

Select Board Regular Meeting  
Monday, October 19, 2020 - 7:00 p.m.  
REMOTE

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 this meeting was done remotely via Zoom.

**Select Board Present via Zoom:** Chair Thomas Lachiusa, Marc Strange, Steven Marantz, Mark Gold, Richard Foster

**Also Present via Zoom:** Town Manager Lyn Simmons, CFO Paul Pasterczyk, Debbie House, Bari Jarvis, Mario Mazza, Michele Marantz

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Thomas Lachiusa. Due to COVID-19 concerns, and the Governor's executive order, and changes to Open Meeting Law remote participation, this meeting was held remotely with residents having the option of calling in or sending in their comments. All votes were taken by roll call. LCTV was also utilized to broadcast and record the meeting.

Chair Lachiusa 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. This meeting allowed for public comment.

#### **Update on COVID-19**

Town Manager Lyn Simmons gave the update. There are currently 3 active cases in the community. The state has reported an uptick in cases. Everyone is asked to stay vigilant, and continue to wear masks, social distance, and wash hands. All residents are encouraged to follow state guidelines.

#### **Announcements**

1. October 24 is the deadline to register to vote in the November 3, 2020 election. You can register on the Town website.
2. To vote by mail, submit your application for a ballot by October 20. Applications received at the Town Hall after October 28 cannot be accepted. Return ballots to the Town Hall by mail or drop off in the locked drop box at the front door of the Town Hall. 5700 ballots have been mailed out so far. To track your ballot, go to the Secretary of State website and use the "Track my Ballot" link.
3. Early voting started on October 17 and runs through October 30 at Greenwood Center on Maple Road. Check the town website for hours. Over 800 residents have voted so far.
4. Reminder that the polling location is Greenwood Center, 231 Maple Road for the November 3 election. The polls will be open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
5. The Fall Town Meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the high school. The warrant can be found on the town website along with information about attending the indoor Town meeting.
6. There is a Board of Health vacancy. Interested applicants should submit an online application that can be found on the Select Board's page of the town website.
7. Last week the Board of Health met and voted to cancel Halloween for 2020 due to the pandemic. Due to a lack of a quorum, the vote was not official. The BOH will meet again this week to make this official.

**Residents Comments - none**

**Select Board Comments - none**

## Town Manager's Report

1. Fall Town Meeting October 27, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the high school. A new website tool called "Community Voice" will be used leading up to the meeting to answer questions on the warrant articles. This will offer an interactive public discussion on the warrant articles. Town staff will monitor the questions and provide answers.
2. Storrs Library is open for in-person browsing by appointment. Appointments can be made online on the town website for Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.
3. Wolf Swamp Fields project was awarded to R.A.D. Sports. The ground breaking is expected by the week of October 26 with substantial completion in May 2021.
4. The Town Clerk has mailed out approximately 5700 ballots so far. The last day to request a ballot is October 20. Ballots can be returned to the Town Hall by mail or dropped off in the lockbox at the front door of the Town Hall.

Mr. Pasterczyk stated that the Governor's numbers have been updated and we are in a good position right now. I MGM pays the \$290,000 then Article 11 on the Fall Town Meeting warrant will not be needed. Mr. Marantz noted that he has no confidence in MGM paying what is owed.

## Old Business

1. Approved Minutes – *Mr. Gold made the motion to accept the meeting minutes from October 5, 2020 with a correction. Mr. Marantz seconded the motion.*  
*Roll Call Vote: Mr. Lachiusa-YES, Mr. Strange-YES, Mr. Marantz-YES, Mr. Gold-YES, Mr. Foster-YES*
2. Appointments  
*Mr. Gold made the motion to appoint Robert Humberston to the Historic District Commission for an alternate term expiring in June 2023. Mr. Foster seconded the motion.*  
*Roll Call Vote: Mr. Lachiusa-YES, Mr. Strange-YES, Mr. Marantz-YES, Mr. Gold-YES, Mr. Foster-YES*  
*Mr. Gold made the motion to appoint David Morse to the Energy and Sustainability Committee for a term expiring in June 2022. Mr. Marantz seconded the motion.*  
*Roll Call Vote: Mr. Lachiusa-YES, Mr. Strange-YES, Mr. Marantz-YES, Mr. Gold-YES, Mr. Foster-YES*
3. Halloween 2020 Discussion Continued – at the last Select Board meeting Mr. Gold made the following motion: *Mr. Gold made the motion that the Town of Longmeadow ban door to door trick or treating for Halloween of 2020 in response to COVID-19. Mr. Foster seconded the motion.* A vote was taken on the motion.  
*Roll Call Vote: Mr. Lachiusa-YES, Mr. Strange-YES, Mr. Marantz-YES, Mr. Gold-YES, Mr. Foster-YES*
4. Charter Review Committee Recommendations – the items referring to the Superintendent will be addressed later since the school staff and School Committee are extremely busy right now. Mr. Pasterczyk believes the only items left to be addressed are 2-11a & b, and 7-6a & c.

## New Business

1. Open Space and Recreation Plan 2020-2027 – Parks and Recreation Director Bari Jarvis attended the meeting and spoke about the new plan. She is seeking the Select Board's and Planning Board's support of this new plan. Ms. Jarvis spearheaded the plan and Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) along with other board and committee members contributed. Several virtual public hearings were held and an online survey was conducted to hear resident input. Over 425 responses to the survey were received. A Public Vision 2020 was done via Zoom, only 12 people attended. The last plan was initiated in 2010 and published in 2011. Ms. Kimberly Robinson, Executive Director of PVPC submitted a letter of support for Longmeadow's plan to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA) Division of Conservation Services (DCS). Mr. Lachiusa read off the names of all who participated in the creation of the Open Space and Recreation Plan 2020-2027.  
*Mr. Gold made the motion to approve the Open Space and Recreation Plan for 2020-2027. Mr. Strange seconded the motion.*  
*Roll Call Vote: Mr. Lachiusa-YES, Mr. Strange-YES, Mr. Marantz-YES, Mr. Gold-YES, Mr. Foster-YES*

2. Road Surface Incursion Repair Proposed Policy – Mario Mazza attended the meeting. Mr. Gold submitted the proposed Select Board Policy for Road Surface Incursion Repair. Mr. Mazza would like the moratorium of two years mentioned in the policy changed to five years to be consistent with the trench permit. Mr. Gold agreed. Mr. Mazza questioned whether this policy would somehow short change other DPW capital projects. Mr. Gold stated there is no requirement to spend a large sum of money. A vote on the proposed policy will be taken at the next meeting.
3. Open Letter to Eversource – Michele Marantz, Chair of the Longmeadow Pipeline Awareness Group, attended the meeting to ask the Select Board to join 80+ state wide groups and public officials in signing an open letter to Mr. James Judge, CEO of Eversource Energy asking that Eversource switch from a path of harmful gas and fossil fuel development to a plan that embraces green energy to help with climate change. The letter also requests that Eversource abandon its plan to move ahead with the Longmeadow supply strategy project. Mr. Gold questioned whether the Select Board should sign this letter or send our own letter to differentiate ourselves. Also the question came up as to whether this letter would impact our legal ability. Ms. Simmons will check with our attorneys on this.  
*Mr. Marantz made the motion that the Longmeadow Select Board endorse the letter to Eversource as a Select Board. Mr. Strange seconded the motion.*  
*Mr. Marantz amended his motion by adding “subject to approval by our attorneys”. Mr. Strange seconded the motion.*  
*Roll call vote on the amended motion: Mr. Lachiusa-YES, Mr. Strange-YES, Mr. Marantz-YES, Mr. Gold-YES, Mr. Foster-YES*  
*Roll call vote on the original motion: Mr. Lachiusa-YES, Mr. Strange-YES, Mr. Marantz-YES, Mr. Gold-YES, Mr. Foster-YES*
4. Housing Authority Request – a letter was received from Edward Kline of the Longmeadow Housing Authority requesting the Select Board send a letter to the Governor requesting a Governor’s appointment to the LHA; and that the Select Board appoint a member to the LHA to fill a vacancy until the next town election. The LHA asked the Select Board to submit the name of Donna P. Burrall, 418 Longmeadow Street for the Governor’s consideration.  
*Mr. Strange made the motion to send a letter to the Governor requesting the Housing Authority Governor’s appointment of Donna P. Burrall. Mr. Gold seconded the motion.*  
*Roll Call Vote: Mr. Lachiusa-YES, Mr. Strange-YES, Mr. Marantz-YES, Mr. Gold-YES, Mr. Foster-YES*

*Mr. Marantz made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Mr. Strange seconded the motion.*  
*Roll Call Vote: Mr. Lachiusa-YES, Mr. Strange-YES, Mr. Marantz-YES, Mr. Gold-left meeting, Mr. Foster-YES*

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie House

**Documents:**

Agenda  
Announcement sheet  
Town Manager’s Report 10/19/20 and Department September Reports  
Draft Minutes 10/5/2020  
Appointment Memo  
PVPC Letter of Support for Open Space and Recreation Plan 2020-2027  
Proposed Policy on Road Surface Incursion Repair  
Trench Permit Application form  
Open Letter to James Judge, CEO of Eversource Energy  
Housing Authority Letter  
Correspondence: BOH Resignation-M. Toye, Comcast Letters, Email-B. Bertuzzi, Email-L. Stevens