Select Board
Minutes
Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 7:00pm
Town Hall Meeting Room, Harvard, MA

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Chair Lucy Wallace in the Town Hall Meeting Room. Select Board members Kara Minar, Rich Maiore and Stu Sklar were in attendance as well as Town Administrator Tim Bragan and Assistant Town Administrator Marie Sobalvarro. Select Board member Alice von Loesecke participated by phone.

Planning Board Annual Town Meeting (ATM) Articles
Planning Board Chair Erin McBee came to review their two proposed articles for the ATM; Groundwater Protection Overlay District amendment and erosion control. She indicated the erosion control article does have some minor changes requiring a handout at the ATM. McBee explained the intent of the erosion control article is to prevent issues with wetlands or surface runoff to abutters or roadways when large parcels of land are cleared. The Planning Board has an FAQ on their website for more information and will be present at the League of Women Voters event on Sunday, April 28th.

Old Library Accessibility Committee (OLAC) project update
Wallace invited Clerk of the Works Cark Sciple to participate in the update. She indicated the project is scheduled for completion by June 1st with costs within the contingencies that were set. She announced the Garden Club will do landscaping to finish off the project. There will be a grand opening in early June.

Other notes on the overall building

- Wallace noted a temporary fix to the flat roof on the southern portico that will stop water infiltration.
- OLAC supports proceeding with the roof project on the building this year.
- Ongoing drainage and runoff concerns; regular maintenance necessary to keep gutters and drains clear.
- Question about painting of gallery walls and fireplace where water infiltration stained the walls

Sobalvarro said the tenants (Cultural Collaborative) are interested in making revisions to the lease. She expects this to be an agenda item in May.

Minutes
On a Sklar/Minar motion, the board voted unanimously to approve the 4/2 minutes, as presented.

License Approvals
On a Minar/Sklar motion, the board voted unanimously to approve a one-day liquor license for the Ken Harrod bike race aka Minuteman Road Club for May 18th from 11am-3pm.

On a Sklar/Minar motion, the board voted unanimously to approve annual entertainment license for the Cultural Collaborative pending payment of license fee.

Election Officials
On a Sklar/Minar motion, the board voted unanimously to appoint temp election officials:
Duane Barber, Anton Chernoff, Peggy Chernoff , Joanne Helhowski, Guy Hermann

Public Communication
Phil Robinson, 183 Littleton Road, asked for the status of the fire pond project. He noted that the pond located on his property is not usable and is considered by the Fire Department a high priority to restore. He has inquired about timing on its repair, but has not had a recent update from the Fire Department about the status. Sobalvarro advised him that the fire pond project will go out for bid once the Fire Chief has completed the specifications for the bid package.

Transfer Station Rules & Regulations under the SMART (Save Trash and Reduce Trash) program
Bragan reviewed the revised rules and regulations section by section for clarification. The board members provided some edits.

Bragan does not agree with recommendation from the Transfer Station Committee to offer a reduced rate to seniors. He explained the budget for the Transfer Station cannot sustain this reduced price especially prior to implementing the SMART plan. Transfer Station Committee member Tom Philippou said the committee is confident the recommendation is revenue neutral and based on projections should not be an issue. Wallace and von Loesecke were in agreement with Bragan. Bragan noted once the program has been in place changes can be made but until the town has a better understanding how the SMART program will be received the best approach is to maintain the $80 sticker price.

SMART
Sklar explained seniors will be able to pick up bags when stickers are purchased at Town Hall in June. The committee has information online and will also do a town wide mailing with pertinent information. The Transfer Station Committee will also have a booth at the ATM and be at the Transfer Station on Wednesdays and Saturdays in June. The committee also has some volunteers to help at Town Hall and have developed a checklist to help streamline the process.

Updates on the SMART program will be given in July and December so adjustments if necessary can be made.

On a Sklar/Maiore motion, the board voted to approve the Transfer Station Rules & Regulations as discussed this evening.

Town Administrator report
Bragan announced Treasurer/Tax Collector Amy Haley has given her resignation. She will be going to the Town of Northborough in May.

Bragan reported the Finance Director Lori Bolasevich has reconciled all cash to date.

Bragan announced Hakan Sahin resigned from Cable Committee and announced the vacancy.

Bragan reported Bill Calderwood provided an update on his tree planting project and is thankful to the Department of Public Works for their help.

Bragan announced the Nashua River Watershed Association is holding a celebration of the designation of sections of the Nashua, Squannacook and Nissitissit Rivers as part of the national Wild & Scenic Rivers System on Sunday, April 28th at Bill Ashe Visitor Center.

Bragan said the Capital Planning & Investment Committee will meet to discuss the old library roof project. He assumes they will decide to fund the analysis through CPC and then continue with the article for the ATM.

Bragan announced the Ginny Thurston scholarship fund is available with letters of interest due by April 26th.

Bragan announced the Harvard Schools Trust will hold their Hootenanny on June 1st from 6pm-10pm. They are requesting an entertainment license with beer & wine carry-in. The board will need to act on this at their next meeting.

Bragan received a letter in opposition from Friendly Crossways on the room tax article for the ATM.

Bragan shared information from the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation on the House Ways & Means budget. He also noted the revised cherry sheet indicates Harvard is now $ 19,000 in deficit due to funds allocated for students attending Charter schools. He is suggesting the School Committee and Select Board attend the Finance Committee meeting next Wednesday to discuss this issue.

Bragan announced MassDevelopment is not holding a Super Town Meeting in June to amend the Vicksburg Square zoning. A future date has not been set.

Bragan announced the MVP Committee will hold their last meeting on Thursday evening from 6-9pm.

Useful life of DPW Heavy Duty Dump Truck
Sobalavrro said this vote is required from bond counsel to allow for a ten year borrowing.
On a Sklar/Minar motion, the board voted unanimously to approve 10 year maximum life on heavy duty dump truck.

Von Loesecke stopped remote participation at this time.

Underground Water Connection
Bragan explained that a property on Bolton Road is in water district and owners would like to connect to it. He explained the board needs to approve direct drilling under the roadway allowing property owners to connect. On a Sklar/Wallace motion, the board voted unanimously to approve the water hook up for 24 Bolton Road by directional drilling and not to open the roadway.

Old Library 4th payment request
On a Sklar/Maiore motion, the board voted unanimously to approve invoice for Rinaldi Inc. in the amount of $41,475.10

Annual Town Meeting Warrant
The Select Board went through each article to make assignments of who will speak to which articles. The board agreed they support all articles including the Planning Board articles for groundwater protection overlay district and erosion control.

Select Board Reports
Sklar attended the Planning Board hearing for road improvements on Old Littleton Road that also included removal of trees on the roadway that many residents were not in favor of. Sklar said the hearing brought to light resident issues about better road signage such as; sharing, speed limits and road narrows. Sklar noted DPW Director Tim Kilhart gave a good explanation as to why the trees should be taken down; however, the Planning Board did deny his request. Sklar will add this topic to an upcoming agenda.

Minar met with residents about flashing speed signs and agreement has been reached on the locations on Still River and Bolton Roads.

Minar announced the MVP will hold another workshop on Thursday, April 25th from 6-9pm.

Sobalvarro announced Mass Dept of Transportation will commence resurfacing on Route 2 in August from 190 to 495. This project will take two years.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Documents referenced:
License applications - Ken Harrod one-day dated 3.7.2019 & Cultural Collaborative 4.5.2019
Election officials request – dated 4.10.2019
Transfer Station Rules & Regs – draft
Underground water request – dated 4.23.2019
Pay Request – dated 4.18.2019