



## **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**

### **MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023**

Select Board Chair Greenwood Hartley III, Vice-Chair Paul Ciaburri, and Clerk Bradford Morse 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 Morse to accept the Open Session Minutes from February 6, 2023 and February 21, 2023. The motion is seconded by Select Board Member Ciaburri. All members of the Board are in favor, the minutes are approved with a unanimous vote.

#### **People on the Agenda:**

**Police Chief Robert Small- Recommendation for Police Officer Appointment** – Police Chief Small recommends Connor Leddin to the Board as a potential candidate for the open full-time officer position.

**Motion:** A motion is made by Select Board Member Morse to appoint Connor Leddin as a full-time officer. The motion is seconded by Select Board Member Ciaburri. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

**Capital Planning Committee – David Arancio** – Capital Planning Committee Chair, David Arancio presents to the Board a spreadsheet of all the capital requests, year-to-date that have come through the committee. Select Board Member Hartley asks Mr. Arancio to discuss with the Committee as to what request from Department Heads should be considered Capital Planning expenses or expenses factored into their budget. Mr. Arancio also discusses that the Committee wants to start being involved for more a longer-term solution for the Town.

#### **Select Board Signature:**

**Bristol County Agricultural High School Agreement** – Town Administrator Cannon explains the agreement between the Town and Bristol County Agricultural School and discusses the background of the costs beyond the Town's assessment that had been received.

**Motion:** A motion is made by Select Board Member Morse to sign the Bristol County Agricultural High School Agreement. The motion is seconded by Select Board Member Ciaburri. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

#### **Town Administrator Report:**

- Town Administrator Cannon brings up a news article he saw about MBTA communities needing to comply with MBTA zoning. Town Administrator Cannon is in belief that the Town is in compliance of this but lets the Board know he is continuing to stay informed of the requirements.
- Town Administrator Cannon lets the Board know the official end day for the COVID-19 public health emergency is May 11, 2023.
- Town Administrator Cannon lets the Board know there is going to be an Open Meeting Law Training on April 10, 2023 at 6:00 PM for all Department Heads and Boards, with a Green Communities/STRECH presentation following at 7:00 PM.

- After this, Town Administrator Cannon tells the Board know the Town received a grant for an Old Colony speed zone to have the school zone signage posted in front of the school.
- Town Administrator Cannon lastly presents the draft articles for Town Meeting to the Board. Select Board Member Morse requests to have an article added that would remove Rochester from being a Green Community.

**Motion:** A motion is made by Select Board Member Morse to have an article added to the Town Meeting warrant removing the Town from the Green Communities program. This motion is seconded by Select board Member Ciaburri. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

#### **Old Business:**

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

Select Board Member Hartley confirms with Town Administrator Cannon that the new Town Counsel policy went out to all the Boards. Select Board Member Hartley wants to accept the current draft of the Town Counsel Policy.

**Motion:** A motion is made by Select Board Member Morse to accept the current draft of the Town Counsel Policy. This motion is seconded by Select Board Member Ciaburri. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

Select Board Member Hartley updates the Board on the possible requirements for denitrification systems in new Title V septic systems.

Select Board Member Hartley then mentions that at the legislation event that he, Mr. Cannon, and Ms. Baptiste recently attended there were multiple potential legislative acts that he would like to see the Town write a letter of support to our representatives, including: an increase of Chapter 90 funds, the creation of a public safety building construction authority, an extension to Right of First Refusal requirements, and modernization to the process of holding town meetings.

Select Board Member Hartley requests that Town Administrator Cannon look into State Laws pending in the legislation.

#### **Executive Session:**

**Motion:** Select Board Member Morse makes a motion to enter into Executive Session in accordance with G.L.c.30A 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, to enter back into Open Session This motion is seconded by Select Board Member Ciaburri. All members of the Board are in favor and the Executive Session meeting is opened. Roll Call Vote Hartley – Aye, Ciaburri – Aye, Morse – Aye, 3:0 motion passes.

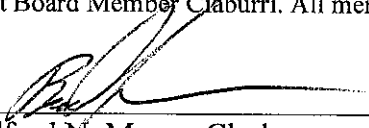
The Select Board's Open Meeting is reopened by Chair Greenwood Hartley III.

**Finance Committee – Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)** – The Finance Committee meets with the Board to discuss the Cost-of-Living Adjustment. The Finance Committee has concerns about the budget and if a higher COLA is sustainable, though the Board is in support of setting the COLA at 3% again for FY '24.

**Motion:** A motion is made by Select Board Member Morse to support the Cost-of-Living Adjustment at 3%. The motion is seconded by Select Board Member Ciaburri. All Members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

#### **Adjournment:**

**Motion:** Select Board Member Morse makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion is seconded by Select Board Member Ciaburri. All members of the Board are in favor, the motion passes with a unanimous vote.

  
Bradford N. Morse, Clerk