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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
PLYMPTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES

Open Session 2020 OCT 21 PM 12:57

Monday, October 5, 2020

Zoom Video Teleconferencing

The Open Session Board of Selectmen meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Russo at 6:10 p.m. Roll-Call Vote: 3/0.

In Attendance:

Board of Selectmen (BOS): Selectwoman Christine Joy (CJ), Mark E. Russo (MR), John A. Traynor, Jr. (JT). Town Administrator: Elizabeth Dennehy (TA), and Selectmen's Assistant: Brigitte Martins.

Participants added to the call: Assistant Assessor Wendy Jones, Highway Superintendent Rob Firlotte, Next Sun Energy Representatives Kirsten Eliassen and Adam Schumaker, Dennett School Representative Jon Wilhelmsen, and Express Correspondent: Kristy Zamagni-Twomey.

Board of Assessor Update:

The Assistant Assessor Wendy Jones was invited to update the Board of Selectmen on the department's activities. The Town of Middleborough owns a parcel of land in Plympton they lease to Soule Farm. A 7.5-acre portion of the parcel is slated to be a trailhead parking and access to the town of Plympton conservation land of approximately 130 acres. The process is underway with Middleborough petitioning to the Legislature a "Special Act" for permission to lease the 7.5-acre portion of land to the Town of Plympton for recreational purposes. Also, the Town of Middleborough has an article in their Special Town Meeting October 15, 2020 for funds to have a survey done of the lease area. The timeline of finalizing a lease between the towns has not been determined.

Request for Street Crossing:

Next Sun Energy Representatives Kirsten Eliassen and Adam Schumaker joined the meeting to discuss a request for an underground street crossing. An application for Site Plan Review was submitted to the Town of Plympton for a project located at 126 Ring Road Kingston, owned by Roger Correia and 131 and 137 Ring Road Kingston, owned by Wayne Dunham. The project is a dual-use, large-scale ground-mounted solar energy facility. The public right-of-way Ring Road bisects the project. In order to connect the northwestern (126 Ring Road) and southeastern

(131 & 137 Ring Road) portions of the project they will need to cross Ring Road underground with a medium voltage line. Highway Superintendent Rob Firlotte joined the meeting to answer any questions the Board may have. The application has been reviewed by the Conservation Committee and Planning Board. Next Sun Energy will be attending the Planning Board Committee meeting on October 21, 2020 for their approval.

RE: BE RE, LLC

**Request for street crossing of Ring Road between 126 and 131 Ring Road
126 Ring Road (Plympton Assessor's Map 8 – Parcels 1-27 & 1-1), 131 Ring Road
(Plympton Assessor's Map 8 – Parcel 2-29), 137 Ring Road (Plympton Assessor's
Map 8 – Parcel 2-25)**

MR made a motion the Board of Selectmen approve the medium voltage underground crossing of Ring Road requested by BE RE, LLC for the dual-use, large-scale, ground-mounted solar energy facility proposed at 126, 131 and 137 Ring Road contingent upon the Plympton Planning Board's approval of the Site Plan Approval Application. Seconded CJ. **Roll-Call Vote: 3/0.**

Council on Aging Appointment:

Selectmen John Traynor made a motion to appoint Jacqueline Freitas as a member of the Council on Aging. Seconded CJ. **Roll-Call Vote: 3/0.**

Council on Aging Update:

John Traynor has been working with members of the committee and sorting out the Council on Aging's responsibilities. Nancy Butler is Chair and is working with John. A newsletter will be mailed to update the community. The search for a Director and Outreach Worker is in progress. John Traynor requested the BOS appoint him as Acting Director of COA until a Director of Elder Affairs is hired. MR made a motion to appoint John Traynor as Acting Director of COA. Seconded CJ. **Roll-Call Vote: 3/0.**

Board's Projects and Priorities List:

The Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator reviewed and updated each item of the Projects and Priorities List. Please see the attached revised list.

School District:

Jon Wilhelmsen updated the Board on the Schools progress in working remotely and in person schedule. The students are all currently working remote on Wednesday's. They are in the process of installing four docking stations. There are currently 4 student Covid-19 cases reported. All of the students are from Kingston. Dennett

School has no reported cases at this time. The schools are prepared to go to all remote learning if necessary.

Future Agenda Items:

The Board of Selectmen will invite Rob Firlotte to discuss the progress of the Highway Department to the next meeting on 10/19/20.

Town Administrator:

The Town Administrator discussed the current entrances and handicap accessibility into the building. TA is currently working on the budget for the project and reviewing the plans from the past renovation done to the building. TA will request Grant Writer Colleen Thompson work with ADA Coordinator Rob Firlotte. TA discussed the open seats of the Boards and Committees and employment opportunities available. The Town currently has vacancies for Council on Aging, Planning Board, Wage & Personnel, Library Tech, Zoning Officer, and Board of Registrars.

Minutes:

The Minutes of September 21, 2020 were approved as amended.

Motion made by (CJ), Seconded (JT). **Roll-Call Vote: 3/0**

The meeting concluded with a "Rave" by each member of the Select Board.

7:55 PM Motion to adjourn BOS meeting by (MR). Seconded (CJ). **Vote: 3/0**

Respectfully Submitted,
Brigette D. Martins

Board of Selectmen's Projects and Priorities

FY2021 Goals:

- Work through the Board's Projects and Priorities List
- Foster healthy, cooperative and productive Town House and Town Government operations and working environment
- Nurture fiscally sound governance while maintain services and as moderate a tax rate as possible
- Protect Town's unique character
- Support the Town's Emergency Management Agency in their response to public health and public safety issues

Town Properties Committee:

Master Plan for Town Campus, including examining parking areas, entrances and exits, ballfields and Harry Jason Park (Housing Choice Grant) *(in progress)*

Consideration of technology at all Town-owned buildings [Chief Clancy, TA] *(in progress)*

Highway Department

Highway Barn roof and insulation [Supt] *(in progress)*

Fire Department

Fire Station septic system [FC]

Building apron [FC]

Space constraints – consideration of municipal garage [FC] *(in discussion)*

Library

Water questions [Deb, Trustees]

Lighting issues [Deb, Trustees] *(in discussion)*

Roof issues [Deb, Trustees] *(in discussion)*

Town Green

Town Green flag pole *(in discussion – funding for ATM?)*

Town House

Town House water/drainage problem [BOS, TA]

Town House septic system [BOS, TA, BOH] *(in discussion)*

Town House roof [BOS, TA] *(in discussion)*

Lift installation [BOS, TA]

Emergency Management:

- Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant [TA, FC] *(in progress)*
- COVID-19 Response *(in progress)*
Prepare for 2nd Wave – Supplies, etc.
Bolster remote capabilities for employees and the general public

Highway Department:

- Highway Barn roof and insulation [Supt] *(in progress)*
- Implementation of Pavement Mgmt. Plan [w/Consultant] *(in progress)*
- Main Street / Ring Road Intersection Maintenance (sight lines, vegetation management, etc.) *(in progress)*
- Develop Clear Procedures re. Chipping/Removing Cut Trees [Supt]
- Heavy Truck Restriction on Backroads [w/BOS]
- Speed Zone Areas – Signage and Markings *(in progress)*

Financial:

- Financial Team – Refinement of budget processes, including forecasting in preparation for FY22 [TA, BOS, Town Acct, Fin Com] *(in progress)*
- 5-Year Capital Plan [Fin Com, TA, Town Acct] *(in progress)*
- Strategy for Financial Reporting [Town Acct, BOS, TA] *(in progress)*
- Survey Software Options [Town Acct] *(in progress)*

Fire Department:

- Street Number Signs for Town Buildings
- Plympton Hearse [w/Highway Supt., Town Properties Committee]

Natural and Recreational Resources:

- MVP Action Grant [OS, Con Com] *(in progress)*
- Town-owned land - disposition process – *Review Town-owned land each year if requests to purchase are received, follow est. process (in progress)*
- Water Resources Working Group *(in progress)*
- Soule Homestead [BOA, BOS] *(in progress)*
- Solar Agreements [BOA] *(in progress)*

Senior Citizens:

- Plympton Senior Citizens Issues [COA, BOS] *(in progress)*

Technology:

- Fiber optic upgrade, including phones [PC, FC, TA] *(in progress)*
- Technology Master Plan [BOS, TA, IT, Steve Pellowe] *(in progress)*
- Bolster remote capabilities for employees and the general public [TA] *(in progress)*

Volunteerism and General Government:

- Volunteer recognition/outreach [BOS]
- Develop Affordable Age-Qualified Housing [BOS w/Town Prop. Committee] *(in progress)*
- Flags from center to Old Town House [BOS, TA]
- Flag and Decoration Policy [BOS]
- Internships [BOS]
- Cemetery Cleanup Events [BOS, Scouts]
- Cemetery Signage (smallpox) [JT]
- Educational Opportunities for Volunteers

Things to Follow for Long Term:

Carver Urban Renewal Project

Rocky Harvest Settlement Compliance

Future Exploration of Shared Services/Opportunities

Grants – Federal/State/Foundations [Colleen Thompson]