



Town of Rochester

Office of the Select Board

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Select Board Members
Greenwood Hartley III, Chair
Paul Ciaburri, Vice Chair
Bradford N. Morse, Clerk

Town Administrator
Glenn D. Cannon
Administrative Assistant
Amanda L. Baptiste

SELECT BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19TH, 2022

Select Board Chair Greenwood Hartley III, Vice-Chair Paul Ciaburri, and Clerk Bradford Morse are all present.

The Select Board's Open Meeting is opened by Chair Greenwood Hartley III.

Minutes:

Motion: A motion is made by Select Board Member Morse to approve the Executive Session Select Board meeting minutes of November 21st, 2022 as written. This motion is seconded by Member Ciaburri. All members of the Board are in favor, the minutes are approved with a unanimous vote.

People on the Agenda:

Old Colony Regional High School: Update on MSBA – Superintendent Aaron Polansky, along with School Committee Member Shirley Bourque, are in attendance to update the Board of the MSBA process. He states the eligibility period has begun on October 3rd, 2022 and asks for a placeholder article on the Spring Annual Town Meeting warrant to fund the Feasibility Study. Select Board Member Hartley questions how much of the costs Rochester would be responsible for; Superintendent Polansky states that he does not have exact amounts at this time, though notes that the amount is formulated by student population and that Rochester students currently make up about 20 percent of the school's population.

Board of Assessors: Update on Taxes – Diana Knapp and Suzanne Szyndlar, of the Board of Assessors, are both present to give the Board an update on the status of the Fiscal Year 2023 Real Estate taxes. Ms. Knapp states there were several contributing factors to the taxes being late this year, though they are anticipating the State being able to certify the rates on January 3rd; which would have the 2nd week of January as the anticipated timeframe for bills to be printed.

Select Board Signature:

Revenue Anticipation Note-

Motion: A motion is made by Select Board Member Morse to sign the Revenue Anticipation Note as presented. This motion is seconded by Member Ciaburri. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

Employee Citation-

Motion: A motion is made by Select Board Member Morse to sign the citation of appreciate for employee Kevin Richard in recognition of him setting up the Fire Fighters Awards Ceremony in September. This motion is seconded by Member Ciaburri. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

Correspondence:

Council on Aging: Request for Declaration of Surplus – A new shed has been built for the COA which now frees up the need for the former “brown shed”, Council on Aging Director Eric Poulin is requesting the Board declare the former shed as surplus.

Motion: Select Board Member Morse motions to declare the former shed surplus, as requested, Seconded by Member Ciaburri. All members of the Board are in favor and the motion is approved with unanimous vote.

Town Administrator's Report:

- Town Administrator Cannon begins his report by letting the Board know that the Town's Personnel Board has become active again and is working on updating the Town's Personnel By-Laws, as well as clarifying which employees are actually considered By-Law employees that would be affected by these changes. At this time, they are hoping to have any By-Law changes ready for the Annual Town Meeting.
- Town Administrator Cannon announces the new Building Commissioner, Paul Boucher has officially started today. He notes that at this time administrative staff are still being hired to support the Department so at this time the Town's e-permitting system will be temporarily out of commission.

Old Business:

Appointment of ARPA Authorized Signatory and Preparer-

Motion: Select Board Member Morse motions for Town Administrator Cannon to authorized to submit American Rescue Plan Grant Act applications on behalf of the Town. This motion is seconded by Member Ciaburri. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion is approved with unanimous vote.

Motions: Select Board Member Morse then makes a motion for Town Accountant Suzanne Szyndlar to be authorized to prepare and enter information into the Plymouth County American Rescue Plan portal on behalf of the Town. This motion is then seconded by Member Ciaburri. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion is approved with unanimous vote.

Select Board Member Hartley then mentions that the Boston Post Cane will be awarded after the holidays. Arrangements are being made with the family to hold a lunch-in type ceremony at the Council on Aging.

Select Board Member Ciaburri discusses a call he had with Eversource regarding possible blackout due to the town's power supply being mainly gas and they are worried about possible gas shortage. Member Ciaburri assures this is not set in stone but wanted the information out there so that residents could be prepared.

Select Board Member Ciaburri then brings up the possibility of closing the Town Hall and Annex Buildings the day before Christmas Eve in observation of Christmas Eve as had been done in the past; Select Board Member Morse and Hartley disagree with allowing the closure- no vote is taken.

Select Board Member Hartley then discusses that the contract for the Electrical Aggregation program has been signed for a 21-month term. Residents will receive letters regarding this in the new year with opt-out information if they do not wish to be part of the program.

After this, Select Board Member Ciaburri thanks Amanda and Emily in the front office for their help with the Rochester Angels holiday donation program, which had switched drop-off locations from the Library to the Town Hall this year.

New Business:

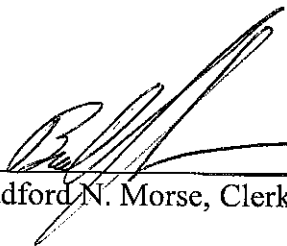
Set the Annual Town Meeting Date and Article Submission Deadline-


It is suggested to hold the Annual Town Meeting Monday, May 22nd, 2023 with an article submission deadline of March 3rd, 2023.

Motion: Select Board Member Morse makes a motion to set the Annual Town Meeting date for May 22nd, 2023 with an article submission deadline of March 3rd, 2023. This motion is seconded by Select Board Member Ciaburri All members of the Board are in favor and the motion is approved with unanimous vote.

Adjournment:

Select Board Member Morse makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion is seconded by Member Morse. All members of the Board are in favor and the meeting is adjourned with a unanimous vote.


Bradford N. Morse, Clerk


Amanda Baptiste, Administrative Assistant