

Board of Selectmen
January 14, 2021
Via Zoom*

Stanley Wysocki
Robert Czekanski
Jonathan Keep
Don Lowe, Town Administrator
Jenny Jacobsen, Town Secretary

Approved via Zoom
on 1/28/21
by SW RC JK
SS

Mr. Czekanski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and provided an overview of the rules of conduct in the remote meeting environment.

HOST COMMUNITY AGREEMENT (HCA) WITH LOVECRAFT, INC., 58 MAIN STREET

Mr. Czekanski announced that we are still in negotiations and will be discussing the HCA at a future meeting.

VEGETATIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN (VMP)

The Board reviewed comments received related to the proposed VMP. Mr. Czekanski provided information on the history of the VMP which would describe the Town's plan for control of nuisance vegetation along the Town's roadways. In 2016, the Selectmen chose not to update the plan against the advice of the DPW Director. The poison ivy has encroached since that decision and the bittersweet and Japanese knotweed has been smothering native vegetation. Mr. Czekanski noted that there is nothing in the plan that directs anyone to use chemicals and that the use of chemicals is a last resort.

Mr. Wysocki added his support for Mr. Czekanski's comments.

Mr. Keep agreed that it was important to have a VMP in place as a community noting that a notification plan is included when chemicals are utilized. Mr. Keep requested the quantity of 5-7 gallons be removed from the preamble.

Mr. Keep would like to see collaboration with Parks and Recreation and the Nashoba Regional School District.

Mr. Czekanski explained that the Yearly Operation Plan (YOP) of other departments would synchronize with the VMP. Mr. Keep also asked for a narrowing of the list of chemicals.

Department of Public Works (DPW) Director Randy Heglin thanked the Selectmen for comments and noted that he will take the comments into consideration as he prepares a revised draft.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

COVID-19 Update

The Town improved to the yellow category with 15 cases over the last 14 days with a positivity test rate of 3.72%. Many of our neighbors remain in the red category.

Cadet EMT Program

The Town is working on the waiver for the age restriction for certification.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN BUSINESS

Public Service Announcements

Mr. Czekanski announced his intention to run for reelection.

Discussion on changing official reference from Board of Selectmen to Select Board

Mr. Czekanski asked the Board to consider asking the Town Administrator to put together a warrant article to change the name of the Board of Selectmen to Select Board. There would be a financial cost between \$3-5K related to the updating the Town Bylaws. Mr. Wysocki voiced concern of the associated cost though he did not object to the concept.

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Czekanski the Board voted by roll call 2-1 to authorize the Town Administrator to draft a warrant article to change the name of the Board of Selectmen to Select Board. (Czekanski-yes, Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes)

NRSD Audit Committee-Bolton Representation

Mr. Czekanski requested that the Board authorize the Town Administrator to prepare an advertisement to seek candidates to fill the position. Mr. Lowe informed the Board that in September of 2018, David Yesue was appointed in the role though a meeting never took place.

The Board will invite Mr. Yesue to a future meeting to discuss his interest in serving on the Committee.

Consideration of the Dedication of Annual Report

Mr. Lowe explained that the Town has in the past dedicated the Annual Report to a prominent member of the community after their passing and asked the Board to consider dedicating the 2020 Annual Report to Roger Breeze, our local historian and active community member, who passed away on December 31, 2020.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep, the Board voted by roll call 3-0 to dedicate the 2020 Annual Report to Roger Breeze. (Wysocki- yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Bills/Payroll Warrant

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep, the Board voted by roll call 3-0 to approve the Bills/Payroll warrants: W21-13 & W21-13A and W21-14, W21-14A & W21-14 corrected. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Minutes

No minutes were approved.

Executive Session

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep, the Board voted by roll call 3-0 to enter executive session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3) at 7:43 pm to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for the AFSCME, Council #93, DPW Unit, as the Chair finds that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the Board's bargaining position and to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for the Bolton Police Union, Local 286, Massachusetts Coalition of Police, IUPA, AFL-CIO, as the Chair finds that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the Board's bargaining position. (Wysocki- yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Meeting reconvened at 7:53 pm.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep, the Board voted by roll call 3-0 to adjourn at 7:54 pm. (Wysocki- yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Respectfully submitted by Jenny Jacobsen

**All attendees participated remotely via Zoom Remote Conferencing pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.c. 30A Section 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place.*