

**MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023 6:30 p.m.
SELECT BOARD HEARING ROOM – TOWN HALL**

In attendance Anthony Vegnani, Chair Andrew Goodrich, Vice Chair, Maura Curran, 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 6:36 p.m. to accept the agenda for March 21, 2023 second by Mr. Goodrich 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. I know Superintendent Burkhead will be speaking about it, but I would like to congratulate the Scituate Sailors Boys Hockey team on a great season this year. Although it did not end as we had hoped, the players, coaches, fans and the entire Town of Scituate should be proud of the way the team played and carried themselves this season.
2. Yesterday was the St. Patrick's Day parade and it was an awesome day! Nice weather, great crowd and another smashing parade. Congrats and thanks to Ed Kelly and his crew for all their hard work in making the parade happen. Thanks to all the volunteers, marchers and participants and thanks to everyone who came out to help make it a special day. Truly one of those days that help make Scituate such a special place to live, work and play.
3. Water update. We are at +.6", last week we were +5". Tack factory Pond is at +6" up from +3". Average daily demand was at 1.067 MGD up from last week at 855 TGD

Rainfall over the last 7 days was 3" measured at the Plant.

The water department is planning on starting spring flushing of the water mains starting today, Monday, March 20th. We will be starting at the Mann Lot storage tank and proceed as follows:

Mann Lot to Country Way
Country Way to Ann Vinal Road
Ann Vinal Road to Mann Hill

4. Also, water related, the Town and our consultants will be on the property on the Stearns Meadow property on Rte. 3A where we will be building the new water treatment plant later this week to do some

test pits for soil sampling as we move forward with the design of the new plant. A notice will be going to out neighboring residents by email prior to commencement of the work.

5. The Scituate Sister City Project is in urgent need for Host Families for a visit from Teachers and High School Students from France. 2 Teachers and 19 students are expected to be in Scituate April 3-11. Unfortunately, some of the Host Families are now unavailable and new Host Families are needed. All activities for the week have been planned, and chaperones have been selected to take the students around. The Committee will make your hosting as easy as possible. If you are interested, contact Patricia Jacquart at prjacquart1410@gmail.com as soon as possible. The exchange program is a great way for our students to meet others from different countries and we have the opportunity to send our students overseas (currently a contingent returning from Ireland) so please help if you can.
6. To all the dog walkers and walkers at Widow's Walk Golf Course, the course is now closed for walking. Beginning yesterday, the course staff will begin readying the course for a tentative opening date of March 31st, weather dependent.
7. Annual and Special Town Meeting will be held on Monday, April 10, 2023 at 7:00 pm at the Scituate High School Gymnasium. There are 8 articles on the Special Town Meeting Warrant and 17 on the Annual Town Meeting warrant. As always, the Annual Budget and Capital budget, along with our enterprise accounts will be on the warrants for approval for the next fiscal year. As the sign says "be there or be unheard".
8. The Annual Town Election will be held on 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.
9. Our Energy consultant, Good Energy, along with a member from our Community Choice Aggregation Committee, will be hosting a live presentation via Zoom and Facebook Live, on Wednesday, March 22nd at 6:30 PM. This presentation will include Frequently Asked Questions about the electricity program options. The session will be recorded and available on the town website as well.
10. Please be advised that per the Division of Marine Fisheries, the Clam Flats in the North/South River are once again closed due to a sewer overflow at the Rockland Wastewater Treatment Plant. Please watch the Town website for information on when they will be re-opening.
11. We received the bids to replace the 1931 Lantern Room and associated work on the Scituate Lighthouse last week. Two bids were submitted. The Board awarded a contract to Campbell Construction Group LLC at their meeting last week. We have posted a one-page summary of the project on the Town website. The project is still scheduled to be completed this summer.
12. Meetings
 - a. Monday-Conservation, CPC and Economic Development
 - b. Tuesday-Select Board, and Cole Parkway Redevelopment Committee
 - c. Wednesday-DEI Committee and the Community Choice Electricity information session
 - d. Thursday-Harbor Cultural District, and Planning Board,

Ms. Canfield asked for a flushing comparison video between last year and this year. Has the Minot Beach parking lot been rescheduled? Jeff Chessia, DPW engineering, said the plans are being developed to address an area that is newly eroded. Ms. Canfield asked for an update when available. Mr. Goodrich asked if the old

lantern room will be housed someplace. Mr. Boudreau said the old lantern room is so deteriorated that it cannot be saved. They will reuse whatever they can. The Board thanked Ed Kelley and team for a great job with the parade. Mr. Vegnani congratulated the boy's hockey team for a great season.

SCHEDULED ITEMS:

DPW Kevin Cafferty, DPW Director, Jeff Chessia, DPW Engineering

- Proposed Regional Hazard Waste Depot, Claire Galkouski, South Shore Recycling Coop
Mr. Cafferty introduced Claire Galkouski. SSRC is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year and has 18-member towns participating. There is more demand than supply for household hazardous waste. It is a nation-wide issue. They are looking at a regional facility and the Town of Hanover Transfer Station has offered to host it. The next step is to apply for a grant to set up the regional facility. They will be applying for a DEP grant. Step 3 is to engage the member towns in support of the project. The goal would be to have a monthly opening (or some regular schedule) for the regional facility year-round. Ms. Connolly asked if there would be some mechanized payment process. Ms. Galkouski said they are investigating this for the future. Ms. Curran asked where textiles go now. Mr. Cafferty said there are bins at the Transfer Station. The Select Board agreed to write a letter of support.

- Eversource Gas Presentation 2023 Gas Line Improvements, Brian Gillis, Senior Construction Supervisor
In attendance were Brian Gillis, Ryan Earle, Community Relations, Pat Hannon Supervisor, Gas Construction and John Babyak, Project Manager, Gas Construction

This project is to improve the aging infrastructure, poor pipe condition, improve pressure, increase supply, paving project coordination. Eversource Gas has identified 4 locations in the Town of Scituate in need of main line replacement. Factors used to qualify the projects include poor pipe condition and increase in demand. Roadways listed by order of construction include:

Jericho Road April – May 2023

Ann Vinal Road and Mann Hill Road to Hatherly Road May 2023 - Nov 2023

Cornet Stetson May - Aug 2023 (stop before the rotary)

Lantern Lane May 2023

The Lawrence incident was unique. There is no low-pressure gas in Scituate. Eversource has an on-site inspector working with 2-3 crews maximum. A customer mailing will go out to those impacted and the message boards will be put up. Ms. Canfield is concerned that Jericho Road is one of the busiest roads in the summer and Ann Vinal will have school opening in September. She asked what the traffic patters will be under these circumstances. Mr. Gillis said he is hoping to have Jericho completed by the summer. Mr. Boudreau said the Town will work with Eversource regarding school opening, etc. in advance. Ms. Connolly said Cornet Stetson is the gateway to Scituate and is concerned about three months of work. Mr. Gillis said they will work with the police on the project. Ms. Connolly asked that neighbors on Neal Gate and any detour neighborhoods are notified as well of the project and duration. Ms. Connolly said there has been a lot in the media of gas stoves, fireplaces, etc. being dangerous. Communication with the citizens is important. The Board asked that they keep one lane open during the project. Eversource has had a moratorium in Scituate and it will be slowly increasing.

DPW will set up weekly meetings with Eversource to review the projects. Jeff Chessia is being assigned to the projects. Ms. Curran asked if two crews could be assigned to Ann Vinal Road. Mr. Gillis said he will assign two crews. Mr. Gillis said the road will be open nights and weekends for Cornet Stetson. The Board is concerned that they are in the height of the businesses busy season. Mr. Boudreau suggests that Eversource go back and see what can be done to improve the timeframe and least disruption to Cornet Stetson. Mr. Vegnani on behalf of the Select Board said they approve all but Cornet Stetson and asked Eversource to come back with a plan that improves the time and makes it easier for the businesses and residents.

Outdoor Seating Expansion of Patio Service

- The Galley, 95 Front Street on the street
- Hibernian Tavern, 111 Front Street on the sidewalk
- River Club, 78 Border Street on their property
- Restaurant Oro, 227 Chief Justice Cushing Highway on their property

Two years ago, during COVID we opened up outdoor seating. We currently have four locations that have Outdoor seating.

Ms. Curran said she is not in favor of taking parking spots away from a business. She does not agree that Galley should be allowed to take parking spaces from the public. Its unfortunate but that is the space the Galley rented for their business. Mr. Vegnani said there are a lot of spaces behind in Cole Parkway. Ms. Connolly agrees that the parking spaces are not needed for additional seating. Ms. Canfield said they were given those spaces during COVID. Ms. Canfield does not like the jersey barriers. Due to the all open front of the restaurant it is less critical for Galley. Mr. Vegnani felt it added to the community with the outdoor dining in the harbor. Mr. Vegnani asked if there was something else to allow outdoor dining at Galley during the restaurant hours only. Ms. Curran asked how do you expect people to know the parking rules with this option. Mr. Goodrich would be more in favor of two parking spaces rather than three. Ms. Curran and Ms. Connolly feel the restaurant is festive since it opens to the outside.

Karen Monaco, 6 Brookline Road send a letter a couple of months ago against the on-street parking in front of Galley. The jersey barriers take up so much space and it also impacts the adjacent spots. It is only a benefit to one business but not the other businesses. She thinks people sitting at tables in the jersey barriers is ugly. She wants the business to do well and enjoys it there. Eliminating three parking spaces on the main road in town is not a good thing.

Mr. Vegnani would like to go back to the owner to see if there is something that could be removed for part of the day to allow parking. Mr. Goodrich said maybe the length of time we allow the parking could be reduced. Ms. Curran asked why there is not a parking spot to the corner in front of Vision Source. Mr. Cafferty believes it was left open for Commercial Deliveries. Mr. Boudreau will meet with Brian Houlihan, the Chief of Police to see what can be done. Mr. Vegnani would like the Galley added to the next Select Board meeting for further discussion.

Motion to direct the TA to approve extension of premise licenses to Hibernian Tavern River Club and Restaurant Oro by Ms. Canfield second by Ms. Curran Unanimous Vote (5-0)

National Opioid Litigation, Jim Boudreau, Town Administrator

Mr. Boudreau updated the Select Board on the \$20 billion-dollar settlement. Mr. Boudreau asked the Board to direct that Mr. Boudreau can authorize the settlement.

Move to approve the Town Administrator proceed with the National Opioid Litigation and sign any necessary approvals Motion by Ms. Curran second by Ms. Canfield Unanimous Vote (5-0)

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Disposition of Tax Title Possessions, Nancy Holt, Finance Director/Town Accountant

- Auction Agreement Approval

This is the tax title possession that Ms. Holt presented at a previous meeting. One of the parcels is wetlands and not buildable. The other lot is only 26,000 square feet and wet also probably a lot an abutter would purchase. The Board discussed an opportunity for parking on the 26,000 square foot lot. Ms. Canfield suggests putting it up for auction. Mr. Goodrich suggest using it for Town Parking.

Abutters to 8 Bramble Avenue were in attendance. Ms. Holt said there was already interest in purchasing. Paul & Susan Happel 20 Wampatuck Avenue said there was a home there over 20 years ago. The town took it down because it was abandoned and a hazard. The Happel's have maintained the property and put up a fence. They believe it is not buildable so it would not be used for anything else. Ms. Happel asked if it has to go to auction. Mr. Boudreau said yes, it has to be made available to the general public to purchase. John Happel their son asked if the property could ever be developed. They are looking for assurance but Mr. Vegnani said we cannot give you that. The Building Commissioner could answer that question. The preliminary look said there is not enough property to build there. Ms. Holt said there will be an auction and abutters would be notified. The auctioneer was already approved at a previous meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Annual License Renewal

Mr. Goodrich recused himself from discussion for this topic at 8:19 p.m.

Ms. Curran said this is the first time there were any noise complaints against the Scituate Beach Association. The Scituate Police Department had two complaints on record. The dates are July 16th and July 29th that the complaints were called in as noise complaints for parties. The Scituate Beach Association responded appropriately in both cases. Todd Glowac, 75 Turner Road was in attendance at the meeting representing the Scituate Beach Association. Mr. Vegnani said the two previous noise violations were resolved.

Della and Steve Shepherd, 70 Scituate Avenue live up the street from the Scituate Beach Association. They said the beach association has changed and it is not the same place. There is a lot of trash and impaired drivers. People go there to drink and they park on a wetlands park. Signs are finally put up but in the wrong place. They are using more of the lot than they should and they feel it is hurting the environment. Mr. Vegnani said they will look at the lot and the parking to ensure they are parking in the right place. They have now added a giant deck on the side of the building. There are red plastic solo cups and there is trash around the neighborhood and they believe SBA are not good stewards. It has intensified after they received the liquor license. They have not called the police although they could have. Mr. Shepherd suggests they get a one-day license for events rather than the seasonal liquor license. Ms. Canfield said the Beach Association owns the lot and they applied for a request for determination so they could only use those areas that are appropriate. Mr. Boudreau will check to see why it is not clear on the assessor's map. Ms. Curran believes it is a valid point that it could be one day licenses. Ms. Curran suggests there could be a deeper look into being a better neighbor. Ms. Curran suggest the entertainment license hours should be reduced.

Mr. Glowac believes the SBA is in compliance with the Conservation permit parking and if they are not they will do what is necessary to be in compliance. They do not have a lot of events. All the bartenders are tip certified and no alcohol is served outside. The bar funds the capital improvements. The membership goes up year after year. They have put a dumpster in place and are recycling all they can. They are trying to be a good neighbor. They will make a concerted effort that the trash is cleaned up after events. The Select Board would like to see improvement with the trash and the noise. Ms. Connolly thinks a bar room has ended up in a

residential neighborhood. Mr. Glowac said the adult events are Saturday nights and mostly kid's events through the week and on weekends. It is only for calendared events and you can't just go in and buy a drink. Ms. Canfield asked if there is a cap on membership. Mr. Glowac said there is no cap currently.

- Approval of Seasonal Liquor & Entertainment Licenses for Scituate Beach Association
Move that the Select Board vote to renew the 2023 Seasonal On Premise §12 Club/All Alcoholic License for the Scituate Beach Association. Seasonal license is April 1, 2023 thru January 15, 2024 Monday thru Thursday 11 am to 10 pm, Friday – Sunday 11 am to 12 am. Motion by Ms. Curran second by Ms. Canfield Unanimous Vote (3-1) Ms. Connolly is opposed motion passes

Move that the Select Board vote to renew the 2023 Seasonal Entertainment License for the Scituate Beach Association Sunday thru Thursday 11 am – 10 pm Friday – Saturday 11 am – 11:30 pm. Motion by Ms. Curran second by Ms. Canfield Unanimous Vote (4-0)

- DEI Committee Appointment
 - Kristina Gilberti, Scituate Town Library, Staff Member
Move to appoint Kristina Gilberti to the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee for a term of two years or until a successor is named and completion of the conflict of interest law online training program is completed within 30 days. Motion by Ms. Curran second by Mr. Goodrich Unanimous Vote (5-0)
- One Day License
 - One Day All Alcohol License to Mullaney's @ 8 Allen Place on 4/15/23 6-10 p.m. for non-profit event
Move to approve a One-Day All Alcohol License for Mullaney's Fish Market for a non-profit private event on Saturday, April 15, 2023 from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM. Motion by Ms. Canfield second by Ms. Connolly Unanimous Vote (5-0)

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Liaison Reports

Ms. Connolly met with Planning and expressed that this Select Board is interested in Zoning at the MBTA.

Ms. Canfield said Council on Aging has embarked on a strategic plan that will allow them to apply for accreditation with the State of MA which will be complete by the end of June. Untold Brewing is partnering with Ship Shape Day discussed at the EDC meeting last night.

Mr. Goodrich said rain barrel sales will begin soon with pickup in May.

Ms. Curran said the DEI committee is looking at the different departments and never closed the loop on that. They will be coming before the Select Board.

Mr. Vegnani is working with Nicole Brandolini regarding the open seat on the School Committee.
- Correspondence

Letters from Economic Development Commission and Historical Commission in support of Pier 44/Scituate Harbor park proposal.

Letter from Governor and Attorney General with Scituate's Chapter 90 apportionment for FY 2024 \$555,779.43

MBTA Spring 2023 Schedules effective March 27th

South Shore Recycling Initiatives for tire recycling. Ms. Curran asked if DPW could post them on the website. Mr. Boudreau said they will.

- Approval of Meeting Minutes

Move to accept the minutes for the Select Board meetings held March 7th and Public Hearing March 15th, 2023. Motion by Ms. Connolly second by Mr. Goodrich Unanimous Vote (5-0)

- Adjournment and Signing of Documents

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m. by Ms. Canfield second by Mr. Goodrich Unanimous Vote (5-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorraine Devin, Recorder

List of Documents for the March 21, 2023 Select Board Meeting

- Agenda
- Upcoming Meetings & Events
- DPW Kevin Cafferty, DPW Director, Sean McCarthy, Town Engineer
 - Proposed Regional Hazard Waste Depot, Claire Galkouski, South Shore Recycling Coop
 - Eversource Gas Presentation 2023 Gas Line Improvements, Brian Gillis, Senior Construction Supervisor
- Outdoor Seating Expansion of Patio Service Discussion & Update
 - The Galley, 95 Front Street on the street
 - Hibernian Tavern, 111 Front Street on the sidewalk
 - River Club, 78 Border Street on their property
 - Restaurant Oro, 227 Chief Justice Cushing Highway on their property
- National Opioid Litigation
- Disposition of Tax Title Possessions, Nancy Holt, Finance Director/Town Accountant
- Approval of Seasonal Liquor & Entertainment Licenses for Scituate Beach Association
- DEI Committee Appointment
 - Kristina Gilberti, Scituate Town Library, Staff Member
- One Day License
 - One Day All Alcohol License to Mullaney's @ 8 Allen Place on 4/15/23 6-10 p.m. for non-profit event
- Correspondence
 - Letters for Support of Pier 44 park proposal from Economic Development Committee & the Historical Commission
 - Beach Clean Up letter and plans from Coastal Heritage Bank
 - Governor Letter regarding Scituate Chapter 90 apportionment for Fiscal Year 2024
- Approval of Select Board Meeting Minutes for March 7, 2023 and March 15, 2023 Public Hearing

Select Board Meeting Minutes for March 21, 2023

SELECT BOARD

Anthony V. Vegnani, Chair

Andrew W. Goodrich, Vice Chair

Maura C. Curran, Clerk

Karen B. Canfield

Karen E. Connolly