# 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, OCTOBER 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2020

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 September 21st, 2020 as presented. This motion is seconded by Selectman Hartley. All members of the Board are in favor, the minutes are approved with a unanimous vote.

#### Selectmen's Signature:

Chapter 61A Right of First Refusal- Decas Cranberry Inc.: Map 40 Lot 3 Neck Road- Town Counsel Bailey notes that this request is for Decas Cranberry to remove three lots out of Chapter 61A status to merge them into one buildable lot.

Motion: A motion is made by Selectman Morse to not exercise the Board's Right of First Refusal and remove the requested lots from Chapter 61 A status. This motion is seconded by Selectman Hartley. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes unanimously.

Chapter 61 A Right of First Refusal – Bendrix Bailey: Gerrish Road and Snipatuit Road- The Board received a request from Bendrix Bailey to release his lot from Chapter 61 A tax status. Town Counsel Bailey adds that this lot is not being sold so no P&S is required, it is just requested to remove the lot from Chapter 61 A.

**Motion:** Selectman Morse makes a motion to not exercise the Right of First Refusal on this request. This motion is seconded by Selectman Hartley. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes unanimously.

### Borrowing Anticipation Note Renewal: Ambulance-

Motion: Selectman Morse makes a motion to sign the Borrowing Anticipation Note Renewal Form as presented to the Board. This motion is seconded by Selectman Hartley. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

#### State Election Warrant-

Motion: Motion: Selectman Morse makes a motion to sign the State Election Warrant as presented to the Board. This motion is seconded by Selectman Hartley. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

It is then noted by Selectman Hartley that early voting hours will be available at the Council on Aging and early voting information is available on the Town Clerk's page of the Town's website.

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

- Town Administrator Szyndlar begins her report by informing the Board that a tentative date of October 22<sup>nd</sup> has been set for the Tri-Town Selectmen's meeting and asks the Board to relay to her any items they would like added to the agenda.
- Next, Town Administrator Szyndlar explains that Facilities Manager Andrew Daniel is currently applying for a grant
  where he needs to send over a copy of his appointment slip as ADA Coordinator and asks the Board to reappoint him
  as the Town's ADA Coordinator effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Motion: To reappoint Andrew Daniel as the Town's ADA Coordinator effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. This motion is made by Selectman Morse and seconded by Selectman Hartley. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes unanimously.

- After this, Town Administrator Szyndlar mentions that DPU is on track to conduct a public hearing on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 for the Town's energy aggregation plan.
- Town Administrator Szyndlar mentions to the Board that this time of year Administrative Assistant Amanda Baptiste is usually coordinating the Town's Tree Lighting Celebration and asks the Board if they want to cancel the event this year, as well as the proposed Veteran's Day Event. The Board agree to cancel all events at this time, though Halloween is not a Town event and residents are advised to follow all CDC guidelines relating to the holiday.
- The Board is then informed of a ballot drop-off box obtained by Town Clerk Paul Dawson that will be installed outside of the Town Hall; the Commonwealth will reimburse the Town for costs relating to the box.
- Town Administrator Szyndlar received notice from Verizon Cable Television regarding the current contract, due to expire in 2023, that mentions that they plan to reach out to the Town soon to coordinate a meeting to discuss the process of potentially renewing the contract.
- Then, Town Administrator Szyndlar lets the Board know that Police Chief Small's contract is due to expire in June and asks the Board to appoint a representative tasked with handling the contract negotiations.

Motion: Selectman Ciaburri makes a motion to have Selectman Morse be the Board's representative to handle contract negotiations for the Police Chief, Selectman Hartley seconds this motion. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes unanimously.

• Lastly, Town Administrator Szyndlar states that she has recently received approval of the first Plymouth County Cares reimbursement payment in the amount of \$33,602.20.

## Old Business:

Payroll and Vendor Warrant Approval- Selectman Ciaburri notes that all payroll and vendor warrants have been signed since the last meeting.

Selectman Hartley mentions that members of the Board, along with Town Administrator Szyndlar, recently attended an Old Colony District meeting where the night's topics of discussion were around the potential of adding the Town of Freetown into the school's district, as well as a potential expansion. Town Administrator Szyndlar adds that in order for either of those things to take place, they would need to pass at Town Meeting and at the ballot in all the member towns.

#### **New Business:**

Review of Special Town Meeting Draft Warrant- The Board reviews the draft Special Town Meeting warrant. Selectman Hartley questions Town Administrator Szyndlar over an article that was intended for the warrant for a walk-in freezer for the Council on Aging. She explains that a reserve fund transfer would potentially be used to cover these costs; the Finance Committee is meeting to discuss this topic at their next meeting. Conversation then ensues around the snow removal throughout Connet Woods article. The Board is scheduled to review and sign the warrant with the Finance Committee, Capital Planning Committee, Town Clerk, and Moderator at their next meeting.

# **Adjournment**

Motion: Selectman Morse makes a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen Open Session meeting. This motion is seconded by Selectman Hartley. With all members of the Board in favor, the meeting is adjourned.

Greenwood Hartley III. Clerk

Amanda L. Bantiste, Administrative Assistant