush Substance Abuse out of order.

Mr. Wells moved to accept contribution to the Milton Coalition in the amount of \$12,500 from the Mulcahy Family, sponsors of the Mike's 5K to Crush Substance Abuse. The motion was seconded by Ms. Musto. The Board voted all in favor to accept the contribution.

5. Discussion/Approval- Traffic Commission Recommendations / Amendments to the Traffic Rules and Orders:

- a. Article V - Section 12: Granite Avenue, Adams Street to Basset Street- A request to create three (3) 15-minute parking spots was supported**
- b. Article V - Section 12: Central Avenue Business District – The parking standardization plan presented by the Planning Dept was supported**

Mr. Berkeley, the DPW Director and Chair of the Traffic Commission joined the meeting to provide the Members with an overview of the recommendations made by the Traffic Commission and to request the Board's endorsement.

Article V - Section 12: Granite Avenue, Adams Street to Basset Street to create three (3) 15-minute parking spots;

Mr. Berkeley thanked the East Milton Square Business Leaders, the Chamber of Commerce and the East Milton Square Neighborhood Association for supporting this initiative.

Article V - Section 12: Central Avenue Business District – The parking standardization plan presented by the Planning Dept.

Mr. Berkeley expressed his appreciation to Lt. Mark Alba of the Milton Police Department and Mr. Josh Lee of the Office of Planning and Community Development for taking the lead on this project.

Mr. Wells moved to approve the Traffic Commission recommendation- amendments to the Traffic Rules and Orders:

Article V - Section 12: Granite Avenue, Adams Street to Basset Street to create three (3) 15-minute parking spots and Article V - Section 12: Central Avenue Business District – The parking standardization plan presented by the Planning Dept. The motion was seconded by Ms. Musto. The Board voted all in favor to approve.

- 6. Discussion/Approval - Request for use of Manning Park for a temporary installation of a cultural display**Ms. Serene Hansho of the Milton Muslim Community and her young daughter, Alene joined the meeting to request the Members' support of a cultural display in Manning Park that represents a special time of year for the Muslim community, Ramadan. Ms. Hansko presented the Board with a couple of display options that included crescent moon and stars. The Board Members offered their support in favor of the display. The Town will work with Ms. Hansho on the logistics.

Mr. Wells moved to approve the request for use of Manning Park for a temporary installation of a cultural display, option two-string of lights with crescent moons and stars. The motion was seconded by Ms. Musto. The Board voted all in favor to approve.

a. Policy for Use of Manning Park

The Board Members agreed to draft a policy for use of Manning Park using the policy for the Town Green as a template.

7. Discussion/Approval- Annual Town Meeting Warrant

a. Warrant Articles:

- i. Authorize the Select Board to acquire land owned by the Town of Milton located off Gile Road and Blue Hills Parkway (Assessor’s Map D, Block 6A and 6B, Lot 65)**
- ii. Authorize the transfer of various parcels of land and authorize the Select Board to petition the Legislature for approval under Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution related to a potential school project off Gile Road**
- iii. Index and Greeting Page**

Attorney Kevin Freytag from the Office of Town Counsel presented the Board with a revised warrant article relative to eminent domain. The revised article identifies the parcels of land that will be used for compensation in exchange for land being removed from Conservation if the Article is approved.

Mr. Wells moved to open the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. The motion was seconded by Ms. Musto. The Board voted all in favor.

Chair Doyle moved to amend the Annual Town Meeting Warrant Article authorizing the Select Board to acquire land owned by the Town of Milton located off Gile Road and Blue Hills Parkway (Assessor’s Map D, Block 6A and 6B, Lot 65) to include: six (6) acres of land located on Randolph Avenue, approximately three (3) acres of land located on Herrick Drive, approximately one (1) acre of land located on School Street, approximately five (5) acres of land located at the corner of Highland Street and Canton Avenue, approximately forty-one (41) acres of land located around Popes Pond, and possibly other land to be determined prior to Town Meeting, which are all held by the Town for general municipal purposes, as shown on plans, copies of which are on file at the office of the Director of Planning and Community Development. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bradley.

Mr. Zullas offered a friendly amendment to remove the following text: “*for general municipal purposes.*” Chair Doyle and Ms. Bradley accepted the friendly amendment.

Ms. Musto shared her reservations about adopting the eminent domain article. Ms. Musto will be voting “No.”

Mr. Wells also shared his concerns regarding the eminent domain article.

Chair Doyle offered a friendly amendment to include the following text: “*of land located around and inclusive of Pope’s Pond.*” The friendly amendment was accepted by Ms. Bradley.

The Board voted 3-2 in favor of the including the amended article in the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

(ii) Warrant Article-Land Transfer

No discussion/vote needed.

(iii) Index and Greeting Page

Mr. Wells moved to approve the Greeting and Index Pages for the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. The motion was seconded by Ms. Musto. The Board voted all in favor to approve.

Mr. Wells moved to close the Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wells. The Board voted all in favor to approve.

8. Discussion/Update - Policies on Decorum at Public Meetings in Milton

This matter has been deferred.

9. Discussion/Approval/Update - FY2024 Budget

Mr. Milano, the Town Administrator provided a brief update on the status of the FY2024 budget. The Warrant Committee has raised concerns regarding the \$1 million in supplemental needs spending that is being funded through free cash. Ms. Dexter, the Finance Director is joining the Warrant Committee this evening to assist in their review of the budget. Mr. Milano will keep the Members updated on the Warrant Committee’s progress.

a. Opioid Settlement Funds Appropriation for FY2024

Mr. Milano provided an update on the status of the Opioid Settlement funds. The Board of Health met recently and agreed that the opioid funds should be administered through the Health Department in a separate account. If the Select Board approves, the Town will revise the FY2024 budget for the Health Department to include an appropriation of approximately \$76,000.

Milton has already received \$155,000 for FY2023 in settlement funds. The money will close to free cash at the end of the year and be available at that time in accordance with the opioid settlement expenses/guidelines. The \$155,000 appropriation will require approval by Town Meeting. \$76,000 is the anticipated amount for FY2024.

Ms. Musto, a member of the Board of Health is looking forward to working with her colleagues on how best to disperse the funds according to the settlement guidelines. The Board of Health will be reaching out to the Milton Police Department and Milton Fire Department for their input.

Ms. Musto moved to approve the Opioid Settlement Funds appropriation for FY2024. The motion was seconded by Mr. Zullas. The Board voted all in favor.

10. Discussion/Approval/Update - FY2024 Capital Budget

The Select Board will address the FY2024 Capital Budget if the Warrant Committee has questions or concerns.

11. Discussion/Update - MBTA Communities and Advisory by the Attorney General regarding MBTA Communities zoning requirements

The Board asked Attorney Kevin Freytag to draft an opinion from the office of Town Counsel on the MBTA Communities zoning requirements and what the Town's approach should be. Attorney Freytag will follow-up with the Board.

Chair Doyle requested that the Members address item #23:

(23)

Discussion/Approval - Letter regarding condition of the stairs located at the MBTA station located at Adams Street, Milton, MA

Chair Doyle requested that the Board defer sending any new correspondence to Governor Healey. Senator Walter Timilty has begun a dialogue with representatives from the Executive office on this matter. The Senator will keep the Chairman apprised of any progress.

12. Discussion/Update- Select Board Committee-Review Process of Volunteer Appointments to Boards and Committees Report

Ms. Musto provided her colleagues with a progress report. The Co-Chairs held a meeting this afternoon and it was very productive. Ms. Musto and Ms. Bradley are collaborating with Ms. Galvin, Ms. Neville, Mr. Hiss and Mr. Milano on the Handbook for Appointed Committees as well as the Guide for Appointed Volunteers. Volunteer Application and Committee List.

13. Committee Appointments:

a. Climate Action Planning Committee

Mr. Wells moved to appoint Dr. Alex Hasha to the Climate Action Planning Committee as a representative from Sustainable Milton for a term to expire on June 30, 2024. The motion was seconded by Ms. Musto.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Wells moved to amend his original motion to include the following individuals as residents with expertise to the Climate Action Planning Committee: John Godleski and Tracy Dyke Redmond. The amendment was seconded by Ms. Bradley. The Board voted all in favor of the appointments.

b. Youth Task Force

Following a discussion, Mr. Wells moved to appoint the following individuals to the Youth Task Force for a term to expire on June 30, 2024: Jaime Levash, Zaidée Rose, John Varghese, Rachel Pozzar and Griffin Angus. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bradley. The Board voted all in favor of the appointments.

c. Tree Warden-Re-appointment
i. Branch Lane

Mr. Wells moved to appoint Branch Lane as Tree Warden for a three-year term. The motion was seconded by Ms. Musto. The Board voted all in favor of the appointment.

14. Discussion/Approval – Contribution of \$12,500 to the Milton Coalition from the Mulcahy Family - Mike’s 5K to Crush Substance Abuse out of order.

Contribution approved earlier in the evening by the Select Board.

15. Discussion/Approval- Wollaston Golf Club Change of Directors

Mr. Zullas moved to approve the Change of Directors at the Wollaston Golf Club. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wells. The Board voted all in favor to approve.

16. Discussion/Approval-Meeting Minutes-February 21, 2023

Mr. Zullas moved to approve the meeting minutes of February 21, 2023. The motion was seconded by Ms. Musto. The Board voted all in favor. Mr. Wells abstained from the vote.

17. Town Administrator’s Report

Mr. Milano noted that he meets on a monthly basis with Chief King, Chief Madden and representatives of Coastal Ambulance Service. Response time and service have improved since Coastal came on board and took over for Informative. Another ambulance has been added which has been a great benefit. The service contract with Coastal expires in June 2023. Working to extend contract and lock in a commitment for a second ambulance which is not part of our current agreement.

Mr. Milano has joined the Public Service Committee as part of the MA Municipal Managers. The Town of Milton kicked off the Climate Action Planning today. Looking forward to welcoming new appointees.

Town received dredging report from Tighe and Bond. Town will continue to seek grant opportunities for dredging and will reach out to neighboring communities for assistance.

18. Chair’s Report

No report at this time.

19. Public Comment Response

No public comment response

20. Future Meeting Dates:

The Select Board will meet on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, Tuesday, April 11, 2023 (Quarterly Meeting of the Governor Stoughton Trustees), Tuesday, April 18, 2023, and Wednesday, April 26, 2023.

21. Executive Session - Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(3) - To discuss strategy with respect to litigation against the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority regarding the condition of the stairs located at the MBTA station located at Adams Street, Milton, MA

At: 9:13PM, Chair Doyle moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss litigation strategy against the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority (MBTA) related to the condition of the stairs at the MBTA station located at Adams Street, Milton, MA based on my belief that discussion of this matter in open session may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the Select Board. The Select Board will not return to Open Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Zullas. The Board voted by roll call to enter Executive Session.

ZULLAS: YES

WELLS: YES

BRADLEY: YES

MUSTO: YES

DOYLE: YES

22. Executive Session - Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(6) -To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property of the Kidder Branch Library located at 101 Blue Hills Parkway

Chair Doyle moved to enter into Executive Session to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property located at 101 Blue Hills Parkway (Kidder Branch Library) based on my belief that discussion of this matter in open session may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Select Board. The Select Board will not return to Open Session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Musto. The Board voted by roll call to enter Executive Session.

ZULLAS: YES

WELLS: YES

BRADLEY: YES
MUSTO: YES
DOYLE: YES

23. Discussion/Approval - Letter regarding condition of the stairs located at the MBTA station located at Adams Street, Milton, MA

The Select Board addressed this matter earlier in the evening.

24. Discussion/Approval - Purchase and Sales Agreement with Discovery Schoolhouse, Inc. For the purchase of the Kidder Branch Library located at 101 Blue Hills Parkway.

This item has been deferred.

25. Adjourn

At 9:36PM, Mr. Wells moved to adjourn. Ms. Musto seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously by roll call (5-0) to adjourn.

ZULLAS: YES
WELLS: YES
BRADLEY: YES
MUSTO: YES
DOYLE: YES

Respectfully submitted by Lynne DeNapoli, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Select Board.

Documents

Memo from the Milton Coalition-Donation from
Recommendations of the Traffic Commission
Annual Town Meeting Warrant- Select Board Greeting Page
Annual Town Meeting Warrant -Index
Correspondence from DHCD- MBTA Compliance Letter
E-Mail correspondence from Ms. Serene Hansho, of the Milton Muslim Community -Cultural displays
Climate Action Planning Committee Charge
Climate Action Planning Committee Applicants:
Tracy Dyke-Redmond, John Godleski, Alex Hasha, Ron Israel, Fred Taylor, Lisa Troy
Youth Task Force Charge
Youth Task Force Applicants:
Griffin Angus, Lisa Courtney, Allison Gagnon, Jaime Levash, Christina Lilliehook, Neal Pilavin, Steven Popkin, Rachel Pozzar, Zaidee Rose, John Varghese
Wollaston Golf Club-Change of Directors

