

PRESENT: Select Board Members Margaret Scarsdale, Tony Beattie and Mark Mathews; Town Administrator, Andrew MacLean; Executive Assistant, Tracie Looney

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Pledge of Allegiance was said. Ms. Scarsdale announced that the remote meeting is being recorded for re-broadcast by Pepperell Community Media and being remotely attended by audience members via GoTo Meeting.

1. **AGENDA PACKET (Please see the following link to documents related to agenda items below.)**
https://town.pepperell.ma.us/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_01242022-3165?packet=true

2. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

- On a motion made by Mr. Beattie and seconded by Mr. Mathews, it was unanimously voted to approve and release the November 29, 2021 Select Board meeting minutes as amended.
- On a motion made by Mr. Mathews and seconded by Mr. Beattie, it was unanimously voted to approve and release the December 13, 2021 Select Board and Housing Authority minutes as written.

3. **BILL AND PAYROLL WARRANTS**

Since the last meeting the Select Board have approved the following payroll and bill warrants:

- January 12, 2022 payable warrant #28B was signed for \$846,697.09
- January 19, 2022 payable warrant #29B was signed for \$121,270.68
- January 20, 2022 payroll warrant #30A was signed for \$267,611.89

4. **SELECT BOARD APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS**

Appointments: None at this time.

5. **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Written Submittals: None at this time.

Audience Comments: None at this time.

6. **DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS**

6.1 7:15 PM Public Hearing – National Grid Pole Petition, Wheeler Street

On a motion made by Ms. Scarsdale and seconded by Mr. Beattie, it was unanimously voted to open the public hearing for a National Grid pole petition at 7:15 PM. National Grid would like to install one SO Pole on Wheeler Street beginning at a point approximately 2000' feet southwest of the centerline of the intersection of Lawrence Street. Install a new Stub Pole 11-84 for a pole to pole guy. Install a sidewalk strut guy. The existing tree guy from Pole 11 needs to be removed. Kim Tavallaimola, National Grid representative, was in attendance to answer any questions from the Board or abutters. One abutter, Mr. Nutter, was in attendance to ask questions regarding the pole petition.

On a motion made by Mr. Beattie and seconded by Mr. Mathews, it was unanimously voted to close the public hearing.

On a motion made by Mr. Mathews and seconded by Mr. Beattie, it was unanimously voted to approve the request by National Grid to install one SO Pole on Wheeler Street beginning at a point approximately 2000' feet southwest of the centerline of the intersection of Lawrence Street. Install a new Stub Pole 11-84 for a pole to pole guy. Install a sidewalk strut guy. The existing tree guy from Pole 11 needs to be removed.

6.2 FY2023 Legislative Funding Requests

The Select Board is considering requests to Pepperell's Legislative Delegation for funding in the FY2023 budget. The Town Administrator shared with the Board what items he would like to see funding for. The TA asked the Board to create their list so he can submit the funding priorities to Senator Kennedy and Representative Harrington. The Board will revisit this at the next Select Board meeting.

6.3 Calendar Year 2022 Goals and Priorities

Each year, the Select Board set priorities and goals for the staff and community to pursue. The Board asked other Boards, Committees, and Commissions to provide input before final action is taken on Calendar Year 2022 goals. The Board discussed final edits to the document.

On a motion made by Mr. Mathews and seconded by Mr. Beattie, it was unanimously voted to adopt the Pepperell Select Board Priorities with final edits by the Select Board.

6.4 Charter Review Comments

The Select Board made recommendations to the Charter Review Committee. The Board had a lengthy discussion with members of the Charter Review Committee regarding their recommendations.

6.5 Schedule Select Board Meetings

The Select Board will review dates for their upcoming meetings. The Board decided to move their regularly scheduled meeting on April 25th (Town Election Day) to the 27th. The Town Administrator will also watch the COVID-19 numbers and consider the Annual Town Meeting dates.

7. REPORTS

7.1 Select Board Reports

The Select Board members gave the following updates:

Chair Scarsdale reports the following actions:

- Attended ARPA public hearing/ holding second meeting on Wednesday
- Met with several different businesses regarding ARPA funds
- Attended EDAC meeting, NC4 meeting
- Working to produce the next Citizen Engagement Night for the spring Annual Town meeting articles

Clerk Beattie reports the following actions:

- Spoke with Lori Trahan's staff regarding the NC4 grant
- Met with the Town Administrator regarding affordable housing opportunities coming to town
- Attended an NC4 meeting
- Joined the ARPA public hearing meeting

Member Mathews reports the following actions:

- Attended ARPA public hearing meeting and Affordable Housing Committee meeting
- Completed work with Stephen Themelis and Ken Hartlage on the Municipal Electrical Aggregation reports
- Meeting with Chelmsford Housing Authority Director tomorrow
- Attended NMCOC meeting, they are searching for Executive Director

7.2 Town Administrator Reports

Please see the following link to the Town Administrator's report.

<https://town.pepperell.ma.us/DocumentCenter/View/6688/TA-Report-2022-01-24>

Municipal Electrical Aggregation: Following Select Board approval to advance the proposal for municipal aggregation to Town Meeting, the Climate Change Council (CCC) established an ad hoc committee to select an aggregation consultant to assist with that effort. The ad hoc committee selected Mass PowerChoice.

Soil Reclamation Proposal Update: No update at this time.

COVID-19 Update: The Town Administrator informed the Board of the latest COVID-19 numbers.

PFAS Update: The Town is seeing numbers dropping and PFAS Task Force has convened.

ARPA Updates: On January 12, 2022 a public information session was held to gather input on the use of Pepperell's ARPA allocation which totals \$3.62 million dollars. We will be holding a second input session on

January 26, 2022 and the Select Board will ultimately prioritize spending options and submit a budget to the US Treasury by April 1, 2022. Currently, there are 50 ideas with an estimated cost exceeding \$9 million.
Future Agenda Topics: The Town Administrator reviewed upcoming topics for the next Select Board meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Beattie and seconded by Mr. Mathews, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracie Looney, Executive Assistant

APPROVED:

Margaret Scarsdale, Chair

Tony Beattie, Clerk

Mark Mathews, Member

Approved: March 2, 2022