



Town of West Boylston
140 Worcester Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583

Board of Selectmen/Sewer Commission Meeting Minutes

Date / Time / Location of Meeting May 8, 2019; 6:00 p.m.; Selectmen's Meeting Room, 140 Worcester Street
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Members Present Christopher A. Rucho, Chairman Patrick J. Crowley, Vice Chair Barur R. Rajeshkumar, Clerk Siobhan M. Bohnson, Selectman John W. Hadley, Selectman

Members NOT Present

Invited Guests:

Mr. Rucho convened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. All members are present

Motion by Mr. Rajeshkumar at 6:30 p.m. to enter into executive session under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30a, Section 21(A), Part 3 to discuss strategy with respect to potential litigation with the Mixter Building Demolition Contractor, second by Mr. Hadley. Roll call vote: Mr. Rajeshkumar yes, Mr. Hadley yes, Mr. Rucho yes, Mr. Crowley yes, Ms. Bohnson yes. Mr. Rucho declares that an open meeting discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and announced that the Board will reconvene in open session. Stephen Marsters of KP Law will join the Board.

Motion Ms. Bohnson at 6:32 p.m. to come out of executive session, second by Mr. Hadley. Roll call vote: Ms. Bohnson yes, Mr. Crowley yes, Mr. Rajeshkumar yes, Mr. Hadley yes, Mr. Rucho yes.

The Board reconvened their meeting at 6:33 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT – 7:05PM:

No one came forward under this agenda item.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

1. March 20, 2019, regular session
Motion Mr. Crowley to approve, second by Mr. Rajeshkumar, all in favor.
2. April 17, 2019, regular session

Motion Mr. Rajeshkumar to approve, second by Mr. Hadley, all in favor.

3. April 17, 2019, executive session

Motion Mr. Hadley to approve, second by Mr. Crowley, all in favor.

4. April 24, 2019, executive session

Motion Mr. Rajeshkumar to approve, second by Mr. Hadley, all in favor.

**REVIEW AND VOTE TO APPROVE WARRANTS FOR THE PERIOD COVERING
APRIL 18, 2019, TO MAY 4, 2019: Town Payable Warrants FY2019-43, 44, and 45; Sewer
FY2019-SE22; Payroll P/R 2019-21 & 22; MLP #29; and School FY2019-S17**

Motion Mr. Crowley to approve the warrants as noted, second by Mr. Rajeshkumar, all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consider voting to sign warrant for Annual Town Election on June 4, 2019

Motion Mr. Hadley to sign the Election Warrant, second by Mr. Rajeshkumar, all in favor.

2. Annual request from WestBest for a Transient Vendor License to sell Plants on The Common on May 11, from 7:30-3:30 and consider waiving fee as it is a fundraiser for the schools

Motion Mr. Crowley to approve the license and waive the fee, second by Ms. Bohnson, all in favor.

3. Consider voting to recognize the acceptance of the following donations for the Bandstand Committee and to approve expenditure of these funds for general purposes: \$265 from Committee to elect Senator Chandler, \$265 from Robin Taher DMD, \$265 from Premier Optical, \$265 from North End Motors, \$265 from WC Cranston and \$265 from A&E Realty Co.

Motion Mr. Crowley to recognize and accept the donations, second by Mr. Rajeshkumar, all in favor.

4. Consider voting to recognize the acceptance of \$550.00 in personal donations from local residents from January 1, 2019 through March 30, 2019 for the Council on Aging and approve expenditure of these funds for general purposes

Motion Mr. Rajeshkumar to recognize and accept the donations, second by Mr. Hadley, all in favor.

5. Announce which businesses will appear on Gateway Signs (JH)

Mr. Hadley reports that they have had a lot of good responses from the new Gateway Sign on Route 140. The Economic Development Task Force held their drawing and the business which will appear on the Gateway Sign on Route 140 is The Manor and the sign on Route 12 is Petro Home Services

6. Discuss creating a Board policy to require that we include West Boylston vendors when we solicit quotes for services (PC)

Mr. Crowley feels the town should have a policy that states that if we are going out for outside services and if it is offered by a West Boylston vendor, the town should solicit a quote from them and

if they are comparable to an out-of-town vendor they should be given preference. As an example, if you have a printing job, you should solicit a quote from Connor Sign and Palomar Printing and you can get prices from other people, but if they are offering the service and the price is the same the town vendor should get preference. He would like a written policy for the town. It was agreed to draft up a policy and hold a public hearing at an upcoming meeting.

Interim Town Administrator Report

1. Community Survey

We received 489 Community Surveys. At this time paper surveys are still being entered into the system. We plan to generate an analysis report once that has been completed and present it to the Board.

2. Employee Survey

One of the Board's goals was to establish an Employee Survey. Back in February the Board had the below discussion. It was agreed to schedule a meeting of the sub-committee who worked on the original survey. It consisted of Selectmen Rucho and Rajeshkumar and Norma Chanis.

3. Cemetery Land

We received a letter from the Chairman of the Cemetery Trustees advising us that they currently have 421 graves available. They welcome advice or direction as to what land may be available for use in the near future. I sat down with John Scannell to discuss our need and understand the process we would need to follow if we were to do a land swap or purchase. He tells me that the value is based on the frontage and how many house lots could be on the road. It is not you have ten acres and could put in a subdivision of 'x' number of homes. We did discuss a parcel of property on Prospect Street and perhaps swapping that for River Road.

The Board suggested inviting Mr. Scannell in for an update and inviting his West Boylston replacement in as well. The Board previously discussed the Gambacini property, which we could access by going through DCR property. The DCR wanted impact testings done and it would take two years. Mr. Crowley would like to continue the discussion with the legislators on acquiring land for the cemetery to let them know that it is time for us to move forward and what do we need to have done. Discussion ensued as to whether we should send a formal letter to the legislators telling them all this is to get a driveway into the property and then we need to purchase the property. We discussed getting prices for engineering costs, and we need to let the state know we don't want to spend the money and be told no by the state.

4 Update on filling the position of Treasurer/Collector

We received 11 applications for the position of Treasurer/Collector. After narrowing the first round of applicants to be interviewed down to 3, I contacted the individuals to schedule them in for an interview. At that time one of the applicants declined as he had accepted a position in another town. We had identified a fourth individual as a backup. On Monday, May 6th we interviewed three applicants. The interview team consisted of Bonnie Yasick, Leslie Guertin, Chris Berglund and myself. Our ranking of the candidates were identical. We are finalizing reference checks and background checks for our top choice and I will be scheduling an executive session for next week for concurrence on an employment contract.

5.Update from Town Administrator Search Committee

Mr. Rucho reports that four members of the Search Committee met, they reviewed all the applications and it was a vote of the committee to bring forward one name forward to the Board. That name is Nancy Lucier and if the Board agrees he will sit with her to go over a contract for the Board to consider for executive session.

Motion Mr. Crowley to approve as presented, seconded by Mr. Hadley, all in favor.

6.Consider signing Briarwood Open Space Restriction

The Restriction has been reviewed by Town Counsel and the Planning Board. It requires a sign off by the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen. Monday night the Conservation Commission met and signed off. Mr. Hadley noted that they are required to keep 25% of the property for open space, which is about 8 acres.

Motion Mr. Hadley to sign the Restriction, second by Ms. Bohnson, all in favor.

FISP UPDATE:

General Update

Mr. Rucho reports that we had the grant opening of the senior center, it was a treat time, if you were unable to make it, and he encouraged residents to stop by to get a tour. Mr. Hadley congratulated Lisa and the Council on Aging for doing such a wonderful job.

With regard to the condition of the field, Mr. Rucho noted that we are going to discuss this at the FISP meeting and we will be holding money back and it will be returned to its original condition.

MEETINGS, INVITATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1.May 20, 2019, 6:30 – Special Board meeting prior to Town Meeting

2.May 20, 2019, 7:00 – Semi-Annual Town Meeting

3.May 31, 10-12:00 – Retirement Coffee for Bonnie Yasick, our Treasurer/Collector

4. Mr. Rajeshkumar noted that Candidates' Night is May 23rd from 6-8 at town hall.

5. Mr. Rucho announced that voting will be held at the senior center. Ms. Bohnson reports that a rumor has been going around that the Church was upset because they were losing money because the town changed its polling location. The Church never received any money from the town for all the years they allowed us to conduct voting at their location.

Mr. Rucho thanked everyone who turned out for the town-wide cleanup day. He noted that local businesses helped out with food. He noted Tony and Mark of The Mill, Chris and Chris of Recess provided wrist bands, Anthony of Froze Zone provided gelato, Steve of Steve's Pizza supplied pizzas, Republic gave us a dumpster, gloves, safety vests, and coloring books, resident Kate Boston prepared Thai food and the Trail Court lent the town clean up tools. Mr. Crowley would like the Board to send thank you letters.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/SELECTMENS REPORTS:

Mr. Rajeshkumar has noted manholes around town that need to be fixed.

Mr. Rucho has been monitoring the list of properties damaged from winter plowing. The only things fixed on that list were the mail boxes. Residents are asking him when their lawns will be fixed and he would like to see a little more progress on the list.

Motion Mr. Rajeshkumar at 7:15 p.m. to adjourn, second by Ms. Bohnson, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: May 15, 2019

Nancy E. Lucier, Municipal Assistant

Christopher A. Rucho, Chairman

Patrick J. Crowley, Vice Chairman

Barur R. Rajeshkumar, Clerk

Siobhan M. Bohnson, Selectman

John W. Hadley, Selectman