

Select Board Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2020

Present: The members of the Select Board all participated remotely via using GoToWebinar: Mr. Frank DelVecchio, Chairman; Mr. Neil Rhein, Vice-Chair; Mr. Jess Aptowitz, Clerk; and Mr. Steve Schoonveld. Mr. Kevin Dumas, Town Manager and Mr. Barry LaCasse, Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director also participated using the GoToWebinar.

1. Call To Order Select Board Meeting - Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman DelVecchio called the meeting to order at 5:30PM. He then asked those present to state the Pledge of Allegiance. He reminded everyone that the meeting was being broadcast live and taped for future broadcast on Mansfield Cable. Chairman DelVecchio read a statement and provided an email address and phone number to those watching directing residents to send their questions in, and they would receive a response within twenty-four hours.

Krista Cummings, Chair of the Industrial Development Commission called the IDC meeting to order at 5:31pm. Chris Jackson and David Martin were present.

Chair of the Finance Committee, Brian Eagle called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 5:32pm. Scott Feely, Michael Desantis, Jack Cooney, and Mike Flaherty were present at the start of the meeting. Walter Wilk and Sara Walsh joined in at a later time.

2. Announcement by Community Service Awards Committee

Mr. Rhein commented that this was the 3rd annual Community Service Awards. Mr. Rhein explained the awards and noted all of the committee members. He thanked those that took the time to submit nominations. Then he announced that the Youth Award was given to Catherine Fitzgerald, the Adult Award was given to Daniel O'Connell and Nancy Wall was selected as the Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. Mr. Rhein provided details as to why each recipient was chosen and highlighted their contributions to the Mansfield community.

3. Town Manager's Report

- Field of Honor Plaque
- Budget and CIP
- Downtown Committee
- North Main Street Fire Station
- Miscellaneous Update

Select Board Questions/Comments of Town Managers Report

Mr. Dumas began his update stating that Ms. Jeri Rumsis from the Field of Honor presented a plaque to the him for the Town's support which allows the Field of Honor Committee to provide assistance to Veterans and Community projects. Mr. LaCasse then provided a budget and CIP update that was posted online. He noted that the deficit is \$4.8 million dollars and there is work to be done to get the budget balanced and he will be meeting with the Budget Subcommittee on January 19th and CIP on January 27th. Mr. Dumas continued his update with news from the last Downtown Committee meeting, the North Main Street Fire Station, Regional COVID vaccines for Public Safety and School nurses, Business View Magazine second article, and a special permit for a new youth sports property on Oxford Road. Mr. Dumas then provided information on delivery service of marijuana noting there have been several inquiries but it falls under retail and the one license has been given out so there are no other license available. He then provided information on the work being done for the Norton Grove properties and meetings he has had in regards to a class action lawsuit for PFAS against 3M and DuPont with other municipalities facing the challenges of the removal of PFAS. Lastly, he updated the Board of a COVID violation at Sake Steakhouse which will be discussed at the Board of Health meeting Thursday evening and expects that the Select Board may want to discuss this issue at the next Select Board Meeting on January 13th and Chairman DelVecchio asked that the Board address this further in the agenda as part of other items not known within 48 hours. Select Board members asked a few questions of Mr. LaCasse and Mr. Dumas.

4. Resident Questions and Comments

Mr. Peter Wiggins commented that the new hotel on South Main Street looks good. He said its 2021 and we need peace and everyone needs to be diligent and hopefully by the summer or fall the pandemic will be done.

5. Presentation from Penta Communications with members of the Industrial Development Commission and the Finance Committee

The members of the IDC and Finance Committee were present for this agenda item. Mr. Dumas gave an update and summary of what the relationship was between the Town and Penta Communications. Mr. Dumas stated that Penta Communications is an expert in marketing and public relations and is not an economic development staff of the Town. Ms. Debra Penta then thanked everyone for the time they took to craft questions since the presentation in December. Ms. Penta answered questions that were submitted and then members of the Select Board and Finance Committee asked additional questions and made observations. Members of the Finance Committee were interested in metrics for the current investment and then what metrics Phase II would provide. There was a lengthy discussion and it was agreed in the end that more communication was needed internally amongst the Boards to see what the appropriate next step should be. IDC adjourned their meeting at 7:37PM followed by Finance Committee adjourning at 7:38PM.

6. Discussion and Consideration to Adopt Select Board Agenda Policy

There was no discussion and the below motion was made and voted.

Motion: To approve the revised Select Board agenda policy. (Trowbridge/Schoonveld)

Roll Call Vote:

Rhein – Yes Trowbridge – Yes Schoonveld – Yes Aptowitz – Yes DelVecchio - Yes

Passes 5:0

7. Discussion and Consideration to Adopt Revised Select Board Policy on Board and Committee Reappointments

Mr. Trowbridge went through the suggested edits and changes were agreed upon.

Motion: To approve the revised Select Board policy on Board and Committee Reappointments with the changes noted during discussion. (Trowbridge/Rhein)

Roll Call Vote:

Rhein – Yes Trowbridge – Yes Schoonveld – Yes Aptowitz – Yes DelVecchio - Yes

Passes 5:0

8. Resident Questions and Comments

There were no resident questions or comments.

9. Review and Approve Consent Agenda

All items on the Consent Agenda may be adopted with a single motion. Any member of the Select Board may request that an item be withdrawn from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration in which case that item will be voted on separately from the remainder of the Consent Agenda. All licenses have been routed through Town Hall Departments and any conditions have been noted below.

a) Vote To Approve Meeting Minutes:

- December 2, 2020
- December 16, 2020

b) Vote To Approve Warrants:

- Town Vendor Warrant No. 21025T in the amount of \$715,229.75
- Electric Vendor Warrant No. 21025E in the amount of \$95,862.15
- School Vendor Warrant No. 21025S in the amount of \$872,747.74
- Town Vendor Warrant No. 21026T in the amount of \$1,313,124.93
- Electric Vendor Warrant No. 21026E in the amount of \$80,004.15
- School Vendor Warrant No. 21026S in the amount of \$135,852.03

- Town Vendor Warrant No. 21027T in the amount of \$
- Electric Vendor Warrant No. 21027E in the amount of \$

c) Permits and Licenses:

- Consideration of 2021 Drainlayers License for Alltech Building Systems, Inc.
- Consideration of 2021 Drainlayers License for Riccio Excavation Co
- Consideration of 2021 Drainlayers License for Plainville Pump & Excavating, Inc.
- Consideration to the Sign the Order of Taking for a Portion of Fruit Street
- Consideration of 2021 Water Installers License for Riccio Excavation, Co.
- Consideration of 2021 Water Installers License for Plainville Pump & Excavating

Motion: To approve the consent agenda. (Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

Rhein – Yes Trowbridge – Yes Schoonveld – Yes Aptowitz – Yes DelVecchio - Yes

Passes 5:0

10. Consideration and Approval of Town Payroll Warrants:

- **Town Payroll/Town Medicaid Payroll 21025PT in the amount of \$397,234.10**

Motion: To approve Town Payroll/Town Medicaid Payroll 21025PT in the amount of \$397,234.10.

(Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

Rhein – Yes Trowbridge – Yes Schoonveld – No Aptowitz – Abstain DelVecchio - Yes

Passes 3:1:1

- **Town Deductions Vendor Payroll 21025TV in the amount of \$123,422.72**

Motion: To approve Town Deductions Vendor Payroll 21025TV in the amount of \$123,422.72. (Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

Rhein – Yes Trowbridge – Yes Schoonveld – Yes Aptowitz – Yes DelVecchio - Yes

Passes 5:0

- **School Payroll/School Medicaid Payroll 21025PS in the amount of \$1,708,063.08**

Motion: To approve School Payroll/School Medicaid Payroll 21025PS in the amount of \$1,708,063.08.

(Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

Rhein – Yes Trowbridge – Abstain Schoonveld – Yes Aptowitz – Yes DelVecchio - Yes

Passes 4:0:1

- **School Deductions Vendor Payroll 21025SV in the amount of \$548,787.03**

Motion: To approve School Deductions Vendor Payroll 21025SV in the amount of \$548,787.03.

(Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

Rhein – Yes Trowbridge – Yes Schoonveld – Yes Aptowitz – Yes DelVecchio - Yes

Passes 5:0

- **Town Payroll/Town Medicaid Payroll 21026PT in the amount of \$358,245.11**

Motion: To approve Town Payroll/Town Medicaid Payroll 21026PT in the amount of \$358,245.11.

(Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

Rhein – Yes Trowbridge – Yes Schoonveld – No Aptowitz – Abstain DelVecchio - Yes

Passes 3:1:1

- **Town Deductions Vendor Payroll 21026TV in the amount of \$117,175.77**

Motion: To approve Town Deductions Vendor Payroll 21026TV in the amount of \$117,175.77. (Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

Rhein – Yes Trowbridge – Yes Schoonveld – Yes Aptowitz – Yes DelVecchio - Yes

Passes 5:0

- **Town Payroll/Town Medicaid Payroll 21027PT in the amount of \$401,037.99**

Motion: To approve Town Payroll/Town Medicaid Payroll 21027PT in the amount of \$401,037.99.
(Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

Rhein – Yes Trowbridge – Yes Schoonveld – No Aptowitz – Abstain DelVecchio - Yes

Passes 3:1:1

- **Town Deductions Vendor Payroll 21027TV in the amount of \$129,928.41**

Motion: To approve Town Deductions Vendor Payroll 21027TV in the amount of \$129,928.41. (Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

Rhein – Yes Trowbridge – Yes Schoonveld – Yes Aptowitz – Yes DelVecchio - Yes

Passes 5:0

- **School Payroll/School Medicaid Payroll 21027PS in the amount of \$1,673,401.73**

Motion: To approve School Payroll/School Medicaid Payroll 21027PS in the amount of \$1,673,401.73.
(Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

Rhein – Yes Trowbridge – Abstain Schoonveld – Yes Aptowitz – Yes DelVecchio - Yes

Passes 4:0:1

- **School Deductions Vendor Payroll 21027SV in the amount of \$542,371.26**

Motion: To approve School Deductions Vendor Payroll 21027SV in the amount of \$542,371.26.
(Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

Rhein – Yes Trowbridge – Yes Schoonveld – Yes Aptowitz – Yes DelVecchio - Yes

Passes 5:0

11. Correspondence

- Notification from TGI Fridays for a Change of Manager
- Notice of Programming Changes & Municipal Emergency Reporting Procedures from Xfinity
- Notices of Programming Changes from Verizon
- Letter from National Grid of the Yearly Operation Plan Public Notice, Review and Comment
- Letter from the Bristol County Retirement System of the FY 2022 Appropriation
- Letter from Xfinity of Programming Changes

Mr. Aptowitz read a summary of the above correspondence items.

12. Select Board Member's Comments and Questions

Mr. Schoonveld stated that the legislature voted to approve the reduction in the number of votes required for certain zoning articles from 2/3 to fifty percent. Mr. Schoonveld stated that pension costs is about 12% of the budget and the OPEB policy will have to change and be addressed. He then asked if the rates for health and dental have been received and Mr. Dumas answered that he expected those numbers to come in February. Mr. Schoonveld then stated that the Trash and Recycling Committee was meeting Monday to create a survey to send to residents and asked the Board members to send him any questions they wanted to be asked. He then advised residents if they have questions on the tax bills that were just mailed or how their property is assessed they should call the Assessor's office. Lastly, Mr. Schoonveld asked if the Board could create a policy that clearly advises alcohol license holders on what is expected because of what happened with the business that went a whole year without notification to the Town. Mr. Trowbridge suggested maybe a scale of fines and stated that him and Mr. Rhein would look at creating a policy for this.

Mr. Trowbridge stated that he wanted the Board to discuss Sake at their next meeting once they know how the issue is handled by the Board of Health. Chairman DelVecchio stated it will be discussed in the next agenda item.

Mr. Aptowitz commented about his concerns for the sale of the Fire Station and noted it is the Board's responsibility to get fair market value for the property. Mr. Aptowitz then acknowledged that the Senate and House Representatives for Massachusetts were sworn in today and he wanted to thank our prior reps Betty Poirier and Lou Kafka and congratulated Ted Phillips and Adam Scanlon on their new positions.

Mr. Rhein had no comments and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Chairman DelVecchio had no comments either.

13. Any items not anticipated by the Chair 48 hours prior to this meeting

Chairman DelVecchio stated that Mr. Dumas brought up the Covid violation of Sake Steakhouse earlier in the meeting and asked what the Board would like to do on this matter and asked Mr. Dumas for the current plan. Mr. Dumas stated that he would be attending the Board of Health meeting Thursday evening and if any action is going to be taken by the Select Board they would need to notify the business. The Board agreed that on January 13th it would be on the agenda for discussion and if needed invite the business to the January 20th if action will be taken.


14. Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn the Select Board Meeting of January 6, 2021 at 8:16PM. (Trowbridge/Schoonveld)

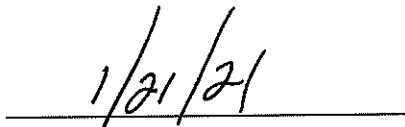
Roll Call Vote:

Rhein – Yes Trowbridge – Yes Schoonveld – Yes Aptowitz – Yes DelVecchio - Yes

Passes 5:0



Signature



Date

Minutes prepared by Carrie Champagne