

**Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2021, 7:00 PM**

Present: Chair Keyes, Selectman Arcudi, Town Administrator Schindler, Attorney Brian Riley

Chair Keyes called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Chair Keyes lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

7:00 PM Attorney Brian Riley re Update regarding Notice of Docket Entry 2021-J-0111, Reilly, et al v. Town of Hopedale, et al

Chair Keyes read a statement provided by KP Law providing an update regarding the notice of docket entry 2021-J-0111, Reilly, et al v. town of Hopedale, et al. This letter is provided in the meeting packet. Chair Keyes stated that this information may be redundant because the Board has discussed these items at length.

7:10 PM Introduction of Tim Aicardi, Interim Chief Building Official and Renee Polechronis, Administrative Assistant, of Building Department: Town Administrator requesting support in FY22 budget to implement our Zoning Bylaws on General Code platform with updates annually.

Town Administrator Schindler stated that Renee Polechronis is on vacation and is not able to attend this meeting. Tim Aicardi, Interim Chief Building Official introduced himself and noted that Hopedale is very busy with residential, retail, and commercial projects. Schindler informed that Board of Selectman that Tim Aicardi has been very helpful with updating the Towns bylaws, explaining that having updated bylaws is beneficial for residents, business people and developers. The Board of Selectman thanked Aicardi for his hard work and efforts on the Town's behalf, stating that they have only heard good things about his work.

Consent Items

Accept the Donation of 3 Flower Boxes from the Community House by Tara Chambers (see attached email chain)

The Board of Selectman thanked Tara Chambers and the Community House for their generous donation.

Selectman Arcudi motioned to accept the donation of 3 flower boxes from the Community House by Tara Chambers. Chair Keyes seconded the motion.

Arcudi – Aye, Keyes – Aye

Accept the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security and the Department of Fire Services (DFS) award to the Hopedale Fire Department of \$12,494 from the Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant Program for the purchase of washer extractor unit & gear drying rack/cabinet

Chair Keyes read the letter provided from the Governors Office to Chief Daige regarding the Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant Program as well as the letter from Chief Daige asking the Board to accept the grant. The Select Board thanked Chief Daige, Matthew Berger and the Hopedale Fire Department for their efforts with obtaining grants and serving the Town.

Selectman Arcudi motioned to accept the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security and the Department of Fire Services (DFS) award to the Hopedale Fire Department of \$12,494 from the Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant Program for the purchase of washer extractor unit and gear drying rack/cabinet. Chair Keyes seconded the motion.

Arcudi – Aye, Keyes – Aye

Appointments and Resignations

Appointment of Julie Rinehart from the Master Plan Steering Committee to the Open Space and Recreation Planning Committee, Unexpired Term, Effective April 26, 2021

Appointment of Melissa Butler from the Master Plan Steering Committee to the Open Space and Recreation Planning Committee, Unexpired Term, Effective April 26, 2021

Appointment of David Sprowl from the Parks Commission to the Open Space and Recreation Planning Committee, Unexpired Term, Effective April 26, 2021

Appointment of Becca Solomon from the Conservation Commission to the Open Space and Recreation Planning Committee, Unexpired Term, Effective April 26, 2021

The Board of Selectman thanked these individuals for serving on their current Boards and volunteering to serve on other Boards. The Board of Selectman appreciate their hard work and effort.

Selectman Arcudi motioned to appoint David Sprowl of the Parks Commission, Becca Solomon from the Conservation Commission, Julie Rinehart and Melissa Butler from the Master Plan Steering Committee to the Open Space and Recreation Planning Committee, effective April 26, 2021, for indefinite terms. Chair Keyes seconded the motion.

Arcudi – Aye, Keyes – Aye

New Business

Approve Contracts for Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief and Police Patrol Unit (Vote)

Selectman Arcudi stated that there is a typographical error in the Deputy Fire Chief contract, so that will be moved to a future meeting for approval.

Selectman Arcudi motioned to approve the contract for Fire Chief. Chair Keyes seconded the motion.

Arcudi – Aye, Keyes – Aye

Selectman Arcudi motioned to approve the contract for the Police Patrol Unit. Chair Keyes seconded the motion.

Arcudi – Aye, Keyes – Aye

Annual Town Election Warrant 2021 (Review, Vote & Sign)

Selectman Arcudi motioned to accept the warrant for the Annual Town Election to be held on Tuesday, May 11, 2020, from 12: 00 p.m. to 7: 00 p.m. in the Draper Gymnasium. Chair Keyes seconded the motion.

Arcudi – Aye, Keyes – Aye

Special & Annual Town Meeting, Saturday, May 22, 2021 Start Time (Vote)

Town Administrator Schindler shared the draft Special Town Meeting warrant with the Board of Selectmen, noting that the Annual Town Meeting warrant is not yet available.

Selectman Arcudi motioned to establish 10:00 a.m. as the start time for the Town Meetings on May 22, 2021. Chair Keyes seconded the motion.

Arcudi – Aye, Keyes – Aye

Selectman Arcudi suggested that, given that the meetings will be held out-of-doors, a rain date should be scheduled; it was agreed that the rain date can be voted at a future Board of Selectmen meeting.

Update re: FY22 Budget Materials

Town Administrator Schindler stated that this item was included on the agenda to announce that the Finance Committee has a link on their webpage with updated documents regarding the FY22 budget materials.

Review Draft STM & ATM Warrants

Town Administrator Schindler stated that the Board of Selectmen have just reviewed the Special Town Meeting warrant. Schindler stated that she will provide the Board of Selectmen with the Annual Town Meeting warrant sometime next week.

Old Business

COVID Update; Schedule to Reopen Town Hall

Schindler stated that Bill Fisher, Health Agent informed her that the Town Hall can be open for additional hours and suggested that the Town Hall open for limited set hours, Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9 a.m. – 11a.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 1p.m. – 3p.m. Schindler stated that the public will still need to follow social distancing guidelines and wear masks. Schindler continued that the Town has set up plexiglass at office entryways as an additional precaution. The Board of Selectmen agreed with this suggestion. Schindler stated that she is following State and CDC recommendations for safety.

Selectman Arcudi motioned to adjourn. Chair Keyes seconded the motion.

Arcudi – Aye, Keyes – Aye

Chair Keyes dissolved the meeting at 8:34p.m.

Submitted by:
Lindsay Peterman

Board Approved: June 12, 2023