

Select Board  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
October 12, 2021, 5:30 pm

Present: Chair Brian R. Keyes, Selectman Louis J. Arcudi, Selectwoman Glenda A. Hazard, Town Administrator Diana Schindler.

Executive Session:

In accordance with G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3) (Purpose #3), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and litigation that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining and litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares, which he does. (Clerical, DPW, Dispatch Units, DLR Case No. JLM-21-8830).

Chair Keyes convened the regular meeting at 6:00PM.

Consent Items

Approval of September 13, 2021 Regular Minutes

Selectman Arcudi moved to discussion to vote to approve the September 13, 2021 regular minutes. Selectwoman Hazard seconded the motion.

Selectman Arcudi stated that in the September 13, 2021 regular minutes, he stated that in 1972 the gate on the road was requested to be replaced by the residents due to safety reasons that were residentially driven. Selectman Arcudi stated that this comment was made because it was in reference to a September 6, 2021 letter the Select Board received from the residents of Overdale Parkway stating that a gate had been placed on the land in questions since 1972. This is where the information came from. Selectman Arcudi also wanted to clarify the portion of minutes that stated, “Joe Antonellis reviewed each Town Meeting vote from 1918 to 1999 and determined that the land deeded was never deeded to Parklands” Selectman Arcudi stated that Mr. Espanet, as the Chair of the Park Commission did not agree with this personally, however in the September 29, 2021 minutes, the Park Commission agreed with the findings of Joe Antonellis. Selectman Arcudi stated that he would like to revise the September 13, 2021 regular minutes to reflect that it was the Park Commission, not Mr. Espanet that agreed with the findings of Joe Antonellis. Town Administrator Schindler stated that generally the minutes are what are said at the meeting. A revision can be made if the minutes are recorded incorrectly by the Secretary however, the Board cannot make changes to the minutes based on knowledge obtain after a meeting. The updates can be made in the next scheduled meeting minutes and a reference to the September 29, 2021 minutes can be made in the September 13, 2021 minutes.

Selectman Arcudi moved to approve the September 13, 2021 regular minutes. Selectwoman Hazard seconded the motion.

Hazard – Aye, Arcudi – Aye, Keyes – Aye

Approval of September 29, 2021 Regular Minutes

Selectman Arcudi moved to approve the September 29, 2021 regular minutes. Selectwoman Hazard seconded the motion.

Arcudi – Aye, Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye

Appointments and Resignations

Termination of Call Firefighter Candidate, Jake Carnaroli, from the Hopedale Fire Department  
Chair Keyes read the resignation letter provided by Chief Daige for Jake Carnaroli.

Selectman Arcudi moved to accept the resignation of Call Firefighter Candidate Jake Carnaroli from the Hopedale Fire Department. Selectwoman Hazard seconded the motion.

Hazard – Aye, Arcudi – Aye, Keyes – Aye

#### New Business

Vote to make the Town Website the Official Posting Site for Public Notices

Town Administrator Schindler stated that this will not change how Boards and Committees submit their agendas to the Town Clerk. This will change the Town Clerks primary posting place, updating the posting place from outside the Town Hall to the website. The Town Clerk will still post on the bulletin board as a secondary posting place. Schindler stated that this change will not affect the 48 posting limit for meetings.

Selectwoman Hazard moved to make the Town Website the official posting site for public notices.

Selectman Arcudi seconded the motion.

Hazard – Aye, Arcudi – Aye, Keyes – Aye

#### Town 2020 Re-Precincting (Vote)

Town Administrator Schindler stated that following the 2020 census results, every City and Town evaluated whether the Town was required to re-precinct. Hopedale was not required to re-precinct, so the Town will stay as one precinct. The Town of Hopedale's population is around 6,000 to become a two precinct Town, Hopedale's population would need to be 6,100.

Selectman Arcudi moved to keep the Town of Hopedale as one precinct based upon the 2020 census.

Selectwoman Hazard seconded the motion.

Arcudi – Aye, Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye

#### Review and Sign MOAs for Clerical, DPW, and Dispatch (Vote)

Town Administrator Schindler stated that the Select Board agreed to ratify the terms of the Dispatch Unit. These terms have been presented to the Dispatch Unit; however, they have not voted as of yet.

Selectwoman Hazard moved for the Select Board to sign the MOA for the Dispatch Unit. Selectman Arcudi seconded the motion.

Arcudi – Aye, Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye

#### Old Business

Review Special Town Meeting Motions for Saturday's (10/16) Meeting

Town Administrator Schindler reviewed the motions with the Select Board and the public.

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

Resident, Don Howes discussed the email sent by Town Administrator Schindler on October 12, 2021, regarding an Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA) with the Animal Control Officer. Howes stated that the Select Board and the Town Administrator does not have jurisdiction regarding the Animal Control Officer (ACO), the Board of Health is the authority. Howes asked for clarification if this has changed. Town Administrator Schindler stated that the statutory authority for the Animal Control Officer is the Select Board because the Select Board is the appointing authority. Schindler stated that she has been inquiring to the Board of Health about the ACO's status since June 2020, she had asked the Board of Health what the employment arrangement was. The information she received was inaccurate. Over the past year, Town Administrator Schindler discovered that the ACO is an employee of another IMA with three other Towns. The Town of Hopedale has been using the training, equipment, support, and the shelter of this employee without being a part of an IMA. Other Town's were supporting these resources. The lead Town of the IMA that our ACO works for is Uxbridge, MA. The Town Administrator for Uxbridge contacted surrounding Towns, Town Administrator Schindler, and the Hopedale Police Chief to determine what was the status of the ACO and why this situation had occurred. Schindler stated that it is her understanding that the Hopedale Board of Health has reached out to the Upton Board of Health to try to recreate this situation. Upton's Town Manager informed Schindler that the Town of Upton is not interested in creating an agreement or sharing their ACO in the same way that the Town of Hopedale has been sharing our current ACO. Schindler stated that she is wary to recreate a system that is not effective currently. Schindler stated that the Town can explore the options the Board of Health wants to explore however, herself and the Police Chief should be present during those discussions. Chair Keyes asked to schedule a joint meeting with the Board of Health on October 25, 2021 and include the Police Chief.

Chair Keyes stated that the Town received the first impact fee from High Hopes, totaling \$14,744.88.

Selectman Arcudi moved to adjourn. Selectman Hazard seconded the motion.

Arcudi – Aye, Hazard – Aye, Keyes – Aye

Chair Keyes dissolved the meeting at 7:30PM.

*Submitted by:*

*Lindsay Mercier*

*Lindsay Mercier, Executive Assistant*

*Adopted:* \_\_\_\_\_