



Tuesday, October 11, 2022

***Hanson Select Board***

Select Board's meeting room, Town Hall

Open Session

***Members Present:*** Laura FitzGerald-Kemmett, Ann Rein, James Hickey, Joseph Weeks, Edwin Heal

***Members Absent:***

***Others Present:*** Lisa Green, Town Administrator; Lynn McDowell, Executive Assistant, Chris Howard, School Committee, Charles White, William Cushing, Kevin Perkins

**I CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Ms. Rein read the public announcements and upcoming meetings.

**III NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discuss and possibly appointment a member and an associate member to the Zoning Board of Appeals

Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett stated the board will not be answering questions of the investigation nor rehashing any previous discussions. Legal counsel has advised it is appropriate to appoint new Zoning Board members as the Select Board deems appropriate. Profanity will not be tolerated; if there are any outbursts, those individuals will be asked to leave, and by police escort if needed.

There is one position for a full member, serving three years, with two applicants – Mr. William Cushing and Mr. Charles White

Mr. White expressed that he is interested in the role and feels he has a strong understanding of how business is done. He has a bit of zoning background and is comfortable interpreting regulations. He previously was a member of the Cemetery commission. He has lived in the Town for 20 years and is now retired. He feels he does not have any conflicts of interest, nor does he know any members of the current Zoning Board. He has not completed the disclosure form but is happy to do so. He is acquainted with Ann Rein.

Mr. Cushing has served on the Zoning Board since 2015, starting as an alternate. He has a good understanding the rules and regulations, as well as the background. He also has experience with other committees from working with them in the past.

Ms. Green informed the Select Board that the investigatory report has been delivered. She will make copies for the Board tomorrow morning.

Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett confirmed with Mr. Perkins when the Zoning Board would next meet. He stated is it for Tuesday, October 18 and he anticipates having a quorum, which will allow them to go forward with their meeting. The Select Board's next meeting Tuesday, October 25; they will table all interviews and appointments until that meeting.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Heal to table appointing new Zoning board members until the October 25, 2022. ***Voted 5 - 0***

## **2. Discuss Special Town Meeting next steps**

As the Town did not reach a quorum for the scheduled October Special Town meeting, the Town Moderator announced the new date will be November 9, 2022 at 7:30pm. Ms. Green stated preparations are in process, which include an updated cover for Warrant, updating the Town website. She noted that the night before is State Election night and the Town Clerks will be very busy supporting the needs for election night. She stated her office will ensure preparations will be covered.

Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett reminded everyone that there needs to be at least 100 citizens to move forward. Ms. Green stated she will reach out the Express for a paid ad, and Facebook has already been updated. She will reach out to Mr. Shave regarding the electronic sign on Route 27 for possible use. Signage will be posted at Town Hall, the Library and Council on Aging.

Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett also reminded Ms. Green that Impress was unable to attend in October. They need to be in attendance to give a presentation and are expected to work that into their schedule.

## **3. Warrant for November 8, 2022 State Election for approval**

Ms. Rein read the warrant for State Election candidates and questions. The Select Board signed original document.

***MOTION*** by Ms. Rein, seconded by Mr. Weeks to adopt the warrant for November 8, 2022 State election. ***Voted 5 - 0***

**4. Request – Whitman-Hanson Regional School District’s Director of Technology and Director of Facilities forwarded letters for emergency funding from both towns**

Ms. Green received an email from the superintendent’s office requesting emergency funding but to date has not receive follow-up correspondence. The superintendent feels the following are issues that need immediate attention and affects both towns

The network failure caused card access/locking system to fail; this affects both towns and total cost would be \$100,000. The elevator at HMS is need of repair; cost is approximately \$11,000. The fire panel at WMS has been in need of repair; cost is approximately \$50,000.

Ms. Green will speak with town counsel to determine if needing to open the warrant. She wil also check with the Mr. Hassett to determine if truly emergencies and where the money will come from. Mr. Hickey believes Mr. Hassett will not open the warrant.

**5. Review BOS calendar**

Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett would like to receive Committee updates that are listed on the calendar.

Updates needed to the calendar are:

1. Add October 11, 2022
2. Add October 25, 2022.
3. Reschedule January 3, 2023 to January 10, 2023; Wage and Personnel will be also be rescheduled to this date
4. Reschedule January 23, 2023 to January 24, 2023
5. Add November 19, 2022 Strategic Planning Meeting at Camp Kiwanee.

Mrs. Joyce requested a discussion regarding Lakeside Street be added to next agenda meeting. Ms. FitzGerald-Kemmett stated that Town Counsel will speak with Lakeside counsel first. Mr. Howard also requested to be included on the next agenda.

The Select Board reviewed and accepts the tentative 2023 – 2024 calendar. Ms. Green will forward to the committees listed to let them know when updates are expected.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Weeks to accept the calendars as updated. ***Voted 5 - 0***

6. Request – Holy Apostles Parish would like to use the Town Green to pray the Rosary on Saturday, October 15, 2022, from 12:00pm - 1:00pm

***MOTION*** by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Heal to have the Holy Apostles Parish use the Town Green to pray the Rosary on Saturday, October 15, 2022. ***Voted 5 - 0***

## 7. ARPA and ARA funds discussion

These funds are related to Covid-19 bills passed federally to cities and town to pay outstanding invoices; it can also be strategically for one time betterment projects. Ms. Green shared the funds are in two separate buckets.

With the ARPA, through the Federal Treasury, sent in two disbursements. The first in June 2021; the second needed to be requested by July 2022, which Ms. Green has done. Currently in the bank, the first disbursement is \$1.127M. The second part is being held by locally by the Plymouth County Commissioners as administrators. That amount is \$1.028M.

Federally, there is a ruling providing some guidance for municipalities. If a city or town is receiving less than \$10M, the ruling allows that city or town to take a standard allowance for any general government services, eg. – road construction, fire vehicles, etc. Locally Plymouth County created portal for the application process. It breaks out what projects are eligible, eg. – water and sewer, broadband, the negative economic impact of Covid-19 on local businesses and lost revenue. The funds need to use for projects within the municipality. The application is completed and submitted for approval, and then reimbursement. The funds cannot be used for debt service.

Ms, FitzGerald-Kemmett would like Ms. Green to provide a list of examples from other towns that have projects approved to understand what they are doing. She would like this to be presented during the Strategic Planning meeting. Mr. Hickey questioned whether it would be able to add funding that was pulled from the warrant and reinserted for the rescheduled November 9 Special Town Meeting.

After several discussions of possible projects to earmark this funding, the Select Board will task the Capital Improvement committee to develop a matrix of weighted projects to be discussed in greater detail at the Strategic Planning meeting.

Ms. Green reiterated that for the Plymouth County funding, it needs to be spent first with the Town asking for reimbursement of expenses. The expenses need to be under \$500,000. Ms. Green will reach out to Mr. Hassett on getting the process started. Lastly she stated under Public Health, all projects are reimbursable.

**8. Regional agreement discussion –Whitman Hanson Regional School Committee.**

Mr. Howard, Chair of School Committee updated the Select Board the details of the last School committee meeting, and requested its feedback. The School committee suggested six voting members consisting of two school committee members, each Town Administrator and one board member from each town as well as non-voting members from finance, citizen at large and the superintendents. He will encourage citizens from each town to attend the meetings.

The Select Board believed the Town Administrators would serve a better role as advisory. It also urged keeping the number of voting members smaller to allow movement to happen.

It was also noted it is an even number of member. What does he suggest if there is a tie; how will they reach a consensus. And what is the governance and how structured. Would be interested in hiring a professional mediator to address issues and ties. Mr. Hassett will take this suggestions/comments back to the committee. He stated they would like to get started soon, hopefully prior to Town Meeting.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Ms. Rein, to have Mr. Hickey represent the Select Board at the School Committee. ***Voted 5 - 0***

**IV                    APPOINTMENTS**

1. Appoint Corinne Cafardo to the Capital Improvement committee

This appointment makes a full committee.

***MOTION*** by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Ms. Rein, to appoint Corinne Carfardo as a member to the Capital Improvement Committee for a three year term. ***Voted 5 - 0***

2. Interview and appoint Zoning Board of Appeals member and Associate member
  - a. Zoning Board of Appeals member applicants for three (3) year term:
  - b. Zoning Board of Appeals Associate member applicants for three (3) year term:

Ms. Green informed the Select Board that the investigatory report has been delivered. The appointments have been tabled until the Select Board reviews the documents.

**V                    APPROVE OPEN SESSION MINUTES**

1. July 8, 2022
2. September 13, 2022
3. October 3, 2022 Special Town Meeting
4. October 3, 2022 Emergency Meeting

**MOTION** by Mr. Weeks, seconded by Mr. Heal to approved the meeting minutes as presented. **Voted 5 - 0**

**VI. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

1. Ms. Green will being using Mr. Matyi, Administrative Intern, to assist with researching and drafting documents related to procurement and grants. She stated that Green Communities is no longer funding HVAC systems. She submitted a request for weatherization to give the energy consultant time to create a design on heat pumps for Town Hall and the Library. Most likely be resolved in the Spring 2023.
2. Ms. Green thanked Mr. Moberg, Director of Information Technology, for his assistance writing the request for the IT Community Compact Grant. Applied for \$70,000 for adding Wi-Fi, disaster recovery and backup systems for Town Hall.
3. Ms. Green updated three properties.
  - a. 16 Liberty Street – Mr. Glass forwarded correspondence. Ms. Green will touchbase with him regarding implementation of fines. Town Counsel is drafting complaints for all three properties.
  - b. 73 Leon Court – Mr. Kenney visited Mr. Leighton. He noted the fence is repaired and backyard is secured. He is return in a week to ensure the front door is secured and the electric fence/training is completed confirmation.
  - c. She also thanked all town hall staff for their assistance and support in preparing for October Special Town meeting. This prep work will make the rescheduled November 9 meeting an easy setup.
4. Ms. Rein approached her to investigate the meal tax charge to 501-3C organizations to see if they can be exempt. Ms. Green will confirm with MASS DOR.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Mr. Weeks, seconded by Mr. Heal, to adjourn the meeting to Executive Session. **Voted 5-0**

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynn McDowell