

Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833

Meeting Minutes June 12, 2023

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Memorial Town Hall

7:00PM-General Meeting

Verizon Channel 42/Comcast channel 9

Selectmen Present: *A. Smith, Chair, D. Lamonica, Rachel Bancroft and Robert Hoover*

Others Present: *Orlando Pacheco, Town Administrator.
Administrative Assistant, Maureen Shultz participating on Zoom.*

Absent: *D. Dawes*

7:00PM CALL TO ORDER

Moment of Silence was done by the Board members.

Pledge of Allegiance

GYCC Donation-*Donation made to support staff-\$5,000.00 Gift*

D. Lamonica asked if there are stipulations on approving /accepting this gift.

R. Bancroft motioned the Board to approve and accept the gift / donation of \$5,000.00 to be deposited in the gift account, seconded by D. LaMonica. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

Hybrid Discussion State Policy:

A. Smith spoke on the State's Hybrid Policy and did not find solid information from the state, the Board was asked if they wanted to accept the States Hybrid Policy or create our own.

R. Bancroft suggested to accept the States Hybrid Policy or have their own policy for the Town and make it more stringent.

O. Pacheco, Town Administrator commented that the Board has a public comment policy which can be incorporated with the State Hybrid Policy.

Topics Discussed:

- *Review and approve a policy.*
- *Extend participation.*
- *Taking zoom link and opening it up.*
- *Public Comment.*

- *Public participation*

D. LaMonica asked what would be the difference having someone make a comment.

D. LaMonica would like to use the state policy and then if we need to modify that policy as necessary and would like something in writing.

NEW BUSINESS: Selectman Report

Open space committees creating nature trails -inviting everyone to site walk on Saturday June 17, 2023 recreation area on West Main Street -surveys went out. Universal access was discussed.

Discussion on June meeting dates: The Board will meet on June 5th & 12th, 2023.

A. Smith mentioned the Juneteenth State Holiday which will held on June 19, 2023-Town Buildings will be closed.

Family Pride Day at Camp Dennison was discussed.

Existence of various Boards and Committees:

A. Smith spoke on current Boards that might not be longer in need.

A. Smith spoke on the Economic Development Committee which has not met in a while or years and currently there are three members.

R. Hoover suggested to have time for people that are on these committees have a say maybe invite them to a meeting to speak if they want to continue on these committees.

Energy Committee -disbanded officially.

D. LaMonica motioned the Board to abolish the Energy Committee, seconded by R. Hoover

Fence Viewer:

A. Smith informed the Board of the definition of a fence viewer.

D. LaMonica motioned the Board to appoint Building Inspector James Pike as the Town's fence Viewer with a term to expire June 30, 2024, seconded by R. Hoover.

Mobil Food Vendor Committee -A. Smith spoke on this Committee -food trucks were discussed and who over sees them -Health Department over sees for the Town, State permits -why was this convened was asked by A. Smith. -

D. LaMonica asked who is in charge or overseeing the safety of these food trucks.

D. LaMonica motioned the Board to dissolve the Mobile Food Vendor, seconded by R. Hoover.

Memorial Day Committee:

A. Smith spoke on behalf of Selectman Dawes who suggested that the American legion post 211 and the VFW -7608 be the only ones appointed to Memorial Day Committee and use volunteers to fill the Board if needed.

R. Bancroft motioned the Board to appoint the American Legion Post 211 & the VFW Post 7608 to the Memorial Day Committee, seconded by D. LaMonica.

MVPC member from the Planning Board appointment:

O. Pacheco, Town Administrator asked A. Smith if it legally alright to appoint an alternate from the Planning Board.

H. LaCortiglia, Georgetown Planning Board member was present and spoke on the appointment to the MVPC from the Planning Board.

R. Bancroft motioned the Board to appoint Robert Watts as a Planning Board representative as an alternate to the MVPC seconded by D. LaMonica.

Water Management Activities was discussed to remove this Committee. R Bancroft would feel more comfortable if the Board found out more information about the committee before disbanding it. No action taken.

Stormwater Management Committee was discussed to remove this committee- no need for this committee any longer. D. LaMonica motioned the Board to disband the Stormwater Management Committee, seconded by R. Hoover.

OPEP Trust Fund was discussed -O. Pacheco, Town Administrator will speak to the finance committee on this.

MVPC Regional Brownfields Advisory Committee:

O. Pacheco, Town Administrator asked if there was an appointment to the MVPC Regional Brownfields Advisory Committee -A. Smith replied there was no appointment made and asked for a definition of this Committee. A. Smith asked for the record what is brownfields -Contaminated property.

R. Bancroft motioned the Board to appoint John Cashell of the Planning Board as the member of MVPC Regional Brownfields Advisory Committee seconded by D. LaMonica.

Sexual Harassment Grievance Officer Board members discussed briefly A. Smith questioned if this is going to be eventually handled by the HR Person.

D. LaMonica asked since there is no current HR Director who would be doing this position / O. Pacheco, Town Administrator stated the role would fall to the Town Administrator and Police Chief Don Cudmore has been doing it currently

D. LaMonica questioned criminal content more of a harassment situation genially not criminal -Police Department does the initial investigation.

R. Bancroft suggested having this moved from the Town Hall as she feels people could feel uncomfortable to speak and might not be comfortable to state the information within the building where they work with others.

Initially reporting goes to the Police Department

R. Hoover stated this is an important issue and asked how it can be addressed.

Lamonica stated that Human Resources would be preferrable than not having anything in place.

A. Smith asked about what if there might be someone not be comfortable going to certain genders, even asked about the initial report.

R. Hoover asked how this is to be addressed.

R. Bancroft thinks the female police officers should be spoken to since they have training- and see if they want to do this and then go from there.

Our Town Council has resources and vendors if needed per O. Pacheco, Town Administrator

Affordable Housing Trust and the Affordable Housing Task Force.

O. Pacheco, Town Administrator asked how the Board handle the Affordable Housing Trust and the Affordable Housing Task Force. A. Smith will reach out to Peter Kershaw to see if he would like to remain on the Housing task force and housing trustees how did the Board handle these two Boards was asked by O. Pacheco, Town Administrator ----A. Smith will double check with peter to see if he wants to stay on the Affordable housing Task Force.

Ethnical Liaison was asked by A. Smith asked what it is.

OLD BUSINESS:

O. Pacheco, Town Administrator gave the Board an update on the Mello Host Agreement -and spoke on language in the report on the Air Quality which was sent to the Board of Health.

R. Hoover asked for a summary of the process before the amendment.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT:

A. Smith spoke on the UNANT Design Site Walk.

A. Smith informed the Board of the Juneteenth Holiday Monday, June 19th, 2023, (State Holiday)

APPOINTMENT AND APPROVALS: *Continuation of appointments & Re-appointments to various Boards and Committees.*

Building Department appointments:

D. Lamonica motioned the Board to appoint James Pike as the Building Commissioner, Glen Clohecy, Alternate Building Inspector, Stanley Kulacz, Gas Plumbing Inspector, Carl Maglio, Wire Inspector, David Cassidy, Alternate Wire Inspector, and Mike Montello, alternate gas/plumbing inspector all term to end June 30, 2024, seconded by R. Bancroft. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

Conservation Commission appointments:

A. Smith asked a questioned on the Board reaching member Elizabeth Clark but had not heard anything back from her, it was asked to Carl Shrader, Conservation Commission Chair who is present what happens with this member for re-appointment.

O. Pacheco, Town Administrator mentioned some Board continue with the new appointment.

R. Bancroft stated that she has not been attending meeting.

Rebecca Chane was present and stated that since she was not reappointed last year, she was still a member due to Roberts Rules since no one was appointed.

R. Bancroft commented that Ms. Chane since she is present and the Board has appointed people without being here shows that she has made it very clear that she wants to be appointed and spoke on how she was treated last year.

R. Bancroft motioned the Board to appoint Rebecca Chane to the Conservation Commission with a term for two years to end on June 30, 2025 seconded by R. Hoover. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

D. Lamonica motioned the Board to re-appoint R. Bancroft to a term to expire June 30, 2026, seconded by R. Hoover. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

A, Smith asked Ms. Wye what her profession is -Landscape Designer and it was asked if she would have any conflicts with any residents in Georgetown.

R. Bancroft motioned the Board to appoint Ida Wye as a member to the Conservation Commission, for a term of three June 30, 2026, seconded by R. Hoover. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

Emergency Management Director:

R. Bancroft motioned the Board to appoint Fire Chief Matt McKay as the Emergency Management Director, for a term to expire June 30, 2024, seconded by D. LaMonica. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

Saturn (Statewide Anti-Terrorism Unified Response Network) Appointment:

R. Bancroft motioned the Board to appoint Fire Chief Matt McKay and Lieutenant Scott Hatch Scott Hatch for a term to expire June 30, 2024, seconded by D. LaMonica. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

Georgetown Cares

O. Pacheco, Town Administrator spoke on the State not giving any funding on this program use to be \$25K per year deciding if the Committee is needed, this has been tabled for now.

R. Hoover asked why the State had changed this funding commented that he finds it very discouraging

Recreational Path Committee:

R. Bancroft motioned the Board to appoint John Colton, Julie Coolidge, Kate Cook, Christian Roop and Bill Hastings for a term to expire June 30, 2024, Seconded by D. LaMonica. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

Scholarship Committee:

R. Bancroft motioned the Board to nominate Margaret Ferrick, School Superintendent, Jeanine Dion, Diane Collins, Michael Anderson, seconded by D. LaMonica. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

Weight & Measure:

D. LaMonica motioned the Board to appoint the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Sealer of Weights and Measures for a term to end June 30, 2024, seconded by R. Bancroft. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

Town Accountant:

D. LaMonica motioned the Board to appoint Town Accountant, Mary McMenemy for a term to end June 30, 2024, seconded by R. Hoover. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

Finance Director Discussion:

O. Pacheco, Town Administrator spoke on a Finance Director not a huge fan to create position just to create position -relaying others comments.

A. Smith asked if Town Treasurer Alex Williams could be the Finance Director.

D. LaMonica mentioned the scope of work for a Finance Director and is it justified in that position.

Town Council:

D. LaMonica motioned the Board to appoint Town Counsel, KP Law or a term to expire June 30, 2024. R. Hoover opened a discussion and asked if the Town has ever looked at another Law Office and what happened and inquired if any firms' principals attended every planning board meeting and that was how they structured their fees continued discussion will take place a future meeting of the Board. Seconded by R. Bancroft. Roll call vote was taken all in favor. -

Board members would like to continue to discuss at a future meeting the position of a Finance Director at the next meeting under new business. The Town has not funded a Finance Director position -at the next meeting we will discuss. Town Administrator, O. Pacheco

Traffic Review Committee

D. LaMonica stated that there has to be a reason why the Town had to grind East Main Street on a Friday with traffic all backed up and a Police Officer directing traffic at that time of the day.

O. Pacheco, Town Administrator spoke on the grinding on East Main Street was part of the Winter Recovery Assistance Program the money had to be spent but was not able to pay the shift differential -could not pay it.

R. Hoover asked about the accident at G Mello and mentioned the traffic and possibly have it part of the Traffic Review Committee, suggested he would help on the Committee if needed.

D. LaMonica motioned the Board to appoint Peter Durkee, Highway Supervisor, Officer Dan Jenkins, Lieutenant Scott Hatch and Selectman Amy Smith, R. Hoover to the Traffic Review Committee with a term to expire June 30, 2024, seconded the motion R. Hoover.

R. Bancroft motioned the Board to appoint Rob Hoover to the Traffic Review Committee with a term to expire June 30, 2024, seconded by D. LaMonica. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

Electric Charging Stations were discussed, parking spots, down town parking, -down town parking spaces too close to buildings, handicapped places, updated signs.

D. LaMonica asked where Electric Cars Park can a citation be issued is someone else parks there was asked by -only EV cars can park is there a citation that the Town can write for an electric car was asked by D. LaMonica.

Town Hall has a two-hour limit.

Treasurer / Tax Collector

R. Hoover motioned the Board to appoint Alexander Williams as the treasury tax collector for the Town of Georgetown with a term to expire June 30, 2024, seconded by D. LaMonica

R. Hoover motioned the Board to appoint Jen Davis as the Assistant Town Treasurer / tax Collector for the Town of Georgetown, seconded by D. LaMonica

Tree Warden

R. Bancroft questioned why the Town has a Tree Warden when they have under ten thousand (10K) residents questioned if we should contract out to save the Town money and stated we don't need a full-time tree warden.

D. LaMonica asked if this position comes with a stipend.

R. Hoover stated a lot of questions comes with this position, P. Durkee, Highway Supervisor is available for this process as it unfolds in the real world.

R. Bancroft mentioned that P. Durkee does not cut the tree down he contracts it out

R. Hoover mentioned week standards that have to be followed when arborist is used in Town. / Tree to tree replacements not sure if it is used anymore in Town.

R. Bancroft suggested to look at this appointment instead of a three-year term this was mentioned by R. Bancroft

R Hoover suggest to find a better description of a tree warden.

R. Hoover agreed to have a one-year term discussion for a tree warden in the future, it's about the big picture, climate change, cost effective way is in shade trees -where they go -a discussion in the future or on an agenda.

D. LaMonica questioned the by-laws and who oversees the projects / tree removals and replacements and who follows up with these.

Veterans District Representative:

R. Hoover motioned the Board to appoint Doug Dawes as Veterans District representative and D. LaMonica as Veterans District Representative Alternate seconded by R. Bancroft. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

Zoning Board of Appeals

D. LaMonica motioned the Board to re-appoint Eric Burton as an Associate Member of the ZBA for a term to end June 30, 2024, seconded by R. Hoover.

R. Bancroft motioned the Board to appoint Tracy Hartman as associate members of the ZBA with a term to expire June 30, 2024 seconded by R. Hoover.

Continued Appointments:

Next meeting will be on Monday June 26th, 2023 to continue with the remaining of appointments

DISCUSSION:

R. Hoover spoke on starting the process as it relates to the upcoming budget process doesn't think we should keep going the way we are going, does not see to work when it comes to the budget -start pulling ideas maybe ten subjects and or three projects More than willing to be the point person for ideas and subjects from board members so that eventually we don't want to keep putting out fires.

A. Smith mentioned liaison to Boards and Committees, all projects can get done, work with each.

D. LaMonica asked if we looking at all the Committees regarding liaisons.

R. Hoover would like to be the liaison to the Planning Board.

O. Pacheco, Town Administrator, spoke on the phone system malfunction in Town which started in Worcester.

ADJOURNMENT:

D. LaMonica motioned the Board to adjourn at 9:15 P.M. with R. Hoover seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken all in favor.

All Board of Selectman Meetings can be viewed on our Town Website at <https://www.georgetownma.gov> - Under the Community TV tab on the left side.

Documents used in the meeting:

State Hybrid INFO

Re-appointment letter for ZBA members

Appointment List & Letters.