

MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD

Date of Meeting: February 20, 2024
Date of Transcription: February 21, 2024
Transcribed by: Karen Wilfert

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIR

2. ROLL CALL

Select Board members present: Ms. Judith Whiteside, Chair
Mr. Jared Chadwick, Clerk
Mr. Alan Slavin
Mr. Ronald Besse

Also Present: Mr. Derek Sullivan, Town Administrator

Not Present: Attorney Richard Bowen, Town Counsel (excused)

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. RESIDENT'S COMMENTS: NONE

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Slavin announced that the light at the intersection of Route 6 and Swifts beach has been 'pushed off' until 2025. Mass DOT was proposing to delay until 2027.

Mr. Slavin announced an on line webinar for the Route 6 reconstruction of bridge over the Weweantic Bridge. The link will be posted on the Town website for the February 28th meeting at 6 p.m.

Mr. Slavin reported there are many speculations about the possible residents of the Woodland Cove project, being built by Dakota Partners.

Mr. Chadwick announced that the Wareham Fire Department has received its new 'pumper truck,' and is expecting the delivery of a brush breaker.

Ms. Whiteside reported on the fund raiser for 'Fishing for the Mission' held over the weekend at Stone Path Malt.

Ms. Whiteside read into the record the fact that there had been an OML complaint filed by Ms. Eckstrom on the February 14th, which she had forwarded to all Board members, and that the response is "I have carefully reviewed the allegations that were in your complaint of February 14th, and the amendment dated February 20th. None of your allegations presents Open Meeting Law issues, notwithstanding your characterization

that the Open Meeting Law has been violated.” Copies of the response will be sent to Ms. Eckstrom, the Town Clerk, the Attorney General, Town Counsel, and all Board members.

6. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/ INTERVIEWS

- a. Library Board of Trustees
 - i. Rich Wolverton – Member – term to expire June 30, 2027
MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved to appoint Rich Wolverton as a Member to the Library Board of Trustees – term to expire June 30, 2027. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Slavin-yes, Mr. Chadwick-yes, Mr. Besse-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 4-0-0 (unanimous)**
- b. Little Harbor Golf Course Advisory Committee
 - i. William McCoy – Member – term to expire December 31, 2024. **Not in attendance, will be on future agenda**

7. LICENSES AND PERMITS

8. TOWN BUSINESS

- a. Discussion and possible vote on \$3 million Swifts Beach Sewer Line Bond.
MOTION: Mr. Chadwick read into the record the entire document provided by Bond counsel regarding the sale of \$2,825,000 General Obligation Bonds for sewer repair, which contained many items, and moved to approve. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Slavin-yes, Mr. Chadwick-yes, Mr. Besse-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 4-0-0 (unanimous)**
- b. Confirmatory vote, previously voted under 48 hour business on 1/23/24, to approve supporting the Trails Grant application for Wareham Land Trust property on Main Street. **MOTION:** Mr. Chadwick moved to confirm the vote, previously voted under 48 hour business on 1/23/24, to approve supporting the Trails Grant application for Wareham Land Trust property on Main Street. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Slavin-yes, Mr. Chadwick-yes, Mr. Besse-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 4-0-0 (unanimous)**
- c. Discussion and possible vote to accept a donation for \$20,000.00 from the Wareham Free Library to be put into the Library Foundation Gift Account.
MOTION: Mr. Chadwick moved to accept a donation for \$20,000.00 from the Wareham Library Foundation to be used for salaries for part-time employees at the Wareham Free Library. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Slavin-yes, Mr. Chadwick-yes, Mr. Besse-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 4-0-0 (unanimous)**
- d. Discussion and possible vote to close harvesting of smelt by net in the Weweantic River, for a five year period. **MOTION:** Mr. Chadwick moved to continue the closure of the harvesting of smelt by net in the Weweantic River, for a five year period. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Slavin-yes, Mr. Chadwick-yes, Mr. Besse-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 4-0-0 (unanimous)**

- e. Discussion and possible vote to execute the employment agreement between the Town of Wareham and Derek D. Sullivan. **MOTION:** Mr. Chadwick moved to execute the employment agreement between the Town of Wareham and Derek D. Sullivan. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Slavin-yes, Mr. Chadwick-yes, Mr. Besse-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 4-0-0 (unanimous)**
- f. Any other Town business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the posting of this meeting. **NONE**

9. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Sullivan summarized the accomplishments of the Town in the past 12 years, including coming from a deficit free cash position, crating and/or refurbishing playgrounds, the improvements to Bay View Park, purchase of the golf course as well as other open space protection. Mr. Sullivan thanked department heads, employees and residents for their ongoing support.

Mr. Sullivan presented the proposed budget for the next fiscal year, a copy of which will be posted on the town website. The presentation was detailed and informative.

10. LIAISON/INITIATIVE REPORTS/BOARD'S COMMENTS

11. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Authorization to sign bills and documents, etc.
- b. Approval of meeting minutes:
 - i. Select Board Meeting Minutes 1/23/24. **MOTION:** Mr. Chadwick moved to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes for 1/23/24. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Slavin-yes, Mr. Chadwick-yes, Mr. Besse-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 4-0-0 (unanimous)**
 - ii. Select Board Meeting Minutes 2/6/24. **MOTION:** Mr. Chadwick moved to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes for 2/6/24. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Slavin-yes, Mr. Chadwick-yes, Mr. Besse-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 4-0-0 (unanimous)**
 - iii. Select Board Executive Meeting Minutes 2/6/24. **MOTION:** Mr. Chadwick moved to approve the Select Board Executive Meeting Minutes for 2/6/24, with correction and to release. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Slavin-yes, Mr. Chadwick-yes, Mr. Besse-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 4-0-0 (unanimous)**

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Slavin moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Slavin-yes, Mr. Chadwick-yes, Mr. Besse-yes, Ms. Whiteside-yes. **VOTE: 4-0-0(unanimous).**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

13. SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Wilfert
Department Assistant

The foregoing minutes were submitted to the Select Board:

Attest:


Jared Chadwick, Clerk

Date Signed: 3/5/24

The foregoing minutes were submitted to the Select Board on: 3/5/24

DOCUMENTS REVIEWED AND/OR USED IN MEETING

1. Rich Wolverton Board of Library Trustees application
2. William McCoy Little Harbor Golf Course Advisory Committee application
3. \$2,825,000 General Obligation Sewer Repair Bond and Disbursement list
4. \$20,000 donation from the Wareham Library Foundation to the Wareham Free library
5. Weweantic smelt harvesting packet
6. Select Board Meeting Minutes 1/23/24
7. Select Board Meeting Minutes 2/6/24
8. Select Board Executive Session Meeting Minutes 2/6/24
9. Budget proposed by Derek Sullivan