

Board of Selectmen
July 9, 2020
Via Zoom*

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

Approved via Zoom
by RC, JK, SW
on 9/10/20 JG

Ms. Jacobsen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to designate Mr. Czekanski as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. (Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Mr. Czekanski thanked the Board for their support.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Czekanski the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to designate Mr. Keep as Clerk of the Board of Selectmen. (Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes)

FY21 MASSWORKS PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Lowe introduced Tom Loughlin of Beta Construction to the Board and explained the focus of the meeting should be to decide if the Town should be applying for a new grant and if so to determine a target location for the project. Mr. Lowe recommended the intersection of Forbush Mill/Green as the location. The purpose of the grant is to have a positive impact on public safety, to improve the flow of traffic and to make it a safer environment for crossing.

Mr. Laughlin provided an overview of the process for the next MassWorks grant process. As a small community Bolton is eligible to apply for a \$1M grant each year to improve safety and infrastructure. Bridges, culvert replacements, intersections and known safety issues are highly eligible. Mr. Laughlin reminded the Board that the Town applied for a grant three years earlier. Mr. Loughlin believed that with some improvements to the application this project could rank highly in their scoring. Mr. Loughlin shared two conceptual drawings one for a modern roundabout and one for a traffic signal. The traffic signal would help to slow traffic down and provide designation for the users. Determining which idea is best for the location would require more traffic analysis which would be paid for by the grant, input from the Board and the school. Mr. Loughlin's recommended the traffic signal as it is directly adjacent to the school and will provide crossings. Roundabouts do not require the car to stop.

Mr. Keep noted support for the site. Mr. Wysocki lost audio connectivity to the meeting, but indicated his preference for the traffic signal.

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Czekanski the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to support the intersection of Forbush/Main/ Green as the target location for the FY21 MassWorks grant application. (Keep-yes, Wysocki-thumbs up, Czekanski-yes)

Mr. Wysocki regained audio connectivity. Mr. Wysocki voiced his opposition to the round-a-bout comparing it to the rotary on route 20 when you come to route 2 from the south side. It is a small round-about and you can see the tire tracks in the concrete area. Mr. Czekanski agreed that the traffic signal was the better approach but noted that we don't need to choose a design tonight.

Mr. Loughlin commented that Stan's point was valid to consider the size of the round-a-bouts and offered to review the diameter in comparison to the one Mr. Keep referenced. He recommended that the Board experience local roundabouts as both a driver and a pedestrian.

Mr. Keep voiced support for consideration of a round-a-bout at this location referencing his awareness of public support for the idea.

COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION (CCA)

Lynn Dischler, Sharon Shepela and John Petrin, members of the CCA appeared before the Board to report on the work the CCA has been doing. Mr. Petrin highlighted the process which will take about a year. Once we have approval from the state and RFP will be issued for a supplier for electricity. The CCA requested the Board's approval on the hiring of Colonial Power Group out of Marlborough as the broker rather than going out to a RFP. Mr. Petrin has experience working with the Colonial Power Group with two other towns he has worked in and highly recommended them.

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Wysocki the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to approve the hiring of Colonial Power Group as the broker for the Community Choice Aggregation program. (Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Mr. Petrin thanked the Selectmen for their support. The Board thanked the CCA Committee for their work.

MOSQUITO RESPONSE COMMITTEE (MRC)

Dr. Amy Clark updated the Board on the work of the MRC. The purpose of the committee was to develop a plan on mosquito control both on prevention and reaction. After much research the MRC selected the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Alliance (CMMA) which was voted at Town Meeting. The next step is to give the authority to the Board of Health to make them the decision-making body for dealing with the CMMA as some decisions would need to be made quickly. The MRC also came up with a guideline for when to spray public property.

Dr. Clark confirmed that the only spraying that would take place in the short term is on the request of property owners. They don't spray unless there are enough requests.

Mr. Czekanski noted that the public should contact the CMMA directly to be sprayed or to be added to the no-spray list. Dr. Clark noted that individuals on the no spray list will never be sprayed from the ground spraying.

In response to Mr. Keep's request, Mr. Lowe confirmed that he will work closely with the Board of Health in the decision making related to mosquito response.

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Wysocki the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to thank the Mosquito Response Committee for their work and to disband them. (Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes)

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

COVID-19 Update

Mr. Lowe reported that the Town Hall is open to the public since Monday morning. We still encourage people to use the remote services. There has not been heavy foot traffic. The meeting rooms are not open to the public yet. The library will continue to offer remote services at this time.

MassWORKS Update

Mr. Lowe reported that the mast arms have been delayed. He and Mr. Loughlin will work to establish a new schedule and will report back to the Board when the arms are received.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN BUSINESS

Public Service Announcement

Mr. Wysocki asked the public to wear masks when attending the transfer station. It is a matter of people's lives. The infection rate continues to spike so please be considerate of your neighbors and wear a mask. At some point if there is noncompliance we will be enforcing the fines proposed by Governor Baker.

Approval of Year End Transfers

Board reviewed the year end transfers. Advisory has reviewed but has not yet met to approve them.

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Wysocki the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to approve the year end transfers as presented. (Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Longevity

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Wysocki the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to approve the additional longevity pay for employees with more than 20 years of service. (Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Mr. Wysocki thanked the employees who are eligible for all of their years of service.

Acceptance of Gifts through June 30, 2020

Moved to next meeting.

Appointments

Mr. Lowe confirmed Mr. Wysocki's inquiry that advertisement of the position is not required.

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Wysocki the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to approve James Barr as associate member of the Planning Board for a term of one year. (Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Pam Johnson was selected and has accepted the position of Assistant Animal Control Officer. Ms. Johnson introduced herself to the Board highlighting her 15 years of dog rescue experience. It is her "life's work".

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Wysocki the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to approve Pamela Johnson as Assistant Animal Control Officer. (Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Bills/Payroll warrants:

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Wysocki the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to approve bills/payroll warrants W20-27 & W20-27A. (Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Minutes

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Czekanski, the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously by roll call to approve the minutes for regular session of June 25, 2020. (Czekanski-yes, Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes)

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Czekanski, the Board of Selectmen voted to by roll call to adjourn at 7:30 pm. (Czekanski-yes, Keep-yes, Wysocki-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.*