

**MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2023 6:30 p.m.
SELECT BOARD HEARING ROOM – TOWN HALL**

In attendance Anthony Vegnani, Chair Andrew Goodrich, Vice Chair, Maura Curran, Clerk, Karen Canfield, Karen Connolly

Also, in attendance, Jim Boudreau, Town Administrator

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Ms. Canfield at 6:34 PM to accept the agenda for February 7, 2023 second by Ms. Connolly Unanimous Vote (5-0)

Mr. Vegnani read the following statement:

The Scituate Select Board is committed to providing an environment of respect during meetings. We ask all members to interact in a polite manner even when there is disagreement.

We value the participation of our community and want all participants, including marginalized and minoritized communities, to feel welcomed and respected.

We ask our committee members, and all who participate, to commit to these standards to support and respect our community.

WALK INS – None

REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

1. Water update. We are at +1.75", last week we were at +7". Tack factory Pond is also at +5 down from +6". Average daily demand was at 1.194 MGD up from last week's 1.022 MGD. Rainfall over the last 7 days was .12" measured at the Plant.

As has been discussed at prior meetings of the Select Board, the Department continues to work on getting a full- scale pilot program up and running at the treatment for removal of iron and manganese from the water in the reservoir. A contract has been awarded to Tighe and Bond and we expect to have the system on line for the summer months when water use is heaviest.

2. The Annual Town Election will be held May 20, 2023 at Scituate High School. Nomination papers are available in the Town Clerk's Office for any registered voter interested in running for an elected position. Please call the Town Clerk's office at 781-545-9743 if you are interested in taking out nomination papers. Papers must be returned with at least 100 signatures of registered voters for certification by the Town Clerk by 5:00pm on March 31, 2023
3. The Town is seeking community feedback on concept designs for a new park being planned at the old Pier 44. All the feedback we receive from this survey will help guide the park design which includes demolishing the existing building and replacing it with parkland and a pavilion. It is an online survey and you can find the link on the Town News page on Coastal Management web page. The survey will be open for the rest of February so please take a few minutes to provide your comments. We are also planning two public information sessions that will be held on March 7th at the library. The first session will be at 11:00 am and the second will be at 7:00 pm.

4. Please be advised that per the Division of Marine Fisheries, the Clam Flats are closed indefinitely due to a sewer overflow at the Rockland wastewater treatment plant. You can check the web page for the Division of Marine Fisheries or the page for the Scituate Town Clerk for updates.
5. We reviewed the consultant's report on the lighthouse. The team is moving ahead with replacing the current 1930's lantern room with a new lantern room of the same design. After review, the top four feet of brick work will also be removed and replaced. The consultant will now prepare bid documents in preparation for getting the project out to bid by the end of this month and the repairs underway. The base of the lantern's iron frame, which was severely corroded, was removed to lift off the lantern from the tower. We hoped that the remaining iron frame in the lantern was sufficiently free from corrosion to repair and graft a new base onto it, but close inspection shows that much of the remaining iron frame columns are corroded and unsalvageable. To selectively replace the corroded iron would effectively mean building much of a new frame entirely. Not to mention the woodwork and copper cladding, which requires almost complete replacement. By the time all the iron, wood, and copper work are repaired/replaced, we would effectively be looking at a new lantern anyways. Fabricating a new replica lantern with a modern frame, woodwork, and copperwork is the most prudent solution. And, allowing the contractor to take ownership of the existing lantern to use as a "template" in fabrication of a new one. This project is being funded with monies from the Community Preservation Fund for Historical Preservation. The CPC and Town Meeting allotted \$2 million from the fund for this project.
6. If you are down in Cole Parkway you will see a Conex trailer parked in the spaces for the harbormaster. This is the beginning of the new dock project that will be on-going this winter. The contractor will be removing the electrical boxes from the docks in preparation for removing the old docks. Starting this week, the contractor will be fencing off a portion of the Parkway near the bandstand to stage equipment and materials for the project, similar to what was done when we did the piling project. A plan showing the areas of work will be posted on the town web site. All work is scheduled to be completed by the start of the boating season. This project is being funded through grants from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Town's Waterways Fund. The waterways fund is funded with user fees from boaters using moorings and slips in the harbor and for using the waterways in general. Project will be done for the start of boating season in May.
7. The Superintendent and I had received several calls and emails relative to the condition of the large flag on the pole at the stadium field at the High school. The mechanism for raising and lowering the flag was not working so we had not been able to remove or lower the flag. We are pleased to let people know that we were able to remove the flag and the broken mechanism. They have ordered new parts to repair the mechanism and will be returning to make repairs when those are available and the weather permits. Our plan is to leave the flag off the pole for the time being and replace it in the spring at the start of the spring sport season. This will save wear and tear on the flag during a period of time when the facility is not in use.
8. Just a heads up that Beach Stickers will go on sale on 2/13 at 8:30 am. Non-resident and Humarock only stickers will be for sale on-line only! The sale goes live at 8:30. You will not get an email that the stickers are on sale. If you are looking for a non-resident sticker remember that they sold out in 7 minutes last year so be ready!
 - a. Non-Resident sticker is \$300
 - b. Non-Resident Humarock only is \$100
 - c. Resident stickers are \$35

9. Finally, on a sad note for us, but a happy one for her, Maura Glancy, our fabulous Recreation Director has announced her retirement effective February 28, 2023. Maura has done a great job for the Town and she will be missed.

Ms. Canfield asked where we stand on the auction of house contents at the Mordecai Lincoln property. It was recommended that we have a sale during the warmer weather. Mr. Boudreau will work with Nancy Holt on this.

SCHEDULED ITEMS:

Acceptance of Donations

- Trophy Case & Tournament Trophies for Widows Walk, Ian Kelley, Director, Widows Walk

Mr. Kelly couldn't attend the meeting so postponed to a future meeting.

- Seventeen Streamlight Pro Tac Rail Mount HL-X 1,000 lumen flashlights, \$2,313.17, Mark Thompson, Chief of Police

The Scituate Police Department has received a donation of seventeen (17), brand new, Streamlight Pro Tac Rail Mount HL-X 1,000 lumen flashlights, with a value of \$2,313.17. This donation was received from a Scituate resident that would like to remain anonymous.

Move that the Select Board accept a donation of seventeen (17) Streamlight flashlights with a value of \$2,313.17 for the benefit of the Scituate Police Department.

Motion by: Ms. Curran Second by: Mr. Goodrich Unanimous (5-0)

PRESENTATION Design Engineer North Scituate Beach Nourishment, Corey Miles, Coastal Management Officer and John Ramsay, Sustainable Coastal Solutions, Inc.

Mr. Ramsay provided a PowerPoint presentation of the project which was approved through a grant back in May. This is a coastal resiliency project to prevent further beach lowering, restore regional sediment supply, and protect the shore. We've had over 10 Million in flood damages between 1978 and 2015.

We have town land that enables us to apply for public funding. The original project permitted in 2016 was 2,900 feet and was estimated to cost 8 Million. We hope to start construction in early 2024 and will now be about 1,000 feet. Mr. Ramsay brought samples of the material which is rounded natural gravel – 25% gravel and 75% sand. This is not cobble. There is rigorous permitting during a project like this such as air quality, noise, and traffic. Mr. Ramsay discussed the material and showed that the coarser the material the longer it will last. Mr. Ramsay showed material samples to the Board.

The beach will rapidly 'adjust' or equilibrate to form a more natural slope. There will be spreading along the shore and across which is expected but the beach material is still providing protection. This project will be about 25% of the full design. There may be additional grant opportunities for the next phase.

Mr. Vegnani asked about the traffic flow in the neighborhood. Mr. Ramsay said it will be about 60 trucks/day and they try to avoid the morning rush hours from 9 am – 3 pm. The contractor makes sure the roads are cleaned. The project will run February – April of 2024.

Ms. Canfield asked where the 25% will go? Mr. Ramsay said they still need to figure this out. Also, the prices have come in higher so he needs to talk to suppliers. The Board wanted to know what kind of outreach there

will be in the community. Ideally there will be outreach in the summer and the fall. Ms Canfield asked how long the permit is good for and Mr. Ramsay said it's 10 years. Are there any contingency funds for road damages? Ms. Canfield wants to make sure there are no impacts to the newly refurbished Glades Rd. stairs.

Mr. Vegnani asked about the beach elevation. Mr. Ramsay noted the project will cover a shorter distance than originally planned in 2016 but will not skimp on the berm elevation.

Ms. Curran asked when we should re-apply for additional funding? We could try again in the 2025 grant cycle. Mr. Ramsay encourages us to work with legislators to keep up with construction projects. Ms. Curran also asked if the seawall be evaluated? The town has a FEMA grant for the north part of the wall. Grasshopper Ln north may be funded through FEMA to repair that section.

Mr. Goodrich wants to make it clear to residents about the science and importance of this project. He wants to know how we can move this faster than we have been over the past 10 years. Mr. Ramsay said private beaches can complicate projects like this.

Ms. Connolly asked if he could provide some computer animation to show people what it will look like. She wants people to understand the benefits of the protection this will provide. Mr. Ramsay will provide a public presentation.

Mr. Vegnani wants to make sure the rock size is less than 3 inches. While this benefits homes in the area, it also provides a great recreational component for all residents who go to the beach.

Jason Burtner , CZM, his office funded the original feasibility of 2 Million. He encourages the town to submit additional grants as many towns have had success. Mr. Vegnani thanked him for his support and expertise. Ms. Curran thanked Mr. Ramsay for his work and knows he will do a great job on this project.

Next step is to start educating residents on the project.

PUBLIC HEARING/DISCUSS/VOTE Transfer of Liquor License Mildt, Inc. dba Barker Tavern to Wedgewood Beverage, Inc. dba Barker House by Wedgewood Weddings, Attorney Andrew Upton, Andrew Diamontopoulos, Manager, Jonno Roman, Regional Manager of Westwood

New manager Andrew Diamontopoulos has a long history in the industry with an impeccable record with no violations. He lives locally in Rockland. Their intent is for the venue to continue as a historic wedding venue as the Barker has been doing for so many years. They have a 15-year lease with four 5- year options. Wedgewood weddings has 50 venues across the U.S and are expanding into New England. There will be some changes to the facility and capital expenditures but nothing significant. Everyone who works there will be Tips Certified and there will be private security on site. They are in the process of hiring staff, both current who are interested in staying and others in town.

Mr. Diamontopoulos previously worked in Boston at the Double Tree Hotel, Cambridge, Orlando, Key West, and New Orleans in larger hotel venues. The closest Wedgewood venue is in New Hampshire but most are out west. Ms. Canfield asked for his hours. He will be on site for all weekend events with typical days off Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mr. Goodrich noted how important the Barker has been to our community and its historic relevance and hopes they keep this in mind and take good care of it.

Ms. Curran welcomed them to Scituate. She asked about the hours for the liquor license and why the liquor license would be 7 days a week. Mr. Diamontopoulos said they wanted the flexibility for those that may want to host a wedding or another social event on a mid- week day.

Ms. Connolly also welcomed to the community. Mr. Vegnani welcomed them and thanked Becky and George Jordan for all their years dedicated to the community. Finally, Mr. Vegnani informed them that Scituate takes the liquor policy very seriously.

George Jordan, current owner, made a comment that it's not just weddings that they will be doing. He has made them aware of all the community fundraising events that have been hosted over the years.

Move to approve a transfer of the Annual On Premise §12 Restaurant/ All Alcoholic Beverages License at 21 Barker Road, Scituate, MA. The transfer is from Mildy Inc. dba Barker Tavern to Wedgewood Beverage, Inc. dba Barker House by Wedgewood Weddings for an Annual §12 General On Premise All Alcoholic Beverages License. The premise is 5,497 square feet with 428 seats on two floors as follows: First Floor a) Williams Room, 3,082 sq. ft., 200 seats; b) Harborview Room, 224 sq. ft., 28 seats; c) Gardenview Room, 247 sq. ft. 32 seats; d) Main Dining Room 832 sq. ft., 108 seats; e) Buffet Room 936 sq. ft., 30 seats; f) Pub 176 sq. ft., 30 seats; Second Floor g) dining room, 15 seats. There are two entrances and seven exits. Hours of operation for liquor sales are Monday –Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 a.m. contingent upon ABCC approval. Motion by: Ms. Connolly Second by: Ms. Canfield Unanimous (5-0)

- Common Victualler License

Move to approve a new Common Victualler License for Wedgewood Beverage, Inc. dba Barker House by Wedgewood Weddings contingent upon Board of Health approval with hours of operation Monday thru Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 a.m.

Motion by: Mr. Goodrich Second by: Mr. Connolly Unanimous (5-0)

- Entertainment License

Move to approve a new Entertainment License for Wedgewood Beverage, Inc. dba Barker House by Wedgewood Weddings for a DJ, small string, acoustical quartet, or band with hours of operation Monday thru Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 AM.

Motion by: Mr. Goodrich Second by: Mr. Connolly Unanimous (5-0)

FY24 Departmental Budget Reviews:

- **Scituate Public Schools 300**

Dr. Bob Dutch and Superintendent Bill Burkhead provided a presentation of the FY24 school budget. They are looking to improve and enhance the information that goes out to the public before Town Meeting.

Two Pillars: Culture of collaboration and Culture of excellence.

Over the years it was apparent that facilities needed more attention and they are committed to increasing this line item. The Colby Cutler Center Fitness Room received improvement this year and they are continuing to make improvements. Wampatuck Playground has a whole new playground that is ADA compliant and accessible to all children. Professional landscaping at each school was invested in and had a great impact. Outside the High school we painted pails blue instead of green. He wants the community to know that we are keeping our buildings in good working order, and are enhancing them.

Culture of Excellence:

- Increased investment in curriculum of 113.1%

- Increased staffing, additional support for social emotional learning (SEL). They are working closely with Annmarie Galvin to assist in this area.
- Increase support in cybersecurity.

Dr. Dutch went through the expenditures by percent and cost center increases and reviewed changes from FY23 and FY24. FY23 spent 81% on salaries and FY24 will be 79% with an increase in Facilities.

Enrollment has changed significantly this year with Kindergarten students (additional 42 students). Mr. Burkhead said enrollment had been on the decline and they learned that 36% of those who left moved out of town. Mr. Goodrich asked if Metco students are included in the numbers which Mr. Burkhead confirmed. Mr. Burkhead reviewed enrollments of neighboring communities. Ms. Curran asked for the class size for K-3. Average is 16-20.

Dr. Dutch reviewed students with disabilities, English language learners, and low- income numbers amongst neighboring communities. In addition, per pupil expenditures were reviewed.

Cost Center Budgets: Significant changes include school committee travel to present at conferences, curriculum development to include materials and staff cost (stipend above salary), IT Technology for cybersecurity, textbooks in the areas of Science, Social Studies, and AP Courses.

Private school tuition increased dramatically. The commonwealth dictates how much a private special ed school can increase tuition. This year they authorized 14% because they received a grant that allowed them to add staff.

Dr. Dutch provided a complete overview of the total FY24 budget detail of \$48,936,923 and revenue of \$1,668,378.78.

- **South Shore Vocational Technical High School (VTHS) 310, Thomas Hickey Superintendent and Jack Manning, Scituate Representative**

Superintendent Hickey said they have been successfully in securing over 3 Million in grants to provide new equipment and renovations. This impacts future capital projects as well. Post pandemic they are now looking to restore community enrichment programs. The school as a resource is thriving. Overall budget proposal is an increase of 2 ¼ %.

There is no debt. They are hoping to move some positions around and add a position of Athletic Director. Enrollment for Scituate is up 10 students in 2022. Actual numbers will come in later but we will need to increase our numbers.

Mr. Hickey provided an update on MSBA which they received eligibility for in March of 2022. They are studying the potential range of enrollments. This is a very long way away but they are excited to start the process. Hopefully by late FY25 they will have final design and cost estimates to bring to towns.

Ms Curran asked how financing works by Town. Mr. Hickey said it will go to a school committee vote and then to a district wide vote. Every town will need to determine how to fund their share of the project (debt exclusion). Ms. Connolly asked if we need to increase taxes for our residents. Mr. Boudreau said Town Meeting will decide but the funds could be found within the budget without a tax increase.

Annual Town Meeting Article 14 Amendment to South Shore Vocational Technical High School (VTHS) Regional Agreement including the addition of Marshfield, Thomas Hickey, Superintendent/Director (SSVT) & Jack Manning, Scituate Representative

The regional school committee voted to make amendments to the regional agreement to admit the Town of Marshfield effective as of 7/1/24. Marshfield would contribute equivalent of 17.95% of stabilization funds over a 10 -year period. There are some additional changes to the agreement that they also need to update at this time.

Amendments to the agreement include the following: removal of some language, housekeeping grammar items, manner of going out to participating communities to incur debt, and process for a town withdrawal.

The Board congratulated SSVT on the MSBA approval. Mr. Hickey said bringing in Marshfield students would have a positive impact and would greatly offset costs by 18% after four years. He doesn't feel this will impact any town allotments for enrollment.

Information Technology Projects, Mike Minchello, IT Director, via Zoom

- Comm-Tract Contract DPW connect to Fiber Optic Ring \$239,309

We received one bid for this. This will connect some of our locations to fiber, mostly water, sewer, and transfer station. Mr. Vegnani asked if we need to go back out to bid. Mr. Minchello said this is what he was expecting and the vendor is the largest fiber vendor in the area.

Move to award a contract to Comm-Tract Corp for the production and installation of fiber optic cabling at municipal facilities in an amount not to exceed \$239,309.

Motion by: Ms. Connolly Second by: Ms. Curran Unanimous (5-0)

- Declare IT Equipment Surplus

Move that the Select Board declare the listing of retired/broken equipment, provided by the Director of Information Technology, as surplus so that it may be auctioned at the next online auction held by the Town, or otherwise disposed of as appropriate.

Motion by: Ms. Curran Second by: Ms. Connolly Unanimous (5-0)

Special Event St. Patrick's Day Parade, Liz Charlton Organizer

Ms Charlton has been involved for many years and they started a non-profit to fund the parade. She handles the operations side of the parade. The MBTA has agreed to stop the trains in No. Scituate and they've arranged for shuttle busses to bring attendees to designated areas. She noted that this year they are hosting a farewell party for the Barker combined with the parade fundraiser. This event will be held on February 25th at the Barker and all are invited to this event.

Move to approve a Special Event Permit to Ed Kelley for the 2023 St. Patrick's Day Parade scheduled for March 19, 2023 from 12:00 pm until 4:00 pm with set up beginning at 10:00 am and break down at 4:00 pm. Pending Fee payment, Certificate of Liability Insurance and final traffic and safety plan by SPD and DPW.

Motion by: Mr. Goodrich Second by: Ms. Curran Unanimous (5-0)

The Voyage Annual St. Patrick's Event, March 17th-19th, Keith O'Callaghan, Owner

- Entertainment License

This is an annual event; however, they are cutting back from 5 days to 3 days. They will have a tent, bag pipes, bands, Irish Step dancers, Cushing school. The Board supports the event and there hasn't been any past issues.

Move to grant an Outdoor Entertainment Permit to The Voyage for a St. Patrick's Day celebration in an outdoor tent on their premise: Friday, March 17, 2023 from 5:00 pm until 11:00 pm; Saturday, March 18, 2023 from 1:00 pm until 11:00 pm and Sunday, March 19, 2023 from 1:00 pm until 9:00 pm.

Motion by: Ms. Curran Second by: Ms. Connolly Unanimous (5-0)

- Outdoor One Day Liquor License

Move that the Board of Selectmen approve/not approve One-Day Wine & Malt licenses to the Voyage Restaurant for a St. Patrick's Day celebration in the outdoor tent on their premise:

- **Friday, March 17, 2023 from 5:00 pm until 11:00 pm**
- **Saturday, March 18, 2023 from 1:00 pm until 11:00 pm**
- **Sunday, March 20, 2022 from 1:00 pm until 9:00 pm**

Motion by: Mr. Goodrich Second by: Ms. Curran Unanimous (5-0)

REVIEW/DISCUSS/VOTE Community Choice Electricity Town Building Options, John O'Rourke, Good Energy, and Lisa Bertola via Zoom

Ms. Bertola provided an update on the Community electricity launch. There wasn't a lot of lead time to notify the public but we held two information sessions and both were very well attended and successful. Generally, people seem happy with the competitive rates.

Mr. O'Rourke agreed that the presentation at Senior center was well attended with over 200 people. Great questions were asked from the public and they were enthusiastic.

Ms. Bertola feels we should host another community event. Posters are coming out this week which will include a QR code so that residents can explore and/or enroll. You can always opt in or opt out at anytime so we need to reassure people of this. This is a fixed rate for 21 months through the end of 2024. At that time, Good Energy will go back out to bid. The first meter reading will be after 3/1/23.

The Board thanked them for all their hard work on getting this program off the ground and securing a great rate.

John O'Rourke informed the Board that our municipal buildings can go into the aggregation or go out for a separate bid because we have G2 accounts (commercial accounts) and quite possibly get a lower bid and include renewable energy as well. He could go out to price them within the next week or so and there is no cost to do this. Ms. Holt supports going out to bid to get a lower rate.

Move to approve John O'Rourke from Good Energy to go out to bid for electricity rates for Town municipal accounts.

Motion by: Ms. Curran Second by: Ms. Connolly Unanimous (5-0)

Ms Bertola hopes that the town would match the renewable energy option without any additional cost to the town. The Board will take a look at this once we receive bids back.

Toll Brothers 2018 Ballfield Project \$400K Donation, Andrew Goodrich

The Board wanted to know where the funds are being held at this time. Ms. Holt said we have \$400,000 in the General fund free cash.

Scituate Public Schools Municipal/School Committee Focus Group Representative, Jim Boudreau, Town Administrator

Superintendent Burkhead invited a Select Board member to join this focus group. Andrew Goodrich will attend as the representative.

NEW BUSINESS:

Drain Layer License Renewal Site Pro Contracting, LLC

Move to approve renewal of Drain Layers Licenses for Site Pro Contracting, LLC

Motion by: Ms. Connolly Second by: Ms. Curran Unanimous (5-0)

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Liaison Reports

- Ms. Canfield announced the Historical Society is holding their annual dinner Sat night.
- Mr. Goodrich met with Dave Ball and Cedar point residents who are asking about status of the Army Corp response on the seawall. The Board would like to draft a letter to the Army Corps of Engineer requesting a status.
- Mr. Vegnani announced that Maura Glancy is retiring as the Recreation Director. She's done a great job with the program and we are sorry to see her go. Best of luck to her in her retirement.

2. Correspondence

- Grant Report Card
- Suicide Prevention Training on 3/2/23 at 6:30 PM at the Library
- Plymouth County Mosquito Annual Town Report

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Move to accept the minutes for the Select Board meeting held January 24, 2023

Motion by Karen Connolly, Second by Ms. Canfield Unanimous Vote (5-0)

4. Adjournment and Signing of Documents

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 p.m. by Ms. Curran Second by Ms. Canfield Unanimous Vote (5-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Seghezzi, Recorder

List of Documents for the February 7, 2023 Select Board Meeting

- Agenda
- Acceptance of Donation Seventeen Streamlight Pro Tac Rail Mount HL-X 1,000 lumen flashlights
- North Scituate Beach Nourishment Presentation
- Transfer of Liquor License Mildy, Inc. dba Barker Tavern to Wedgewood Beverage, Inc. dba Barker House by Wedgewood Weddings
- Scituate Public Schools Budget Presentation
- South Shore Vocational Technical High School Budget
- Amendment to South Shore Vocational Technical High School Regional Agreement
- Comm-Tract Contract DPW connect to Fiber Optic Ring
- IT Surplus Equipment
- Special Event St. Patrick's Day Parade
- The Voyage Annual St. Patrick's Day Event – Entertainment and One Day Liquor License
- Drain Layer License Renewal Site Pro Contracting, LLC
- Correspondence
 - Grant Report Card
 - Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project Report
 - Suicide Prevention Training on 3/2/23 at 6:30 PM at the Library
- Meeting Minutes of January 24, 2023

Select Board Meeting Minutes for February 7, 2023

SELECT BOARD

Anthony V. Vegnani, Chair

Andrew W. Goodrich, Vice Chair

Maura C. Curran, Clerk

Karen B. Canfield

Karen E. Connolly