

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES
Open Session
Monday, March 8, 2021

In attendance: Chairman Mark Russo, Selectwoman Christine Joy, Clerk John Traynor, and Town Administrator Elizabeth Dennehy.

The Board of Selectmen had met at the appointed time and opened in Open Session, as required under the Open Meeting Law.

5:45 p.m.

Chairman Russo made a declaration that pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Plympton Board of Selectmen will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the Town of Plympton's website: town.plympton.ma.us

Voted: To enter Executive Session under M.G.L. c.30A, Sec. 21(a) Purpose 2. To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel regarding Fire Chief, Interim Police Chief.

Roll Call Vote: Joy: Aye; Russo: Aye; Traynor: Aye

At 6:23 p.m., a motion was made and seconded to end the Executive Session Purpose 2 and revert back to Open Session Meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Joy: Aye; Russo: Aye; Traynor: Aye

The Board of Selectmen returned to Open Session at 6:24 p.m. immediately following the 5:45 p.m. Executive Session by Chairman Mark Russo. Roll-Call Vote: 3/0.

In Attendance:

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

Participants added to the call: Representatives from Old Colony Planning Council Mary Waldron, Charlie Kilmer and Bill McNulty, Highway Superintendent Rob Firlotte, Town Properties Committee member Jon Wilhelmsen, and Express Correspondent: Kristy Zamagni-Twomey.

Safety Zones and Technical Assistance:

The Board of Selectmen invited representatives of Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC) to discuss the established safety zones. The Board is asking OCPC to provide technical support to the town. Principal Transportation Planner Bill McNulty informed the Board that most of the technical assistance provided by OCPC has to do with speed limits. The signs recently placed to help reduce speed in the designated areas have not been working to slow traffic. Mr. McNulty suggested the placement of tubes in the road that would record traffic volume, speed, and type of vehicle. The report when completed and any recommendations provided would be helpful and could be used for the road projects.

Town Meeting Articles Draft Review:

The Board and Town Properties Committee Chair Jon Wilhelmsen discussed the Draft Articles for this upcoming Town Meeting. The costliest Article is for the roof replacement at the Town House is estimated at \$500,000. Other Articles related to the town campus include \$7,500 for roof assessments for the Library and Fire Station, \$7,000 for the refurbishments of flagpoles located on the Town Green and Town House. The Town Properties Committee will discuss and prepare recommendations for the Selectmen to consider at their March 22 meeting.

The Board and TA discussed repurposing the leftover funds from the Article that was created when hiring a Town Administrator. The account has a balance of \$10,311 that could be used for search assistance for professional positions. Selectman Russo discussed the possible Article for \$5,000 to be used toward hiring a hydrologist to perform analysis of reporting and consequences of Rocky Harvest water withdrawal. The BOS will continue and make final recommendations at their next meeting on March 10.

Common Victualler's License:

Keith Steiding, owner of KKaties Burger Bar is requesting a Common Victualler's license from the Board. Mr. Steiding is opening up at 286 Main Street. The Selectmen's Assistant will call Fire department for the required Fire Inspection. MR made a motion to approve the Common Victualler's License for KKaties Burger Bar. Seconded, CJ. **Roll-Call Vote: 3/0.**

Purple Heart Proclamation:

The Selectmen received a memo from Fire Chief Steve Silva requesting that the Town of Plympton recognize August 7th as Purple Heart Day. The Community Proclamation is to honor Purple Heart recipients. MR made a motion to proclaim August 7th annually as Purple Heart Day. Seconded, CJ. **Roll-Call Vote: 3/0.**

Appointments:

MR made motion to appoint Steve Silva to the Community Emergency Response Team until 6/30/2021. Seconded, CJ. **Roll-Call Vote: 3/0.**

Spring Street Cannabis Business Proposal:

The Board along with Town Council has a list of questions for Mr. Rizzo regarding the recent request for a Host Agreement. This includes what the potential revenue to the town would be. There has been some feedback from residents that are opposed to the idea. TA will forward the questions to Mr. Rizzo and his partner.

Town Owned Land:

The Selectmen and TA discussed the best procedure to handle the disposition of town owned land and lots of low value. The process is different if the lot is worth less than \$35,000 and that accepting a price less than what it appraises for could raise issues with the State. The town has options of holding an auction or putting the land out to bid. TA recommended an auction for the land of low value. TA will forward the list of properties to the Town Properties Committee for review before any decisions are made by the BOS.

Town Administrator:

TA provided the Selectmen with her Town Administrator's report. She is working on a grant opportunity with the Fire Chief. The potential grant would replace the cistern at the Town Green and possibly put one or two more around the town. It is a large competitive grant program but she is hopeful that it may work in our favor since our request is small. TA has advertised the Town Accountant and Assistant Treasurer/Collector open positions in various places. These will remain posted until March 17th. TA received correspondence from Habitat for Humanity. They are interested in looking at potential places where they could collaborate with the

town on a possible project. The Selectmen would like to schedule a site visit with them to look at some potential lots. This would be a great way for the town to give back and possibly provide housing to low-income or elderly residents.

Minutes:

The Open Session Minutes of February 22, 2021 were approved as written.

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

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

7:50 p.m. MR made a motion to adjourn the March 8, 2021 Board of Selectmen meeting. Seconded, CJ.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brigette D. Martins