

Board of Selectmen
January 12, 2023
Via Zoom Remote Conferencing*

Stanley Wysocki
Robert Czekanski

Don Lowe, Town Administrator
Jenny Jacobsen, Town Secretary

Mr. Wysocki called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Wysocki announced that board member Emily Winner has resigned from her position to take care of her family. Mr. Wysocki thanked Ms. Winner for her service. There will be a future agenda item to discuss next steps.

BARE HILL TRIATHLON

Ms. Sue Reedich was in attendance to request permission to hold the Bare Hill Triathlon on June 4th, 2023 following the same course along Harvard Rd, Green Rd, and Bare Hill Rd from approximately 8:15 to 8:45 am. There will be three marshals at Harvard Road and three at the corner of Green Road. Police has have approved the event. Ms. Reedich will send the required event insurance certificate to the town as soon as it is received.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Board voted by roll call unanimously to approve the Bare Hill Triathlon on June 4th, 2023. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)

DERBY FIELD

Conservation Agent Rebecca Bucciaglia was in attendance to request a letter of support of the grant applications for Derby Field park area. The Board fully supports the grant application. The most recent grant that is being applied for is the action grant through the MVP program, Ms. Bucciaglia would seek support for other grant opportunities as they come up.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Board voted by roll call unanimously to sign the letter of support for the MVP program and to generally support all efforts to obtain grants for Derby field. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

FY24 Budget Discussion-The finance team held a second meeting on Thursday, January 5, 2023. Mr. Lowe reported that he has received everything he needs for the 1 and 5-year capital plan. The building study has proved to be invaluable and is the cornerstone of the capital plan. Mr. Lowe has received capital requests from the school district and the fire department as well.

Library Meeting Room -Mr. Lowe attended a recent Library Trustees meeting. The trustees are looking to finalize a meeting room policy for meetings on Monday through Thursday. They were unanimous of support of having the caucus in the meeting room in March with caveat that if the work is in progress to repair the bathroom, they will not be allowing any use of the room whatsoever. Mr. Lowe thanked them for their support.

SELECTMEN BUSINESS

Public Service Announcements

Mr. Wysocki asked the public to bring bottles and cans with a deposit to the red barn at the transfer station to support the Scouts. Mr. Wysocki reminded the public that the new bag program will be coming soon.

If the public has an allotment of stickers in their possession, they will not lose their value once the bag program is implemented.

Future Agenda Items Discussion

Mr. Wysocki asked for three future agenda items:

- how to deal with the empty seat on the Board.
- Presentation by Advisory Committee Chair Brian Boyle on Bolton's financial picture and the impact of the increases in the assessment.

Nashoba Regional School District Budget Process

Mr. Wysocki reported that the Town goes through each line item in a week's long process to make adjustments to finely hone the leanest budget possible going into the next year. Mr. Wysocki noted that he does not believe a school committee member is present at the budgeting meetings that are done by district management. Mr. Wysocki would like the school committee to apply the same level of scrutiny to the school budget as the Town does to the Town budget. Mr. Czekanski agreed with Mr. Wysocki and added that only 1/3 of the Town's budget gets reviewed since 2/3 of the budget is the school. Mr. Wysocki commented that the school committee's state charter states that they are responsible for the budget.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Czekanski the Board voted by roll call vote unanimously to ask the Nashoba Regional School Committee to find ways to do additional scrutiny of this upcoming and all future district budgets to gain as much efficiency as possible and looks forward to hearing from the school committee how they intend to do that. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)

Mr. Wysocki will draft an email to be reviewed by Mr. Lowe and then sent to the school committee to communicate the message.

Bills/Payroll Warrant

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki, the Select Board voted by roll call 2-0 to approve the bills/payroll warrant 23-12 & 23-12A, 23-13 & 23-13A and 23-14 & 23-14A. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)

Minutes

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Select Board voted by roll call 2-0 to approve the minutes of December 1st, 2022 regular session with changes. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Czekanski the Board of Selectmen voted by roll call 2-0 to adjourn at 7:28 pm. (Czekanski-yes, Wysocki-yes)

Respectfully submitted by J. Jacobsen.