

Select Board Special Meeting
Monday, May 11 2020 – 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
REMOTE – Conference Call

Arrangements for remote participation by Select Board members and members of the public were made in accordance with Governor Baker's Emergency Order Modifying the State's Open Meeting Law. Participation in the meeting was done remotely via conference call.

Select Board Present on calls: Marie Angelides, Chair, Mark Gold, Richard Foster

Absent: Marc Strange and Tom Lachus

Also Present on calls: Debbie House, Peter Nassar, Matthew Schoen, Michael Zeller, Tass Angelides, Jonathan Chasen, Robert Rappaport, Maripat Toye, Tom Ewing, Jim Moulton, Michael Doyle, Michelle Steger, Paul Gorman, Norman Michaels, Steve Wolman, Stephen Metz, John Skypeck, Linda Glenn, Bill Harbison, Andrea Chasen, David Dumais, Kiernan Mulcahy, Rose Morace, Marjorie Morgan, Julia Moulton, George Shea, Theresa Yesu, Margaret Landon, Liz Bone, Jonathan Jordan, Andrea Taupier, Tim Casey, Jeffrey Rintoul, Irwin Pers, Mark Tolosky, and Marissa Komack

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. by Chair Marie Angelides. Due to COVID-19 concerns and the Governor's executive order changes to Open Meeting Law remote participation, this meeting was held remotely with residents having the option of calling. All votes were taken by roll call.

Chair Angelides confirmed that all members and persons anticipated on the agenda were present and could hear and be heard throughout the meeting. Ensuring public access does not ensure public participation unless such participation is required by law. The meeting allowed for public comment.

10:00 a.m. Interviews:

1. Michael Doyle, 150 Blueberry Hill Road applied for a position on the Building Demolition Committee. He would like to help retain the historic character of the town and feels this is an important role.
2. Michelle Steger, 35 Warwick Street applied for reappointment to the Building Demolition Committee. She enjoys the work of the committee and feels it is an important role. The committee is currently in the middle of making changes and she would like to see it through.
3. Steven Wolman, 392 Pinewood Drive applied for reappointment to the Cable Advisory Committee. He has been on the committee since 1992 and is currently in contract negotiations with Comcast as the lead negotiator. He has been doing this for a while and knows what is going on.
Mr. Gold asked about town wide wireless. Mr. Wolman is in favor of it, the sooner the better. He would be happy to be on any wifi committee that may be formed.
Mr. Foster asked if anything has been put together. Mr. Wolman stated it is the Select Board's role and a RSP would be needed to design a system. The committee never researched it.
4. Peter Thomsen, Cultural Council – did not phone in.
5. Linda Glenn, 50 Merriweather Drive applied for reappointment to the Community Preservation Committee. This will be her third term. She enjoys being part of the committee, has learned a lot, feels comfortable and can contribute more.
Mr. Gold asked about the skate park vote. Ms. Glenn feels it is a different sector of the community that they are hearing from. Skate parks are popular. The committee approved funds for a fact finding exploration.
Mr. Foster asked if the committee considered that the skate park proposal was defeated prior. Ms. Glenn responded yes, not enough information was given (liability information, is a site in town workable...) this is a way to get more information.
6. Anastasios Angelides, 199 Tanglewood Drive applied for a position on the Board of Health. The current health pandemic has motivated him to help now that he is a retired physician. Dr. Angelides is interested in public health and feels it is important to help.
Mr. Gold asked about the shared health plans with East Longmeadow. Dr. Angelides thinks it is a good idea and that regionalization would be helpful.
7. William Harbison, 217 Farmington Road applied for reappointment to the Community Preservation Committee. He finds the work on the committee interesting and helpful to the town to be able to distribute funds to groups that may not normally get them.

Mr. Gold asked about the skate park. Mr. Harbison stated that the committee recommended to fund \$15,000 for consultation to see if it can be done.

Mr. Foster noted that the skate park had been officially turned down at Town Meeting. Mr. Harbison said a presentation was given by two children, and a recommendation that the town consider funding a consultation. Mr. Foster added the town had already voted.

8. Marjorie Morgan, 57 Woolworth Street applied for reappointment to the Council of Aging Board of Directors. She enjoys being on the board and feels there is still work to be done. Mr. Gold asked if the COA has been able to meet at all in the last month remotely. Ms. Morgan replied no.
9. Rose Morace, 46 Longfellow Drive applied for reappointment to the Council on Aging Board of Directors. She has been chair and vice chair in the past and would like to continue to serve the people of Longmeadow.
10. Theresa Yesu, 167 Homestead Boulevard applied for reappointment to the Council on Aging Board of Directors. The board gives recommendations to the building committee (for the new adult center), she like having a voice.
11. Jonathan Jordan, 756 Longmeadow Street applied for reappointment to the Historic District Commission. He feels it is a great experience and there is unfinished work to do on the rules and regulations. Mr. Jordan lives in the district. The rules that are being worked on deal with non-conformities which the commission would like to tighten up with more enforcement.

Mr. Gold made the motion to suspend the meeting to 2:00 p.m. Mr. Foster seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ms. Angelides – yes, Mr. Gold – yes, Mr. Foster - yes

2:00 p.m. Interviews:

1. Michael Zeller, 42 Tecumseh Drive applied for reappointment to the Board of Assessors. He has been on the board for 11 years and enjoys the work. Mr. Gold asked about having a full time Assessor in the office. Mr. Zeller believes overall it would not be good for the town to have to look for new people if we had to sub out.
2. Andrea Chasen, 236 Crestview Circle applied for reappointment to the Conservation Commission and the Energy and Sustainability Committee. She has served as an associate and a full term member on the Conservation Commission and enjoys making an impact. Ms. Chasen also likes the collaboration with other boards. Ms. Chasen enjoys the Energy Committee and was instrumental in helping Longmeadow become a green community, and feels like she is making a difference. Ms. Chasen was trained by Al Gore in climate change and was heavily involved in energy sustainability.
3. Jonathan Chasen, 236 Crestview Circle applied for a position on the Board of Health. He is retired from public health and has more time. Mr. Chasen feels there is a need now more than ever in terms of public health issues. Mr. Gold asked what Mr. Chasen's feelings are on shared health services. Mr. Chasen replied that it would make a lot of sense. Efforts in multiple communities would be a help.
4. Stephen Metz, 171 Coventry Lane applied for reappointment to the Capital Planning Committee. He knows the town's needs and processes. Mr. Metz feels he has a good relationship with the DPW Director. Mr. Gold noted it would be good to coordinate Capital Planning with Community Preservation to see where other funding may be.
5. Kiernan Mulcahy, 525 Wolf Swamp Road applied for reappointment to the Conservation Commission. He was appointed to fill a term and would like to continue conservation work.
6. George Shea, 73 Duxbury Lane applied for reappointment to the Council on Aging Board of Directors. He is currently the chair of the board. This will be his second term. Mr. Gold asked if the COA has had any meetings lately. Mr. Shea responded that there was some talk about Zoom meetings. He is concerned that some members would not be comfortable using Zoom. He is looking for guidance from the state or the Select Board about getting together.
7. Liz Bone, 34 Elizabeth Circle applied for reappointment to the Energy and Sustainability Committee and the Recycling Committee. She is passionate about conserving resources, saving money, and saving carbon. Ms. Bone is also passionate about recycling; this is her line of work so she has extra insight. Mr. Gold asked how the East Longmeadow "throw all the trash you want" at their dump is working out. Ms. Bone replied that it will be closing because it is costly and people took advantage of it.
8. Mark Tolosky, 83 Willow Brook Road applied for reappointment to the Tree Committee. He has been on the committee for a couple of years and appreciates the systematic approach to the replacement and removal of our trees. Mr. Foster noted that the Arbor Day saplings are at the Community Gardens. Tree Warden Dave Marinelli has arranged a system for residents to pick them up.
9. James Moulton, 36 Riverview Avenue has applied for reappointment to the Building Committee. He feels there is a lot of work to be done. The committee is doing a good job with what they have to work with.

Mr. Foster asked if the scope of the committee needs to be modified. Mr. Moulton would like to look at preventative maintenance for buildings, and look at town property with nothing on it.

10. Julia Moulton, 36 Riverview Avenue has applied for reappointment to the Council on Aging Board of Directors. She feels the board is doing exciting work and wants to remain a part of it. She loves the community and wants to give back.
11. John Skypeck, 157 Coventry Lane applied for reappointment to the Capital Planning Committee. He feels the committee works well together and has useful input to the town budget.
12. Margaret Landon, 5 Meadowbrook Road applied for reappointment to the Cultural Council. She is currently the chair and enjoys the work and would like to continue.

Mr. Gold asked if the council is finding programs to do while social distancing. Ms. Landon replied that most programs have been postponed to the fall except for one virtual program for the Library. The funds remain in the municipal account and will have to be re-granted by the state.

13. Irwin Pers, 67 Windsor Place applied for reappointment to the Recycling Commission. He is currently the chair of the commission and enjoys the work. Mr. Pers feels the commission does an excellent job and would like to continue his work. Mr. Gold asked what the next step would be in recycling. Mr. Pers will be working on cleaning up the trash cart issues, rescheduling the shredding event, Earth Day was cancelled, work with DPW to open the Recycling Center. Mr. Foster noted the massive reduction in recycling in the world and asked Mr. Pers if he had any thoughts on this and how to keep the initiative going. Mr. Pers agreed that the industry has been changing quite a bit. The contract with the MERF will end soon. Some local companies are doing quite a bit of recycling. We are trying to keep current and work with changes.

Mr. Gold made the motion to suspend the meeting to 7:00 p.m. Mr. Foster seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ms. Angelides – yes, Mr. Gold – yes, Mr. Foster – yes

7:00 p.m. Interviews:

1. Matthew Schoen, 294 Ellington Road applied for reappointment to the Audit Committee. He feels he is an asset to the committee and would like to continue the work.
Mr. Gold asked what he would like to see the Audit Committee do. Mr. Schoen replied take a targeted view as issues arise, and control cost overruns on construction projects. The committee is getting updates on construction.
2. Peter Nassar, 1 Druid Circle applied for reappointment to the Audit Committee. He is a practicing auditor and CPA and enjoys working with the committee members and Paul Pasterczyk.
Mr. Gold asked about IT infrastructure being a hot topic. Mr. Nassar works with IT auditors and is trying to bring concerns to the Audit Committee. Mr. Foster asked if there were any new procedures due to the pandemic. There will be changes coming, planning for a remote workplace.
3. Maripat Toye, 45 Williamsburg Drive applied for reappointment to the Board of Health. She feels she brings a unique perspective with a nursing background and experience. Nursing brings another view. The chemistry of the board is amazing. Mr. Gold asked if she had any thoughts on shared health services. Ms. Toye believes we need to be open minded, some people are better at some things than others, when collaborating we can come out ahead.
4. Norman Michaels, 69 Wimbleton Drive applied for reappointment to the Cable Advisory Committee. He feels he can continue to provide valuable service to the town. He has been doing this for a while now.
Mr. Gold asked about the contract negotiations. Mr. Michaels is not part of the contract subcommittee. They will try to maximize benefits from Comcast.
5. Paul Gorman, 266 Pinewood Drive applied for reappointment to the Cable Advisory Committee. He enjoys being part of the committee and feels he is an asset to the community. Mr. Gorman has an IT background.
Mr. Foster asked about town wide wifi. Mr. Gorman believes it is a good idea. There are some security concerns and cost to the town. Mr. Gold asked if he was on the contract subcommittee. He is not.
6. David Dumais, 76 Sheffield Avenue applied for reappointment to the Conservation Commission. He is a 15 year resident, enjoys the board, and is interested in conservation and would like to continue the work.
Mr. Foster asked where Mr. Dumais sees the town in 20 years. There will be a more integrated role with Silvio O. Conte and the conservation land. Mr. Foster noted that there has been little done to expand the wetlands as far as recreational trails and development for education. Mr. Dumais mentioned the old train station which is part of the current DPW. There may be federal grants to repurpose it and turn it into an educational center.
7. Tim Casey, 741 Laurel Street applied for reappointment to the Historical Commission. He would like to continue the work he started. He is also a member of the Historic District Commission.

Mr. Foster asked what the major challenges were. A challenge is integrating local resources in a format that is easily accessible to the public for research on older homes and properties. Google maps can be used to create a circle walking tour of the Historic District.

8. Jeffrey Rintoul, 27 Cranwell Lane applied for reappointment to the Parks and Recreation Commission. He would like to continue with the work that is being done (Wolf Swamp Fields, Turner Park). Mr. Rintoul believes he can continue to provide benefits to the commission and the town.
Mr. Gold asked if Mr. Rintoul watched the Zoom meeting on the Bliss and Laurel Park improvements. He did and has had some dealings with it in person and when CPC awarded them funds.
Mr. Foster noted that there was an approved vote years ago to put a senior center at Bliss Park. Mr. Foster asked what the vision for Bliss and Laurel Parks is. Mr. Rintoul replied there is a great opportunity to keep the playground facility, upgrade the baseball fields, and have multiple uses. Regarding a dog park, some people are nervous about dogs coming up to them, and not happy about the waste they can leave behind. The brook to the pond is in need of repair. Part of the plan is to identify and improve.
9. Marissa Komack, 45 Kenmore Drive applied for reappointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals. She has served two terms and enjoys being a part of the board and allowing residents to renovate.
Mr. Gold asked if there were any thoughts on bylaw enforcement. Ms. Komack noted that some residents don't know they need to come before the board. She feels we need to look into amending the bylaw for trucks in driveways in the case of emergency vehicles. Some bylaws need to be reviewed and updated.
Mr. Foster asked about in-law apartments. Ms. Komack stated that the board is pretty strict, if bylaws don't state something and the board is not comfortable with it, they will not allow it. Ms. Komack personally doesn't feel in-law apartments should be added on.
10. Tom Ewing, 515 Converse Street applied for reappointment to the Building Committee. He has been on the board for one year and enjoys it. He is at the Senior Center job site a lot. He is a roofing specialist.
Mr. Foster asked where improvements could be made in the duties of the committee. Mr. Ewing would like the committee to be more involved in the bids that go out.
11. Robert Rappaport, 595 Laurel Street applied for reappointment to the Board of Health. He has been on the board for 37 years and is currently chair. He believes the board works well as a group and wants to continue giving back to the town. Mr. Gold asked about shared services. Dr. Rappaport feels in general it is a good idea, he is concerned with some regulations that were passed and who will enforce them. A good amount of time was spent on forming them. Also, who would get priority when a call comes in for Longmeadow or East Longmeadow. Dr. Rappaport is concerned we may lose something as the shared services is proposed. We already share our town nurse. We will maintain separate Boards of Health.
12. Andrea Taupier, 132 Kenmore Drive applied for a position on the Historic District Commission. She has been a past member of the Historical Commission and joined the Historical Society. She is interested in residential architecture. Ms. Taupier is a Historical Society member for the HDC. She has lived in town for 9 years.

Mr. Gold made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Mr. Foster seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ms. Angelides – yes, Mr. Gold – yes, Mr. Foster - yes

Documents:

Agenda

Applications