



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 4, 2019

7:00 PM

ROOM 204, ACTON TOWN HALL, 472 MAIN STREET

Present: Joan Gardner, Jon Benson, Dean Charter, Peter J. Berry, David Martin, Town Manager

John S. Mangiaratti, Assistant Town Manager Mark Hald, Recording Secretary Lisa Tomyl

Absent:

I. Regular Business

1. Citizen Concerns

None

2. Chair Update/Town Manager Update

Ms. Gardner- Veteran's Day ceremony on 11/12 at 11 am on Town Common, or in 204 if there is inclement weather. Voter registration deadline coming up for the December 10 special meeting. Town Hall will be open on November 30th from 8am-8pm for voter registration

Mr. Mangiaratti - Congratulations to Patrol Officer David Joachim who awarded with a medal of valor for his actions at a call in town last October. Municipal monthly with events and timelines is now available on the Town website, thank you to Maura from Recreation Department who compiles the municipal monthly along with Austin Cyganiewicz. There is a Fire Station forum at 7 pm at EOC; the MassWorks grant was not awarded to the town, but will work with state for next year; Acton Nursing Services was awarded the Home Elite Award; CPC applications are due November 18th; several projects in the works including East Acton Village Green project, NARA Sports Pavilion project, Gardner Field, 53 River Street, administration services to run CPC program, affordable housing Memorial Library restoration projects, Acton Center monument; 127 Strawberry Hill Road setback – Historical Commission reviewed the plan and made a recommendation and are comfortable to reduce the setback and are in the process of a plan to bring back to the Board at a later date.

II. New/Special Business

3. Update on MassDot Project at Route 2/Taylor Road

Corey York DPW Director updated the Board where we are with the project. The state has been around a couple of times and has prioritized this project along rt 2. Tried to have a timeline of a 25% completion forum this past Spring but will be pushed back to late fall.

Ripley Martin, 15 Barker Road – thanks Corey being responsive to questions from residents and the Rt 2 process, representative from Barker and Stacy Way maintaining the turning lane on Piper Lane.



Dean Charter wanted to acknowledge the work of the FD and PD with 2 major accidents. Response was quick calm and responsible. They continue doing a great job. Damage to utility infrastructure and Eversource was out in an hour. Thanks to all agencies.

4. Update on West Acton Sewer Project

Mr. Martin updated the Board on the status of the West Acton Sewer Project. Betterment letters went out to the abutters in the sewer district last week. Each individual household / business had individual amount what the betterment would cost. Mr. Berry questioned what fund is paying for the sewer – sewer privilege fee. Mr. Martin commented that the project accounts for 10% of the plant's capacity. Current subscribers will not be seeing a reduction in fees as the current plant is 20 years old and will need maintenance work. Michaela Moran, School Street – concerned that the sewerage in South Acton to keep business in South Acton made businesses leave and increased residential housing increase, wondering if a buildout study has been conducted in West Acton. Would like to see the estimated buildout data before both special town meetings. Concerned that business will leave West Acton.

5. Finalize Warrant and Assign Presentations for December 10, 2019 Special Town Meeting

Mr. Berry moves to put off the proposed article to amend the Town Charter – Title of Chief Executive until the Annual Spring Town Meeting, Mr. Charter seconds. The Board voted 3-2 (Martin and Benson). The motion carries.

Mr. Benson moves the warrant article order as:

Article 1 – Acton-Boxborough Regional School district – School Design & Construction
Article 2 – North Acton Fire Station

Article 3 – Sewer District Expansion – West Acton

Mr. Berry seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries. Article 1 will be presented by Mr. Berry, Article 2 will be presented by Mr. Charter, Article 3 will be presented by Mr. Martin. The Board will make recommendations for each article at the November 18th meeting.

6. Approve December 17, 2019 Special Town Election Ballot

Mr. Martin moves to include the Minuteman ballot question in the Special Town Election on December 17th, Mr. Charter seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries.

Mr. Benson moves to include the ballot question regarding the twin school design and construction, Mr. Martin seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries.

Mr. Benson moves to include the North Acton Fire Station debit inclusion ballot question, Mr. Martin seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries.

Mr. Benson moves that the order of the ballot questions are twin schools, North Acton Fire Station, and Minuteman, Mr. Martin seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries.

7. New Special Town Meeting Petition – Finalize and Close Warrant and Set Date of Additional Special Town Meeting



Mr. Martin moves to hold the additional Special Town Meeting on December 3, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School Auditorium, Mr. Charter seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries.

Mr. Martin moves to open and close the warrant for the December 3, 2019 Special Town Meeting, Mr. Berry seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries.

8. Friends of Gardner Field Presentation

Paul Swyden presented to the Board a presentation on the refurbishing of Gardner Field located on Mass Ave and is looking to apply for CPC funds to assist in costs with updating the playground for the entire community.

Recreation Department is partnering with the private group and will be submitting the application.

9. Update on North Acton Fire Station Cost Estimate

Mr. Mangiaratti presented an update to the Board regarding the design of the North Acton Fire Station and the preliminary cost estimate of \$10,343,376. Mr. Berry moves to apply the Acton Avalon gift funds to reduce the cost of the project contingent on funding approved at Town Meeting, Mr. Charter seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries.

10. Designate Liaison from Board for the Sustainability Policy Implementation

Mr. Charter moves to appoint Peter Berry as Board liaison to sustainability policy, Mr. Martin seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries.

11. Amend to Existing Traffic Rules and Orders, Parking Restrictions, Town Hall/Memorial Library, South Acton Commuter Lot – Central Street for Electric Vehicle Parking Spaces

Mr. Mangiaratti explained to the Board that the charging station has been replaced outside Town Hall. The action being requested is that the Board approves the TRO amendment to include after 45 minutes of charging the rate is \$1.20 per hour charging at \$.02/minute

Mr. Charter has concern that the taxpayers are paying for those that use electric vehicles vs. those that do not and that there could be a revenue issue when more charging stations get installed. Mr. Mangiaratti will look into other proposals.

Mr. Benson moves to approve the amended Traffic Rules and Order regarding the Town Hall electric vehicle charging parking spaces, Mr. Charter seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries.

12. Update on Question Related to Potential Tree Damage and Potential Tree Arborist for Proposed Piper Lane Project

Mr. Charter updated the Board commenting that there is no state statute regarding damaged trees on properties and that it is a complicated issue with damaged trees on neighboring properties. There is a potential for tree damage on town owned property adjacent to Summit Drive; feels that it should be investigated further with town staff involved. Mr. Mangiaratti will work with DPW Director Corey York and town staff and



report back to the Board. Mr. Charter commented that the first step is get out on the grounds with Corey and Ryan Hunt (Tree Warden) to make an assessment of the trees and where the excavation will take place in relation to the tree locations.

Michaela Moran, 8- School Street – commented that the attorney for SANA stresses to make sure Arborist gets out to location to view the area.

ZBA has hearing scheduled for December 3rd – questioning if they need to move their hearing to another date. Mr. Mangiaratti will discuss with staff about changing the date.

III. Consent Items

Ms. Gardner included a one day alcoholic beverage license for Congregational Beth Elohim for November 16, 2019 as a consent item not previously on the agenda. Mr. Benson suggested it be listed as item 20. Mr. Benson moves to approve consent items 13-20, Mr. Martin seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries.

Mr. Benson moves to adjourn, Mr. Martin seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

- Route 2/Taylor Road Proposed Map
- West Acton Sewer Draft Betterment Letter and Proposed Map
- December 17, 2019 Special Election Ballot
- Additional Special Town Meeting Warrant
- Special Town Meeting Petition
- Friends of Gardner Field Presentation
- North Acton Fire Station Cost Estimate Presentation
- TRO Parking Restriction and Pricing – Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
- Meeting Minutes
- Memo from ACHC
- Accept Gift – Recreation Department, Product Donation, Dunkin Donuts
- Accept Gift – Recreation Department, Metal Roofing Materials
- Fee Waiver Request, Acton Water District for a Variance Application
- Acton Memorial Library Memo – Request to Dispose of Obsolete Items