

Select Board  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
June 12, 2023, 6:30PM

Present: Chair Hazard, Selectman Stock, Selectman Savage, Interim Executive Assistant Martha White

Chair Hazard called the meeting to order at 6:30PM.

**Correspondence and Select Board Information Items**

**Announcement regarding Hopedale residents use of Milford Compost Facility**

Chair Hazard read the announcement that was in the meeting packet.

**Consent Items**

**Congratulatory Proclamation for the Community House**

Selectman Stock read the Proclamation and encouraged all to attend the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary event for the Community House on June 24. Selectman Stock motioned to approve the Proclamation. Selectman Savage seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Savage – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

**Review/Approve Inter-Fund Transfer – Council on Aging**

White explained the request and noted that the Board will likely have several such requests on their June 26 agenda. Selectman Stock motioned to approve the Council on Aging inter-fund request to transfer \$525.00 from account 01-541-5200-5306 to account 01-541-5100-5120. Selectman Savage seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Savage – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

**Review/Approve Meeting Minutes: April 26, 2021 and November 19, 2021**

Chair Hazard noted that, for the April 26 minutes, none of the current members were on the Select Board and, for the November 19 minutes, she was a Board member but was not present. Selectman Stock noted that the person preparing meeting minutes does so by viewing a video tape of the meetings. Selectman Stock motioned to approve the minutes of April 26, 2021 and November 19, 2021. Selectman Savage seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Savage – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

**Appointments & Resignations**

**Consider appointment of Martha White as Acting Town Administrator effective 6/13/2023, expiring 6/26/2023**

Selectman Stock cited White's experience in municipal government and motioned to appoint Martha White as Acting Town Administrator effective 6/13/2023, expiring 6/26/2023. Selectman Savage seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Savage – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

**Consider appointment of Robert Minichiello as Call Firefighter Candidate effective 6/13/2023**

Fire Chief Tom Daise and Board members spoke of Mr. Minichiello's personal and family history with the Hopedale Fire Department and welcomed him to the department. Selectman Stock motioned to appoint Robert Minichiello as Call Firefighter Candidate effective 6/13/2023. Selectman Savage seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Savage – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

Consider Re-Appointment of KP Law, P.C. as Town Counsel, effective 7/1/23 (1-year term)

After a brief discussion, Selectman Stock motioned to appoint KP Law, P.C. as Town Counsel, effective 7/1/2023 for a 1-year term. Selectman Savage seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Savage – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

Accept resignation of James O'Malley from Historical Commission effective 6/13/2023

Sue Ciaramicoli, Co-Chair of the Historical Commission, noted that Mr. O'Malley served on the Commission for 8 years and his service was much appreciated. Selectman Stock motioned to accept Mr. O'Malley's resignation effective 6/13/2023. Selectman Savage seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Savage – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

Consider appointment of Beverly Carver as member of Historical Commission effective 6/13/2023, expiring 6/30/2025

Ms. Ciaramicoli spoke of Ms. Carver's experience and volunteerism, noting that she has attended many recent Commission meetings. Selectman Stock motioned to appoint Beverly Carver as a member of the Historical Commission effective 6/13/2023, expiring 6/30/2025. Selectman Savage seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Savage – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

Consider appointment of Heather Dupuis as Alternate member of Historical Commission effective 6/13/2023 expiring 6/30/2026

Ms. Ciaramicoli noted that Ms. Dupuis' has been an active volunteer at the Little Red Shop and has many years of community service. She explained that, if appointed, Ms. Dupuis will be the first Alternate member of the Commission. She further explained that Town Counsel has advised that Alternate members may be appointed to the Historical Commission in the same manner as principal members, and that up to 7 Alternate members may be appointed (the same number as that of principal members). Selectman Stock motioned to appoint Heather Dupuis as an Alternate member of the Historical Commission effective 6/13/2023, expiring 6/30/2026. Selectman Savage seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Savage – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

Annual Re-Appointments

Selectman Savage motioned to appoint the following individuals to the positions and terms listed below:

- Stephen Johnson, Assistant Building Inspector (1-year term)
- Ellen Murphy, Board of Assessors (3-year term)
- Matthew Dailey, Board of Assessors (3-year term)
- Lisa Pedroli, Board of Registrars (3-year term)
- Timothy Aicardi, Building Commissioner & Zoning Enforcement Officer (1-year term)
- Lisa Pedroli, Burial Agent (1-year term)
- David Guglielmi, Conservation Commission (3-year term)
- Becca Solomon, Conservation Commission (3-year term)

- Mark Giovanella, Constable (3-year term)
- Donald Martin, Constable (3-year term)
- Craig Landry, Constable (3-year term)
- Arlene Williams, Council on Aging (3-year term)
- David Guglielmi, Council on Aging (3-year term)
- Sally Decelles, Cultural Council (3-year term)
- Jeffrey Ross, Deputy Wiring Inspector (1-year term)
- Tom Daige, Emergency Management Director (1-year term)
- Colleen Strapponi, Finance Committee (3-year term)
- Donald Comastra, Finance Committee (3-year term)
- Chris Hodgins, Finance Committee (3-year term)
- Joseph Zacchilli, Gas and Plumbing Assistant Inspector (1-year term)
- John Fontana, Gas and Plumbing Inspector (1-year term)
- Daniel Soares, On-Call Asst. Wiring Inspector (1-year term)
- Donna Lamphere, Parking Fines Clerk (1-year term)
- Lisa Pedrolis, Public Records Access Officer (1-year term)
- Patrick Morris, Veterans' Agent (1-year term)
- Joseph Scanzaroli, Wiring Inspector (1-year term)

Selectman Stock seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Savage – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

### **New Business**

#### **Review/Approve contract with Marcum LLP for accounting services (\$100,000)**

Tanya Campbell, Partner with Marcum LLP, reviewed her experience and that of the firm, noting their work with many Massachusetts municipalities. Selectman Stock suggested that the Board should arrange for representatives to attend their meetings once each quarter to provide updates. Selectman Stock motioned to approve the contract with Marcum LLP for accounting services in the amount of \$100,000. Selectman Savage seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Savage – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

#### **Tree Warden request for ARPA funds (\$25,000)**

Chris Larson, newly elected Tree Warden, was in attendance. He explained that there were a number of Town trees that had been neglected due to lack of funding, some of which posed hazards. He has obtained favorable bids for tree work with a crane and also work with a bucket truck, and does not expect to expend the full \$25,000 initially; remaining funds would be spent as needs arise. Selectman Stock motioned to authorize use of ARPA funds in the amount of \$25,000 for tree work. Selectman Savage seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Savage – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

#### **Set summer Select Board meeting schedule**

After discussion, Selectman Stock motioned that the Board meet on June 26, July 24, and August 14 and that the Board would not meet on the regularly scheduled meeting dates of July 10 and August 28. Selectman Savage seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Savage – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

The Board's regular meeting schedule will resume in September.

**Old Business**

**Consider and Vote on Proposed Order of Taking for Land at 364 West Street Pursuant to Article 1 of the July 11, 2022 Special Town Meeting**

Selectman Stock motioned to approve the Order of Taking. Selectman Savage seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Savage – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

**Public and Board Member Comments (votes will not be taken)**

Resident Lou Guertin asked about the cost of the contract with Marcum LLP for accounting services, noting that it was \$30,000 more than the current contract. Executive Assistant White stated that information was not readily available at this time, but she will determine the funding source for this contract and report back to the Board.

Selectman Stock noted the sizable attendance at the recent Fairy Walk and what a great event it was, complimenting the organizers.

Selectman Stock asked about the effort to reduce the length of meeting minutes. Executive Assistant White stated that she will reiterate that point to those who prepare the minutes.

Members noted that they should discuss the possibility of establishing a Department of Public Works (DPW), perhaps in September or so. Chair Hazard suggested that with the impending departure of the Highway Superintendent, the Board should meet with the Road Commissioners at the June 26 or July 24 meeting to discuss filling this important position, noting that the Road Commissioners are the appointing authority.

At 7:40 p.m., Selectman Stock motioned to adjourn. Selectman Savage seconded the motion.

Selectman Stock – Aye, Selectman Savage – Aye, Chair Hazard – Aye

Respectfully submitted: Martha White

Adopted by Select Board: June 26, 2023