

**TOWN OF CONCORD
SELECT BOARD
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 8, 2020
4:00PM
VIDEO CONFERENCE CALL**

Pursuant to notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, the Concord Select Board convened in a meeting via video conference call on September 8, 2020 at 4:00pm.

Present were Michael Lawson, Chair; Linda Escobedo, Clerk; Terri Ackerman, Susan Bates, and Jane Hotchkiss. Also present were Stephen Crane, Town Manager; and Carmin Reiss, Town Moderator. Ms. Bates joined the meeting at 4:10pm. Ms. Escobedo joined the meeting at 4:12pm.

Call to Order

Select Board Chair Michael Lawson called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

Consent Agenda

- Town Accountant Warrants
- Minutes to approve: August 17, August 18, August 20, August 24
- Proclamation for Michael E. Lawson

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was UNANIMOUSLY
VOTED: to approve the consent agenda.

Roll call vote

Mr. Lawson: Aye
Ms. Ackerman: Aye
Ms. Hotchkiss: Aye
Ms. Escobedo: Not Present
Ms. Bates: Not Present

Town Manager's Update

The Town received a donation from Friends of Sleepy Hollow to put on 25 tree identifiers in the cemetery.

The Town had an intern from the University of New Hampshire put together a manual for making energy efficiency improvements in historic homes. This is on the Town website, and will be presented at today's Select Board meeting.

The Transportation Advisory Committee is having its first meeting on September 9th.

The Town has four collective bargaining agreements expiring on June 30th. Mr. Crane noted that negotiations begin the week of September 15th.

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Town Meeting will take place at the Doug White Field on September 14th at 1:00pm.

Chair's Remarks

Mr. Lawson thanked the Town Moderator for all the work she has put in to allow Town Meeting to safely take place, and reminded residents to review the meeting materials ahead of the meeting.

Committee Liaison Assignments

Ms. Escobedo thanked everyone for their input on the liaison assignments for the next fiscal year. Ms. Escobedo noted that she tried to balance work schedules and member's desire to stay on certain committees in the latest draft. Ms. Escobedo will take all the Select Board members comments into consideration before finalizing a new draft for the next board meeting.

Article 11 Capital Debt Plan Amendment

Dean Banfield, 73 Walden Terrace, attended to explain that he prepared an amendment to Article 11 in order for the funding for the healthy buses initiative proposed by Brian Foulds to be divided between free cash and a debt levy in order to build long-term infrastructure to prepare up to 4 spaces for the electric buses at the bus depot. Mr. Banfield explained that his proposal would accommodate more electric buses the two that Article 30 proposes, and would have financial benefits to the Town in the long-term.

Article 11 currently proposes that the Town borrow \$2.675 million. Mr. Banfield's amendment would adjust this number to \$2.85 million. The total dollar amount of the article would be amended from \$3,906,855 to \$4,056,855, effectively adding \$150,000 to the Town's levy limit debt. As a result, Article 30 would have to move to borrow an additional \$50,000 to purchase the electric buses.

Mr. Banfield will attend the Finance Committee in order to ask them to increase the total debt authorization they have approved for Article 11, and if that is granted, Mr. Banfield can subsequently develop a motion. Mr. Banfield noted the Town could simply move \$150,000 to the capital debt account and there would be no amendment required.

The Select Board members spoke in favor of Mr. Banfield's proposal, but there was no vote taken on this matter.

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Brief Presentation of Concord's Sustainability Guide for Historic and Older Homes by Abigail Ahern

Abigail Ahern of the University of New Hampshire interned with the Sustainability Director this summer to create a guide for making energy efficiency improvements to historic homes. Ms. Ahern's full presentation and the complete manual is available on the [Town website](#).

Committee Nominations

Laura Klein of 15 Rollingwood Lane to the Library Committee to serve the remainder of a term set to expire on April 30, 2021. Kathleen Reidy of 125 Paul Revere Road to the Library Committee for a term to expire on April 30, 2023.

Committee Reappointments:

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was UNANIMOUSLY

VOTED: to appoint Jim Smith of 14 Edmonds Road to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term beginning on October 1, 2020 to expire on April 30, 2023

Roll call vote

Mr. Lawson: Aye

Ms. Ackerman: Aye

Ms. Hotchkiss: Aye

Ms. Escobedo: Aye

Ms. Bates: Aye

Committee Liaison Reports

Mr. Lawson attended the Hugh Cargill Trust, where they provided a camperships update, worked on new job descriptions for members, and discussed their check processing process.

Ms. Bates attended the Board of Registrars, where they did a tally of the votes for the state primary. The Economic Vitality Committee met, where they discussed the grants for small businesses available through the Community Chest. The grants are for up to \$2,500 each, and the application is available through the Community Chest website. The Cemetery Committee met, where they reported that they have completed all the headstone restorations they planned for.

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Ms. Ackerman attended the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, where they now have two co-chairs. Construction is proceeding on Phase 2B. Marcia Rasmussen is working with the Library Curator on an interpretive panel that will depict life in the 1930's for the 'White Ladies', the houses along Commonwealth Avenue. The committee is working with an architect on Phase 2C on how to replace the dead trees. Phase 2D will be going out to bid this fall. A Sudbury Select Board member attended and announced they are voting to acquire the right of way that would go across Route 20 to the Framingham line. The Library Committee announced they have a new chair, and the Library also is having meeting on Zoom on September 16 in order to get community input on accessible parking.

Ms. Hotchkiss attended the Natural Resources Commission, where it was reported there are Bald Eagles nesting at Fairhaven Bay. The MBTA attended to discuss right of way vegetation management and control in the 200-foot riverfront area of the Sudbury and Assabet Rivers. There was also a discussion of the lack of notice and insight given to the NRC of the MBTA's overall planning processes for Concord. The NRC continued to discuss the removal and replacement of the Citizen's Bank at the corner of Baker and Main. The Concord Country Club attended to discuss the replacement of existing irrigation pipes.

Ms. Escobedo attended the Affordable Housing Trust Study Committee and Concord Housing Development Corporation, where they are planning for housing articles related to Town Meeting. The NMI-Reuse Planning Committee met and heard from the Deven's Enterprise Commission, where they discussed the development occurring at Fort Devens. The NMI-Reuse Planning Committee is also preparing their report, which will come to the Select Board before December. The Select Board will be doing a site visit to the NMI-Reuse site.

Miscellaneous Correspondence

There was no correspondence reported.

Recognition for Mike Lawson

Ms. Escobedo read the proclamation for Select Board Chair Michael Lawson, which can be found in the [meeting materials](#). Members of the public, Select Board members, and the Town Manager extended their appreciation for Mr. Lawson's service to the Town.

Public Comments

Diane Proctor of 57 Proctor Road asked if the Transportation Advisory Committee was a public meeting. Mr. Crane responded that the TAC is a Town Manager appointed committee is not

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subject to the Open Meeting Law in a way that the Select Board appointed committee would be.

Tanya Gailus of 62 Prescott Road stated that the Town Manager can appoint a committee to advise him on an issue without being subject to the Open Meeting Law, but that she believes that otherwise any committee, no matter how they are appointed, is subject to the Open Meeting Law.

Adjourn

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was UNANIMOUSLY
VOTED: to adjourn.

Roll call vote

Mr. Lawson: Aye
Ms. Ackerman: Aye
Ms. Hotchkiss: Aye
Ms. Escobedo: Aye
Ms. Bates: Aye

Minuteman Media Network Coverage: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OAv9p2aMIJM>

Meeting Documents: <https://concordma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/26066/September-8-SB-Packet>