

Select Board Minutes
Monday, March 14, 2022 -6:30 PM

Meeting to be held as hybrid with both an in-person and with a remote participation option in accordance with Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022.

Participating: Tristan J. Laliberte, Scott C. Wrenn, Daniel S. Carpenter, Lionel R. Berthiaume, Sara K. Rufli
Also Present: Town Manager Julie A. Jacobson

Chair Tristan Laliberte called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M.

He announced that the meeting was being recorded and asked if anyone else was recording the meeting. No one so indicated.

The Board led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Laliberte announced that this Open Meeting of the Town of Auburn Select Board was being operated as a hybrid model under Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022.

For the public to join the meeting remotely by telephone, 1-408-650-3123 and Access Code 235-235-861. Or, the public can join via computer at <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/235-235-861>.

All supporting materials that have been provided to members of this body are available on the Town’s website. The public is encouraged to follow along using the posted agenda.

As a preliminary matter, Chair Tristan Laliberte confirmed that all members and persons anticipated on the agenda participating remotely were present and could hear him:

- Sara Rufli - Yes
- Lionel Berthiaume - Yes
- Daniel Carpenter - Yes
- Scott Wrenn - Yes

The Chair noted that the meeting was being recorded by Auburn Cable Television and that each vote taken in this meeting will be conducted by roll call vote.

Joint Meeting with Board of Library Trustees – Joint meeting with the Library Board of Trustees in response to the Selectboard's invitation to suggest names for the library addition. For discussion purposes only.

Mary DeCourcey called the meeting of the Library Trustees to order.

She asked Library Trustee members to respond affirmatively when she called their names.

- Matthew Toth - Yes
- Suzanne Dowd - Not present

- Jennifer Shea - Not present
- Erika Briesacher - Present
- Jon Danilowicz - Present

Trustee Matt Toth shared some of his ideas for names for the Library sunroom in addition to the Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas Room that was submitted by Jean Collins. He thanked the Select Board for including the Trustees in the process.

Names he brought forward were former Trustees:

- Frank Cassidy
- Marcia Reich
- Sara Parker
- Kevin Flynn
- Nan Johnson

Mary DeCoursey read some of the names suggested by Trustee Suzette Dowd, who was not in attendance:

- Matt Toth
- Jean Collins
- Elizabeth Johnson
- Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas
- Nan Johnson

The joint meeting was adjourned at 6:46 P.M. (Motion made by Mr. Berthiaume; motion seconded by Mr. Wrenn) roll call vote: Ms. Rufli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, Yes; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Matt Toth, Yes; Jon Danilowicz, Yes; Erika Briesacher, Yes; Mary DeCoursey, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 9 to 0.

Public Comments

There was no one wishing to speak under public comments.

At 6:47 P.M. the Select Board voted to open the public hearing on the nomination submitted by Jean Collins to name the new Library sunroom addition the Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas Room (Motion made by Mr. Berthiaume; motion seconded by Mr. Wrenn) roll call vote: Ms. Rufli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, Yes; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 5 to 0.

Town Manager Julie Jacobson discussed the status of the projects for the library addition and pedestrian bridge.

Mr. Berthiaume said that he was not ready to decide on naming the sunroom at this point, but he would like something to recognize the Pappas’ and he thought that there would be options to recognize other individuals within the projects for library addition and pedestrian bridge. He suggested that a committee could be formed to make recommendations.

Mr. Laliberte agreed and talked about some options within the pedestrian bridge project that will connect the Goddard Park Memorial to the library.

Mr. Wrenn spoke in favor of naming the sunroom for Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas and he said that he would vote in favor if the Board was voting tonight on the recommendation by Jean Collins because of their many contributions to the town.

Mr. Carpenter said that he wanted to include the Library nominees in the process and he said that it would be premature to vote tonight when the projects were barely underway and there was no rush. He said that he would favor a sub-committee with a member of the Board of Trustees.

The Town Manager suggested that changes relative to tonight's discussion could be made to the Board's policy to name infrastructure and facilities.

Mr. Berthiaume made a motion to establish a committee to take a look at the Library and Drury Square Projects as a whole and come up with ways to memorialize or show appreciation for the many dedicated and generous people in town. Ms. Ruffli seconded the motion and the Select Board voted in favor by roll call: Ms. Ruffli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, Yes; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 5 to 0.

The Board then voted to continue the hearing until May 23, 2022 (Motion made by Mr. Carpenter; motion seconded by Ms. Ruffli) roll call vote: Ms. Ruffli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, Yes; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 5 to 0.

Public Hearings/Presentations

Continued Hearing on American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds to Solicit Input from Residents and Businesses on the Use of the Town's ARPA Allocation –

At 7:11 P.M. the Select Board voted to re-open hearing (Motion made by Mr. Berthiaume; motion seconded by Ms. Ruffli) roll call vote: Ms. Ruffli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, Yes; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 5 to 0.

The Town Manager presented recommendations:

- 1) \$300,000.00 for Impact Shifts to staff a 3rd Ambulance
- 2) Certain Camp Gleason Improvements
- 3) Auburn Youth and Family Services (AY&FS)
- 4) HVAC Improvements
- 5) Sewer Improvements
- 6) Additional future considerations

Mr. Laliberte discussed the community kitchen idea that was brought forward at the November hearing and what it could be used for.

Town Accountant Tom Zidelis advised the Chair that a case could be made for the community kitchen if it was used for feeding a disproportionately affected population.

Auburn Youth Commission member Norman LaFlash spoke in support of an allocation for Auburn Youth & Family Services.

AY&FS Executive Director Sally D’Arcangelo provided the Board an update on the status of services delivered by the Auburn Youth and Family Services to program clients in FY2021.

The Select Board voted to approve an allocation of \$300,000.00 for Impact Shifts to staff a 3rd ambulance (Motion made by Mr. Berthiaume; motion seconded by Mr. Wrenn) roll call vote: Ms. Rufli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, Yes; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 5 to 0.

The Select Board voted to approve an allocation of \$115,500.00 for certain Camp Gleason Improvements (Motion made by Ms. Rufli; motion seconded by Mr. Berthiaume) roll call vote: Ms. Rufli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, Yes; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 5 to 0.

The Select Board voted to approve an allocation of \$180,000.00 to Auburn Youth and Family Services (\$60,000 in FY23, FY24 and FY25) motion made by Mr. Berthiaume; motion seconded by Ms. Rufli – roll call vote: Ms. Rufli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, Yes; Mr. Wrenn, Abstain; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 4 -0 - 1. Mr. Wrenn said that he was abstaining because he is a member of the AY&FS board, but he has no financial interest in the matter.

The Board voted to continue the hearing until March 28, 2022 (Motion made by Mr. Berthiaume; motion seconded by Ms. Rufli) roll call vote: Ms. Rufli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, Yes; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 5 to 0.

Communications

There were no items.

Select Board General Items

Vote to Set Times for the May 3, 2022 Annual Town Meeting and for the May 17, 2022 Annual Town Election.

The Select Board voted to set the time for the May 3, 2022 Annual Town Meeting to be 6:00 P.M. (Motion made by Mr. Wrenn; motion seconded by Mr. Berthiaume) roll call vote: Ms. Rufli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, Yes; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 5 to 0.

The Select Board voted to set the hours for the May 17, 2022 Annual Town Election to be from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. (Motion made by Mr. Berthiaume; motion seconded by Ms. Rufli) roll call vote: Ms. Rufli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, Yes; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 5 to 0.

Draft May 3, 2022 Annual Town Meeting Warrant- Vote to approve subject to final review by Town Counsel.

The Select Board voted to approve the May 3, 2022 Annual Town Meeting Warrant subject to final review by Town Counsel (Motion made by Mr. Berthiaume; motion seconded by Ms. Rufli) roll call vote: Ms. Rufli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, Yes; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 5 to 0.

Vote to Transmit Proposed Zoning Bylaw Amendment to amend Section 3.9.1.4 of the Accessory Use Regulations, and to add Section 14 of the Auburn Zoning Bylaw to the Planning Board for Public Hearing in accordance with MGL Chapter 40A §5.

The Town Manager explained the work done since the fall town meeting on the proposed bylaw amendment.

The Select Board voted to transmit the proposed Zoning Bylaw Amendment to amend Section 3.9.1.4 of the Accessory Use Regulations, and to add Section 14 of the Auburn Zoning Bylaw to the Planning for Public Hearing in accordance with MGL Chapter 40A §5 (Motion made by Mr. Wrenn; motion seconded by Mr. Berthiaume) roll call vote: Ms. Rufli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, Yes; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 5 to 0.

The Board voted to move agenda item 5g) Draft Zoning Bylaw Amendment for Registered Marijuana Dispensary (RMD) as approved by the Board -for information only (Motion made by Mr. Berthiaume; motion seconded by Ms. Rufli) roll call vote: Ms. Rufli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, Yes; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 5 to 0.

Chair Tristan Laliberte discussed Town Counsel’s opinion that an amendment of the Registered Marijuana Dispensary (RMD) bylaw approved by the town meeting could not negate the voters prohibition of marijuana establishments voted in the election of May 2017.

Following the discussion, the Select Board voted to continue with the proposed amendment without the removal of 3.7.7 (Motion made by Mr. Berthiaume; motion seconded by Mr. Wrenn) roll call vote: Ms. Rufli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, No; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 4 to 1.

Sub-Committee Recommendation on Tax Classification Policy

Scott Wrenn discussed the work of the sub-committee relative to the Tax Classification Policy.

The Board voted to adopt the policy as written as of March 14, 2022 (Motion made by Mr. Berthiaume; motion seconded by Mr. Wrenn) roll call vote: Ms. Rufli, No; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, No; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 3 to 2.

Gift Acceptances in Accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53A

There were no items.

Proclamations and Recognitions

There were no items.

Town Manager Items

ARPA Funding Requests – Discussed under Public Hearings/Presentations

Tabled Items

There were no items.

Select Board Member Items

Discussion and Potential Vote to Establish a Committee for the purpose of adopting a town flag. Mr. Laliberte discussed plans for a competition to design a town flag in coordination with the Town's Historical Society.

The Select Board voted to establish a committee consisting of one Select Board member, 1 Historical Society member, 2 members of the general public and 1 member with an art or graphic design background (Motion made by Mr. Berthiaume; motion seconded by Ms. Rufli) roll call vote: Ms. Rufli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, No; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 4 to 1.

At 8:39 P.M. the Select Board voted to adjourn the meeting (Motion made by Mr. Carpenter; motion seconded by Mr. Berthiaume) roll call vote: Ms. Rufli, Yes; Mr. Berthiaume, Yes; Mr. Carpenter, Yes; Mr. Wrenn, Yes; Mr. Laliberte, Yes – passed 5 to 0.

Submitted: Sharon A. Kwiatkowski
Adm. Assistant to the Town Manager

The following documents were part of the Select Board's Meeting of March 14, 2022 and are retained in the Executive Office of the Town Manager:

- March 14, 2022 Agenda
- Draft May 3, 2022 Annual Town Meeting Warrant
- Proposed Zoning Bylaw Amendment to amend Section 3.9.1.4 of the Accessory Use Regulations, and to add Section 14 of the Auburn Zoning Bylaw for Vote to Transmit to the Planning Board for Public Hearing in accordance with MGL Chapter 40A §5
- Draft Tax Classification Policy
- Draft Zoning Bylaw Amendment for Registered Marijuana Dispensary (RMD) as approved by the Board