

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES– Final

Donaldson Room
Monday March 9, 2020
6:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Jennifer Glass, Chair; James Craig; Jonathan Dwyer

STAFF: Timothy Higgins, Town Administrator; Peggy Elder, Administrative Assistant

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:

- Ms. Glass opened the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Mr. Craig thanked the Lincoln Fire Department which contained a large brush fire in his neighborhood. He added that it was a mutual aid effort which included the Wayland Fire Department.

APPOINTMENTS:

- Article 8 – Proposal to Change Board of Selectmen Name – Peter Von Mertens, Ellen Meyer-Shorb, Emily Haslett, and Kim Bodner joined the meeting. They gave a preview of the proposed general bylaw amendment to change the name of the Board of Selectmen to “Select Board,” and individually to “Select Board Member.” As a general bylaw amendment, a simple majority vote is required. The Selectmen’s Association recently voted to change its name to Select Board Association. It was noted that Sudbury, Bedford, Lexington, Weston and Concord have already changed to Select Board. Mr. Dwyer made a motion to support the proposed change in name from Board of Selectmen to Select Board. Mr. Craig seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Article 13 – Resolution in Support of Gun Safety - Eighth Graders Courtney Mitchell, Niko Kontos, Gray Birchby, Zoe Borden, and Hannah Bodner along with Town Moderator Sarah Cannon-Holden joined the meeting to give the Board a preview their proposed resolution and to ask the Board to support the resolution asking Town Meeting to endorse the gun safety reform legislation that is being pursued by the Parkland Florida Students’ Association. As a resolution, a simple majority vote is required. The students have met with Lincoln Police Chief Kevin Kennedy as well as Senator Michael Barrett regarding their proposed resolution. The Board encouraged the group and thanked them for their efforts.
- Article 14 – Resolution in Support of Climate Measures – Chris Klem, Sue Klem, and Emily Haslett joined the meeting to present the petition which is in the form of a resolution urging a variety of climate-related actions, including:
 - Continued participation of the United States in the Paris Climate Accord;

- Enactment by the Massachusetts legislature and implementation by the executive branch of certain statewide climate related policies
- Letting elected officials and the state and local level how the Town voted and encouraging Town representatives to support climate change opportunities in the future.
- Develop a long-range climate action roadmap and recommendations to assist the Board of Selectmen, town departments, boards, and committees going forward.

As a resolution, a simple majority vote is required.

- Article #s15 – 17 - Mothers Out Front members Trish O’Hagan, Stacy Montori, Sheila Dennis, and Emily Haslett joined the meeting and presented their two proposed bylaws and their resolution.

Article 15 – Proposed Polystyrene Ban - The petition proposes a general bylaw, with a delayed effective date of February, 2021, banning the use or sale of polystyrene products in restaurants and other retail establishments. To date, 46 towns and cities in Massachusetts have instituted this type of ban. As a general bylaw, the amendment requires a majority vote.

Article 16 – Proposed Check-out Bag Fee - The petition proposes a home rule petition which, if approved by the legislature, would require all Lincoln retailers to charge a minimum fee of \$.10 for non-reusable check-out bags. The group noted that retailers are generally in favor of this type of bylaw because it allows them to recoup the cost of providing bags. A majority vote is required to adopt home rule petitions.

Article 17 – Plastic Straw Ban - The petition proposes a general bylaw amendment to ban the use and sale of plastic straws and stirrers in Lincoln restaurants and retail establishments. A majority vote is required to adopt home rule petitions.

The Board of Selectmen have taken the proposed articles under advisement.

OPEN FORUM:

- None

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

- Coronavirus Planning – Mr. Higgins reported that he and the Town’s Public Health Nurse Trish McGean organized a meeting of key department heads last Friday to make sure the most current information and suggested best practices are being shared. Participating departments included: Board of Health, Council on Aging, Parks & Recreation, Lincoln Public Schools, Public Safety, Water Department, Finance Director, Planning Department, and the Technology Director. Particular attention was given to updates/advisories from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Massachusetts Department of Public Health and other reputable sources. A flyer addressing the virus will be sent out with the Town Meeting mailing.

- Walden Area Parcel Conveyance – Mr. Higgins confirmed that the conveyance of the Walden parcel from the Town to the Commonwealth has been completed and the Deed has been registered.

DISCUSSION:

- Annual Town Meeting Planning – Mr. Higgins reported that planning is going along well and noted that at the last meeting the Board approved the list of assignments. Mr. Craig commented that the Stormwater Article was a Planning Board article, but noted that Mr. Higgins was taking that assignment. Mr. Higgins confirmed that he would be handling the Stormwater Article as he is a member of the stormwater planning team and offered to take on the assignment.
- Special Town Meeting Planning – Mr. Higgins reported that the action item for the Board tonight is to sign the special town meeting warrant. The warrant is an announcement to the Town describing the business to be undertaken at the meeting. He added that as the meeting gets closer the motion will get finalized which will verbatim describe what action the Voters of the Town are being asked to vote on. The Town bylaw states that the warrant for a special town meeting must be posted at least fourteen (14) days in advance of the meeting. Mr. Higgins reported that the substance of the Article has been approved by the School Building Committee, the School Committee, and the Finance Committee. He explained that what it does is ask the Town to vote to supplement the funding that was approved under the 93.9 million dollar bond article. The article does not include a number because warrant articles do not include numbers, but warrant articles do. This preserves all of the funding sources available with the exception of borrowing because the FinCom and the Financial Officers are in agreement that borrowing is not a remedy that the Town can resort to.
- Liaison Reports
SBC – Ms. Glass reported that at their last meeting the FinCom approved the idea of putting before the Town the request for up to \$2 million in additional funds to reinstate parts of the project that had to be eliminated to keep it on budget. She added that the committee has a meeting with CapCom on Wednesday and that there is a public hearing scheduled for March 18th at the Hartwell multipurpose room at 7:30PM.

ACTION ITEMS:

- March 28, 2020 Special Town Meeting Warrant – Mr. Craig made a motion to sign the Warrant for the March 28, 2020 Special Town Meeting. Mr. Dwyer seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Entertainment License for REAL Restaurant – Mr. Dwyer made a motion to approve the 2020 renewal for an Entertainment License for REAL Restaurant. Mr. Craig seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- None

MEETING MINUTES:

- February 24, 2020 – Mr. Craig made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2020 meeting as submitted. Mr. Dwyer seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

WARRANTS:

- Mr. Craig made a motion to sign the warrants. Mr. Dwyer seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Mr. Dwyer made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Craig seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:46 P.M.

Submitted by Peggy Elder

Approved 03/23/2020