

Select Board Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2021

Present: The members of the Select Board all participated remotely via using GoToWebinar: Mr. Frank DeVecchio, 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 DeVecchio 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 DeVecchio 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.

2. MEMA Recognition

Chief Desrosiers was present and wanted to take the opportunity to recognize MEMA volunteers and the amount of time the 27 members spend volunteering. Chief Desrosiers introduced Assistant Director Michael Papagno, Captain Kelvin Mahoney and Captain Thayer Wheeler who were on the webinar. Chief stated that they are dedicated and one of the largest groups in the state and they volunteered 1,900 hours in 2020. Chair DeVecchio recognized that you always see MEMA members at events in the background and it is a positive and active force in the Town. Mr. Papagno noted that it is nice for the group to be recognized and they are thankful for the support of the Town. Each of the Captains thanked the Board for the recognition. The Select Board shared sentiments of being grateful and thankful for their volunteer efforts. Mr. Rhein noted that some of the members of MEMA should be nominated for the Select Board Community Service Awards.

3. Town Managers Report

- COVID Update
- Budget Update
- Miscellaneous Update

Select Board Questions/Comments of Town Managers Report

Chief Desrosiers was present for the beginning of the Town Managers Report to provide a COVID update. He stated that there are currently 155 active cases in Town. He stated that they continue to have a lot of contact tracing and quarantines being done for youth sports, school, daycares and some businesses. He thanked Amy and the School Nurses who have helped as this work is seven days a week. Chief Desrosiers that there are many family clusters of cases and the State has helped by offering interpreters for those that don't speak English. He added that you can compare Mansfield stats to any other town by visiting the States website at www.mass.gov.

Mr. Dumas continued his report providing an update to the Norton Grove properties and the Fire Station RFP. Mr. LaCasse then provided an update of the Budget and stated that it still is very early on in the budget process and are waiting for the Governor's budget. He noted that CIP will be meeting next week.

4. Resident Questions and Comments

Mr. Peter Wiggins was present and stated he was in Mansfield today and saw the Mansfield Electric Department working in front of Barrows Insurance.

5. Update from the Audit Committee and Discussion and Consideration of the Audit

Ms. Christie Martin, Chair of the Audit Committee was present along with Matt Violette, Town Accountant. Ms. Martin started by thanking Mr. Mike Nelligan from Powers and Sullivan the firm that completes the audit. She stated it was a difficult year and thanked the Committee for their work and noted it was a little delayed but it was completed on time. She was happy to report that the management letter did not have any new comments and six of the eight were removed from the prior year. Mr. Schoonveld added that it was a smooth process and the reduction to management comments was a great bonus. He stated that the final two may take a couple years to accomplish and he

will leave that to Mr. Violette. Mr. Violette commented that he was happy with the results and that it was a clean audit and it was good to see only two management comments.

Motion: To accept the Audit Reports as presented. (Aptowitz/Schoonveld)

Roll Call Vote:

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

Passes 5:0

6. Discussion and Consideration of a Common Victualler and Entertainment License for Bar Pizza and Salad Co.

Mr. Marc O'Brien and Jasson Cohen were present from Bar Pizza and Salad Co and stated they were hoping to bring the Southshore classic bar pizza to the area without being a dive bar. Mr. Schoonveld disclosed that he is a neighbor of Mr. O'Brien and coached his son in baseball and he has tried the pizza however the Board did not think he needed to recuse himself. Mr. Aptowitz asked when they would be opening and Mr. O'Brien said he hoped in February.

Motion: To approve the Common Victualler and Entertainment License for Bar Pizza and Salad Co.

(Aptowitz/Schoonveld)

Roll Call Vote:

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

Passes 5:0

7. Discussion of COVID Violations of Sake Steakhouse and Consideration of Enforcement Action

Mr. Dumas stated that there was a second violation this past weekend at Sake and the Board of Health would be having a meeting tomorrow to discuss the matter. Mr. Dumas stated he would be attending and he would update the Board after that meeting. Mr. DelVecchio had agreed that the Board of Health should handle the matter first.

8. Discussion and Consideration of the Mansfield Cable Access Agreement

Mr. Dumas stated that this was a comment on the management letter as part of the Town Audit, but has been removed. The agreement formalizes what happens to the subscriber funds that are received by the Town from Verizon and Comcast that are then sent to Mansfield Cable. Mr. Schoonveld asked why the effective date was 2008 to 2023 and Mr. Dumas explained that they did this so this agreement is concurrent with the cable licenses and will expire at the same time. Mr. Schoonveld asked for a high-level overview of what the agreement was so that people watching from home would understand. Mr. Dumas explained that it is public education programming dollars that provides money for the Town and Schools to be able to offer programming like the Select Board meetings as well as providing funding for the general public to record programming. Mr. Rhein asked how the finances work and Mr. Dumas stated that the Town receives five percent of the gross revenues from subscribers of Comcast and Verizon and they are received quarterly and subscribers can see it on their cable bill listed as PEG Access.

Motion: To approve the Mansfield Cable Access Agreement. (Aptowitz/Schoonveld)

Roll Call Vote:

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

Passes 5:0

9. Discussion and Consideration of Proposed Parking Regulations

Mr. Dumas stated that everyone has been working on this for a long time with Nelson Nygaard to establish parking regulations for the Downtown. Mr. Dumas highlighted the items that were changing if the parking regulations were adopted, which includes public parking changing from 2 hours to 4 hours. Mr. Rhein added that it would be great to add a name to the public parking lots and thought maybe this could be a discussion item for the Downtown Committee.

Motion: To approve the proposed parking regulations. (Aptowitz/Schoonveld)

Motion Amended: To approve the proposed parking regulations effective March 1, 2021. (Aptowitz/Schoonveld)

Roll Call Vote:

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

Passes 5:0

10. Discussion of Dog Complaint and Consideration to Schedule Public Hearing

Motion: To temporary declare the dog a nuisance and require that the dog be muzzled and leashed when it is outside of the home and to set a Public Hearing date for February 17, 2021 at 6:30PM. (Aptowitz/Rhein)

Roll Call Vote:

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

Passes 5:0

11. Consideration to Reappoint Olivier Kozlowski to the Board of Registrars of Voters

Motion: To reappoint Olivier Kozlowski to serve on the Board of Registrars of Voters to an unexpired term that will expire on March 31, 2023. (Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

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

Passes 5:0

12. Call for the 2021 Annual Town Meeting scheduled for April 13, 2021 and Open the Warrant

Motion: To call for the 2021 Annual Town Meeting scheduled for April 13, 2021 and Open the Warrant. (Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

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

Passes 5:0

13. Resident Questions and Comments

There were no resident questions and comments.

14. 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:

- January 6, 2021
- January 13, 2021

b) Vote To Approve Warrants:

- Town Vendor Warrant No. 21029T in the amount of \$432,770.32
- Electric Vendor Warrant No. 21029S in the amount of \$27,888.45
- Electric Vendor Warrant No. 21029E in the amount of \$490,220.89

c) Permits and Licenses:

- Consideration of 2021 Drainlayers License for Bella Construction Co., LLC
- Consideration of 2021 Drainlayers License for Brunelle Contracting, LLC
- Consideration of Banner and Sign Request from Mansfield Women of Today

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Passes 5:0

15. Consideration and Approval of Town Payroll Warrants:

- **Town Payroll/Town Medicaid Payroll 21029PT in the amount of \$414,038.44**

Motion: To approve Town Payroll/Town Medicaid Payroll 21029PT in the amount of \$414,038.44.
(Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

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

Passes 3:1:1

- **Town Deductions Vendor Payroll 21029TV in the amount of \$149,585.25**

Motion: To approve Town Deductions Vendor Payroll 21029TV in the amount of \$149,585.25. (Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

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

Passes 5:0

- **School Payroll/School Medicaid Payroll 21029PS in the amount of \$1,714,988.21**

Motion: To approve School Payroll/School Medicaid Payroll 21029PS in the amount of \$1,714,988.21.
(Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

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

Passes 4:0:1

- **School Deductions Vendor Payroll 21029SV in the amount of \$550,276.39**

Motion: To approve School Deductions Vendor Payroll 21029SV in the amount of \$550,276.39.
(Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

Roll Call Vote:

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

Passes 5:0

16. Correspondence

- Notification from Verizon of Fios TV Programming Changes
- Letter from ATC Group Services LLC

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

17. Select Board Member's Comments and Questions

Mr. Schoonveld asked about the rest area on Route 95 in Mansfield and if there has been any progress in getting that redeveloped. Mr. Dumas answered that it requires a vote of Congress and with a new Congress it is something that could be pursued again. Mr. Schoonveld asked if the online permitting software was on the CIP Plan for FY22 and Mr. Dumas answered that it was already started and would be fully operationally by the end of this fiscal year. Mr. Schoonveld commented on virtual meetings and wondered if a policy should be developed to continue using GoToMeeting even once things return to normal post-COVID. Mr. Schoonveld then asked if all the Mansfield Youth sports have the same opportunities to use Town fields and have consistency across all sports with access to fields. Mr. Dumas was unsure of what Mr. Schoonveld was asking and asked him to call to discuss on the phone. Mr. Schoonveld then stated a building in the Cabot Industrial Park sold for \$25 million but the assessed value for taxes was only \$9.8 million. Lastly, Mr. Schoonveld noted that the Trash and Recycling Committee had a good meeting and there will be a survey launched at the end of February.

Mr. Aptowitz and Mr. Trowbridge had no questions or comments.

Mr. Rhein commented on his patriotic outfit and stated it was a good day for democracy.

Mr. DelVecchio thanked Mr. Rhein and added his thoughts on democracy at the local level.

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

There were no items.

19. Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn the Select Board Meeting of January 20, 2021 at 6:42PM. (Aptowitz/Trowbridge)

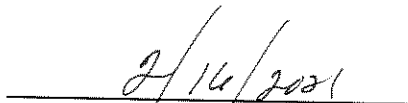
Roll Call Vote:

Rhein – Yes Trowbridge – Yes Schoonveld – Yes Aptowitz – Yes DeVecchio - Yes

Passes 5:0



Signature



Date

Minutes prepared by Carrie Champagne