



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

Executive Assistant

Amanda L. Baptiste

SELECT BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023

Select Board Chair Greenwood Hartley III and Vice-Chair Paul Ciaburri are Present.
The Select Board's Open Meeting is opened by Chair Greenwood Hartley III.

Minutes:

Motion: A motion is made by Select Board Member Ciaburri to accept the Executive Session meeting minutes from October 11, 2022, October 13, 2022, October 17, 2022, November 21, 2022, December 5, 2022, December 19, 2022, and December 27, 2022, as well as Open Session meeting minutes from November 21st, 2022 and December 19th, 2022. This Motion is seconded by Member Hartley. All present members of the Board are in favor, the minutes are approved with a unanimous vote.

People on the Agenda:

Town Clerk – Paul Dawson: Town Administrator Cannon reads a letter from Town Clerk Paul Dawson informing everyone that he will not be seeking reelection as Town Clerk. The Board thank him for all that he has done and agree to discuss the future of this position at the next meeting.

Personnel Board Chair – Adam Murphy: The Personnel Board, headed by Chair Adam Murphy, are present to give the Board an update on their progress since being appointed in the fall. He starts by letting the Board know that they have been reviewing the current Personnel By-Laws and working to make changes that they hope to be voted on at the potential Fall Town Meeting. Mr. Murphy also notes that they have been working with Department Heads to create job descriptions for all employees who fall under the Personnel By-Laws. The Board thanks the Personnel Board for their hard work into this overdue process and will meet with them again once they are ready to move forward at the Fall Town Meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance Discussion – William Chamberlain: William Chamberlain, of the Republican Town Committee, requests that all boards and committees begin their meetings by doing the Pledge of Allegiance. He has spoken with Town Counsel Bailey and Town Administrator Cannon about this matter and they have suggested that he request the Board suggest to the Chairs of the other boards and committees that they begin their meetings by doing the Pledge of Allegiance; though it cannot be mandated.

Motion: A motion is made by Member Ciaburri to encourage all town of Rochester Committees and Boards to stand for and recite the Pledge of Allegiance before meetings. This motion is seconded by Member Hartley. All present members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

Select Board Signature:

Access to Town Counsel Policy-

Motion: A motion is made by Member Ciaburri to sign the Town Counsel Policy as presented. This motion is seconded by Member Hartley. All present Members are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

Agreement between Lakeville and Rochester for Lakeville Animal Shelter-

Motion: A motion is made by Member Ciaburri to sign the Agreement between Lakeville and Rochester for the Lakeville Animal Shelter as presented. This motion is seconded by Member Hartley. All present members are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

ADA Policy Statement & Non-Discrimination Policy-

Motion: A motion is made by Member Ciaburri to sign the ADA Policy Statement & Non-Discrimination Policy as presented. This motion is seconded by Member Hartley. All present members are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

Event Notification: Road Usage Request- 17th Annual Watershed Ride- The 17th Annual Watershed Ride is requesting use of Town Roads on October 1st, 2023; Police, Fire, and Highway have already signed off in support of the event.

Motion: A motion is made by Member Ciaburri to sign the Event Notification: Road Usage Request for the 17th annual Watershed Ride on October 1st, 2023 as presented and allow the Chair to sign on behalf of the Board. This motion is seconded by Member Hartley. All present members are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

Event Notification: Road Usage Request – Annual Patriot Half Triathlon - The Annual Patriot Half Triathlon is requesting use of Town Roads on October 1st, 2023; Police, Fire, and Highway have already signed off in support of the event.

Motion: A motion is made by Member Ciaburri to sign the Event Notification: Road Usage Request for the Patriot Half Triathlon on June 17th, 2023 as presented allow the Chair to sign on behalf of the Board. This motion is seconded by Member Hartley. All present members are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

Chapter 61 Right of First Refusal Request- Map 19 Lot 5: AD Makepeace Company-

Motion: A motion is made by Member Ciaburri to not exercise the right of first refusal for the AD Makepeace Property at 0 High Street. This motion is seconded by Member Hartley. All present members are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

Correspondence:

Department of Telecommunications and Cable – Cable License Expiration Notice – Town Administrator Cannon explains he has a meeting set up on February 27th, 2023 with the Marion and Mattapoissett Town Administrators. Town Administrator Cannon lets the Board know that the Cable License is up for renewal on August 31st, 2025 but can take 18-24 months to renew.

Therese Valente – Roadway Low Salt – The Board review a letter from resident Theresa Valente requesting that the Town petition the State to lower the salt on Route 105 and consider Rochester a “low salt Town”. Town Administrator Cannon explains to the Board that Rochester is already a low salt town and recommends she reach out to Highway Surveyor Eldridge for more information on his salt processes.

Conservation Commission – Earth Day Participation – Resident William Clapp has come to the Select Board with a suggestion to get residents involved with cleaning up the roads for Earth Day. Mr. Clapp suggests the possibility of giving a limited number of residents a free beach sticker of a reduced transfer station sticker as incentive to participate. Select Member Hartley suggests the topic be discussed when Select Member Morse returns.

Town Administrators Report:

- Town Administrator Cannon has Town Grant Writer, Marcia Kessler, talk about the Infrastructure Bill. Ms. Kessler explains that the Town may be able to get money from an Infrastructure Grant to rebuild High Street though, in order to get the money for the grant a plan will have to already be in place.
- Town Administrator Cannon invites the Board to the Grange Hall dinner on April 1st.
- Town Administrator Cannon lets the Board know that Coastline is having a breakfast with State Representative Keating on March 3rd New Bedford.
- Town Administrator Cannon lets the Board know that he received notice from the Historical Commission stating that they would like to hold a Revolutionary War Memorial Dedication on May 7th at the Town Hall.
- Town Administrator Cannon notes has scheduled a meeting to discuss the Rochester Country Fair coming to an end and the what will become of the structures currently located at the fairgrounds.
- Town Administrator Cannon lastly provides the Board with FY '24 department budget requests. He explains that revenues this year are not as great as they have been in the past and not all requests will be approved.

Old Business:

Payroll and/or Vendor Warrant Approvals – Select Board Member Ciaburri notes all payroll and vendor warrants have been signed since last meeting.

Snipatuit Pond Water Flow Study – Letter of Support to SRPEDD – Town Planner, Nancy Durfee lets the Board know that it has been determined that there is not enough data on Snipatuit Pond and the recommendation is to have a flow gauge and monitoring well put in to determine where the flow is going, she provides the Board with a draft letter to SRPEDD requesting their assistance to complete the study with the use of ARPA funds.

Motion: Select Board Member Ciaburri motions to support Town Planner Nancy Durfee's letter to SRPDD requesting assistance with a study of Snipatuit Pond. This motion is seconded by Member Hartley. All present members are in favor and the motion is approved with a unanimous vote.

Municipal Aggregation Public Hearing – Member Hartley mentions the meeting on the Municipal Aggregation that was held last week. He lets everyone know there was a good turnout and most questions were answered.

New Business:

Boards and Committee Correspondence Posting Policy – Town Administrator Cannon recommends posting letters signed for or against current projects on the Town's website to keep residents informed.

Letter of Support – An Act to Improve Access, Opportunity, and Capacity in Massachusetts Vocational-Technical Education – Select Member Hartley explains that Old Colony is asking the state for more funding for the vocational schools as the costs are going up, as well as the interest in the vocational schools. Member Hartley requests a letter to the legislature be drafted by the next meeting asking for State funding to be increased for vocational schools.

Adjournment:

Motion: Select Board Member Ciaburri makes a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing union and non-union personnel strategy, as well as pending litigation, not to return back into Open Session at the conclusion. This motion is seconded by Member Hartley. All present members of the Board are in favor and the Executive Session meeting is opened. Roll Call Vote Hatley – Aye, Ciaburri – Aye, 2:0 motion passes.