

**Town of Rochester**  
**Board of Selectmen**

**Board of Selectmen**

Paul Ciaburri, Chairman  
Bradford N. Morse, Vice Chairman  
Greenwood Hartley III, Clerk



**Town Administrator**

Suzanne E. Szyndlar  
**Administrative Assistant**  
Amanda L. Baptiste

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**  
**MONDAY, MAY 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**

Chairman Paul Ciaburri, Vice-Chairman Bradford Morse, and Clerk Greenwood Hartley III are all present. The Board of Selectmen's Open Meeting is opened by Chairman Paul Ciaburri.

**Minutes:**

**Motion:** A motion is made by Selectman Morse to approve the Open Session Board of Selectmen meeting minutes of May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 as written. This motion is seconded by Selectman Hartley. All members of the Board are in favor, the minutes are approved with a unanimous vote.

**People on the Agenda:**

**Introduction of New Council on Aging Director-** Mr. Eric Poulin is introduced to the Board as the newly hired Council on Aging Director. He gives the Board some information on his background and is due to begin his new duties on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Selectmen's Signature:**

**RMS Canopy Lease, Power Purchase Agreement, and PILOT-** Town Administrator Szyndlar informs the Board that she had just received the updated proposal from Solect Energy after herself and Town Counsel Bailey met with them and provides the Board with the information and notes that she will reach out to them with any questions the Board may have after reviewing. Selectman Hartley lets everyone know that should the Board sign into this agreement, any additional energy credits created over the school's usage may be used towards other Town building's meter bills. Selectman Morse then adds that he would like a formal response from Highway Surveyor Eldridge prior to signing any agreements with the company. It is also mentioned that the RMS PILOT had been passed at the Special Town Meeting in the Fall of 2019. The Board agrees to continue this discussion at the next meeting.

**SRPEDD Nomination-** A notice was received from SRPEDD asking if any Towns would like to appoint to their SMMPO (Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization) subcommittee; at this time no Board members would like to be appointed.

**Appointment of New Veteran's Agent-** Selectman Morse informs everyone that at the last Veteran's Council meeting, the Council voted to hire Rochester resident Christopher Gerrior to the Veteran's Agent position upon the retirement of current agent Barry Denham.

**Motion:** Selectman Morse makes a motion to appoint Christopher Gerrior to the Tri-Town Veteran's Agent position. This motion is seconded by Selectman Hartley. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes unanimously.

### **Correspondence:**

**Board of Assessors: Notice of Rejection of the Provision of Mass General Law Ch. 39 S2D Memo-** The Board received a memo from the Board of Assessors requesting the Board vote on rejecting the provisions of MGL Ch. 39 S2D.

**Motion:** Selectman Morse makes a motion that the Town of Rochester reject the provisions of MGL Ch. 39 S2D, which impose a supplementary tax assessment on certain improvements to real estate constructed after January 1<sup>st</sup> once an occupancy permit is issued for the fiscal year beginning on or after July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. This motion is seconded by Selectman Hartley. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes unanimously.

**Letter of Resignation: Agricultural Council-** The Board received a letter of resignation, effective March 1<sup>st</sup>, from Agricultural Commission member Kristina White. Selectman Hartley makes mention that there are now three vacancies on the Commission, who have recently begun actively meeting again, and requests anyone interested submit a letter to Town Administrator Szyndlar requesting appointment.

**Motion:** Selectman Morse makes a motion to accept the letter of resignation from Ms. White and send her a letter of thanks for her time on the commission. This motion is seconded by Selectman Hartley. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

**Arbor Day Foundation: 2020 Tree City USA Recognition-** The Board received notice from the Arbor Day Foundation that the Town has been granted the title of a Tree City USA Town again for the year 2020; the Board thanks Mr. Matt Monteiro for his hard work to allow the Town to keep this status.

### **Town Administrator's Report/ COVID-19 Update:**

- Town Administrator Szyndlar begins her report by informing the Board that RMS Support Staff negotiations will be taking place soon and, although there hasn't been a Town Administrator or Board of Selectmen participation in the past, she asks if anyone would be interested in being the Board's representative for the negotiation team this year; Selectman Morse volunteers.

**Motion:** Selectman Hartley makes a motion to have Selectman Morse serve as the Board's representative for the RMS Support Staff negotiations. Selectman Ciaburri seconds this motion. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

- Town Administrator Szyndlar next tells the Board that she spoke with Eric Arbeene last Friday regarding the Master Plan. He states that the process usually takes around 18 months to complete, though we only have 7 months for the grant. Options for the Master Plan at this point include: completing the Master Plan in pieces or doing the whole project with funding from other sources. The anticipated cost of the completed project is around \$90,000 and the deadline for grant submission is June 4<sup>th</sup>. The Board decides not to submit for the Master Plan grant at this time.
- After this, Town Administrator Szyndlar informs the Board that May 26<sup>th</sup>, the Mobile Vaccine Units are scheduled to be set up at the Fire Station to administer COVID vaccines for residents.

### **Old Business:**

Payroll and vendor warrants will be signed once Selectman Ciaburri is available this week.

Selectman Morse lets everyone know that he is having a meeting with the Wareham Water Superintendent within the new two weeks regarding the Town's water allotment and possible expansion of it. He will provide the rest of the Board with an update after the meeting takes place.

Selectman Hartley then requests an update on the situation of unauthorized signs being placed on poles around Town; he is informed that Town Counsel Bailey has reached out via mail to the company.

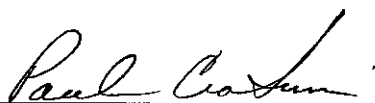
**New Business:**

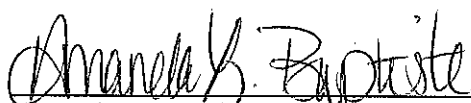
Next, Town Counsel Bailey states that due to the State's ending of the State of Emergency on June 15<sup>th</sup> there may be changes to Open Meeting Law exemptions, such as the ability to hold meetings via Zoom. More information will be available soon, which he will update the Board with once available.

After this, Selectman Hartley questions Town Administrator Szyndlar on locations that will be paved with the asphalt bid that we recently advertised. She explains that this bid opening takes places every three years, but is not designated to a specific project. She advises anyone looking for road paving information to reach out to Highway Surveyor Eldridge.

**Adjournment**

**Motion:** Selectman Hartley then makes a motion to adjourn the Open Board of Selectmen meeting. This motion is seconded by Selectman Morse. All members of the Board are in favor and the meeting is adjourned.

  
Greenwood Hartley III, Clerk

  
Amanda L. Baptiste, Administrative Assistant