

Select Board Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 21, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.
Longmeadow High School, Room A15, 535 Bliss Road, Longmeadow, MA

Present: Chair Marie Angelides, Marc Strange, Richard Foster, Mark Gold and Tom Lachus (6:40 p.m.)

Also Present: Town Manager Lyn Simmons, Paul Pasterczyk, Debbie House,

Interviewees: Gerard Nolet, Russell Cobbs, David Leslie, Richard Brooslin, Eleanor Cress, Mark Pohlman

Open Session

Executive Session

Mr. Gold made the motion to enter into executive session at 6:30 p.m. in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a) (3) to discuss strategy with regard to anticipated litigation relative to cleanup of the new DPW Facility, discussion of which in open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the Town and the Chair so declares, to reconvene in open session. Mr. Foster seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Mr. Gold -YES, Mr. Strange -YES, Ms. Angelides -YES, and Mr. Foster -YES
(separate minutes)

Select Board Reconvened to Open Session at 7:00 p.m.

Select Board/Planning Board Joint Meeting 7:00 p.m.

To appoint a new member to fill the Planning Board vacancy 7:00 p.m. (separate minutes)

Select Board Regular Meeting continued at 7:03 p.m.

Announcements – Ms. Simmons read this week’s announcements.

1. The 2020 Recycling and Yard Waste Stickers are available for purchase online or in person at the Town Clerk’s office. Online stickers are \$46, an additional sticker is \$16. If over 65 years of age, the online price is \$36. Stickers purchased at the Town Clerk’s office are \$45, an additional sticker is \$15, and \$35 if over 65 years of age.
2. Fire Chief Dearborn prepared an ice safety notice which is on the town website.
3. On January 30th Storrs Library will host the Census 2020 kick-off with State Reps. Mark and Ashe along with representatives from the US Census Bureau and PVPC Complete Count Committee. The US Census 2020 is hiring census workers in our area. If interested, visit 2020census.gov/jobs.

Resident comments - none

Select Board Comments

1. Mr. Lachus expressed his disappointment that Ms. Angelides name was left off the Longmeadow Select Board listing in the newest version of the Registry of Deeds book that just came out, “Officers of Hampden County 2019”.
2. Ms. Angelides announced a Veterans’ program called Veterans Treatment Court which is designed to provide support and resources for veterans involved with the criminal justice system, rather than punishment. The goal of the Veterans Treatment Court is to divert those with mental health issues and homelessness from the traditional justice system and give them treatment and tools for rehabilitation and readjustment. People looking to assist or mentor a veteran and help out while they are going through the system are welcome. Contact Veterans Director Lena Velluro at 565-4150 for more information on this.
3. Mr. Foster heard that Eversource could take up to 8 months to install meters in residences with solar panels in order to start utilizing solar energy. He looked into this and found it did not take Eversource that long to respond to homeowners. The solar firms may be holding up the paperwork. Mr. Foster asked that if anyone is having trouble with their solar provider, to please contact the Select Board for assistance.

Interviews for the Senior Housing Task Force

1. Eleanor Cress, 114 Emerson Road has been involved with Emerson Manor since 1975. There are over 99 units there now, they started with 78 units. Ms. Cress believes she will bring housing experience to the task force.
2. Gerard Nolet, 724 Frank Smith Road feels there is a lack of senior housing in town. There are 20 acres near his home that is flat and dry. Housing for 55 and over provides tax revenue without challenging the school system. Mr. Nolet has been on many boards and committees over his 50 years living in Longmeadow and would like to be involved with this task force.

Mr. Foster explained to all of the applicants that this task force will look at more than housing, it will cover senior issues “stem to stern”. The task force could last for a good year with many meetings, mostly day time meetings. The Open Meeting Law would be followed. Mr. Foster noted that if some applicants were not appointed, it is possible that they could be alternates.

3. David Leslie, 64 Coventry Lane is the Vice President of Finance at Glenmeadow and has worked with senior living. He is glad this task force will focus on more than just housing for seniors. Senior support and services are needed.
4. Mark Pohlman, 561 Frank Smith Road has been retired since 2002 and has concerns with new senior housing. He would like co-housing and sharing responsibilities to be considered. He would like to see certain items like garaging and a common living space. Mr. Pohlman also has environmental concerns with new housing. Mr. Pohlman asked if remote participation was a possibility. Mr. Foster stated that this would be up to the task force.

Mr. Gold suggested that the task force may want to consider accessory housing (in-law apartments) which the bylaws currently prohibit.

5. Richard Brooslin, 77 Blueberry Hill Road is a 47-year resident of Longmeadow and served 5 terms on the School Committee. He hasn't given much thought to services except for housing, but is willing to explore options for services. He is self-employed and can move around his schedule to attend day time meetings.
6. Russell Cobbs, 24 Tabor Crossing is a 45-year resident of Longmeadow. He taught at the high school for 25 years, chose an early retirement and volunteered at the Library. Mr. Cobbs went back to work as a consultant (Asst. Chief Reader) until 2018. He does not have a lot of knowledge about plots of land, but is a quick learner and a good communicator.

The Select Board will interview a few more applicants at the February 3 meeting.

Town Manager's Report

1. The Annual Town Census was mailed out to residents on January 10th. Residents are asked to return the form to the Town Clerk as soon as possible. Failure to respond to the census shall cause registered voters to be added to the inactive list. Dog licenses can be renewed on the back of the census form or in person at the Town Clerk's office by April 1.
2. The town again received the GFOA distinguished budget presentation award for its FY20 budget, this is the 5th consecutive year the town has received this award.
3. The MVP grant submittal for a tree inventory, watershed evaluation, and stormwater infrastructure mapping and condition assessment was not approved. The town was encouraged to submit in the next grant round in the spring.
4. Longmeadow and East Longmeadow received a grant to fund a community health assessment of each community. The firm, Health Resources in Action was selected to conduct the assessment, which will include a public survey.
5. The Final Report of the Special Commission for Crumbling Foundations is posted on the town website.

Mr. Lachiusa noted that the Police Department is nearing its 100th anniversary and the Select Board should help out with planning a celebration.

Mr. Gold pointed out that the December electricity bill reflects that the town now owns the streetlights, the savings have started. The cobra LED lights qualify for a state reimbursement grant. A contract for maintenance

of the street lights has been awarded to Arden Engineering. The consultant firm, Tanko took very specific measurements of the different lights. Residents should feel comfortable that things are going really well. Tanko is very persistent and excellent to work with.

Old Business

1. Minutes approval – *Mr. Foster made the motion to approve the draft minutes from the January 6, 2020 regular Select Board meeting. Mr. Strange seconded the motion. The vote was 3 in favor and 0 opposed. Mr. Gold and Mr. Lachiusa abstained.*
Mr. Foster made the motion to approve the draft minutes from the January 6, 2020 Select Board and Planning Board Joint Meeting. Mr. Strange seconded the motion. The vote was 3 in favor and 0 opposed. Mr. Gold and Mr. Lachiusa abstained.
2. Select Board/Town Manager Financial Policies Updates – Mr. Pasterczyk updated the Other Post-Employment Benefits Policy (OPEB), Sewer Enterprise Fund Policy, Water Enterprise Fund Policy, and added a new policy – Stormwater Enterprise Fund Policy.
OPEB Policy – after much discussion, this policy was tabled to the next Select Board meeting.
Sewer Enterprise – *Mr. Gold made the motion to approve the revised Sewer Enterprise Fund Policy as presented by Mr. Pasterczyk. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 5 in favor and 0 opposed.*
Water Enterprise - *Mr. Foster made the motion to approve the revised Water Enterprise Fund Policy as presented by Mr. Pasterczyk. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. The vote was 5 in favor and 0 opposed.*
Stormwater Enterprise – This is a new policy and is written similar to the water and sewer policies. Mr. Lachiusa noted that the term “Equivalent Residential Units (ERU)” can be confusing and asked that it be specified that this is for every property in town, not just residential.
Mr. Foster made the motion to approve the new Stormwater Enterprise Fund Policy with three changes: eliminate the wording “up to \$25,000 under #2 in the Allowed Uses of Funds section, add a line to say “applicable to every property in town” to the Source of Income paragraph, and add to the Source of Income paragraph “reduce the General Fund Subsidy in equal increments by 2036”. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. The vote was 5 in favor and 0 opposed.
3. Charter Changes – Items identified and recommended by the Charter Review Committee are being reviewed. Ms. Simmons recommended additional changes to “Section 5: Town Manager” of the Charter. The School Committee will be looking at articles pertaining to the Superintendent. After some discussion on Section 5, it was decided that Ms. Simmons will check on a few things and bring this back to the next meeting on February 3.
4. Select Board/Town Manager Policies – Ms. Simmons reviewed and revised the Liquor License Violation Policy, the Public Property Naming Policy, and recommended removing the Appendix to Website Content Policy, the Select Board Operations Subcommittee Policy, and Administrative Code.
Mr. Gold made the motion to approve the amendments to the Liquor License Violation Policy as presented by Ms. Simmons. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. The vote was 5 in favor and 0 opposed.
Mr. Strange made the motion to approve the amendments to the Public Property Naming Policy as presented by Ms. Simmons and also deleting the words “members present” from paragraph three. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. The vote was 5 in favor and 0 opposed.
Mr. Gold made the motion to completely strike the Appendix to Website Context from the policy book as recommended by Ms. Simmons. Mr. Strange seconded the motion. The vote was 5 in favor and 0 opposed.
Mr. Gold made the motion to completely strike the Select Board Operations Subcommittee from the policy book as recommended by Ms. Simmons. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 5 in favor and 0 opposed.
Mr. Gold made the motion to completely strike the Administrative Code from the policy book as recommended by Ms. Simmons. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

New Business

1. Articles Submission Memo for Annual Town Meeting – The article submission deadline for the Annual Town Meeting Warrant is February 24.
2. Bylaw Discussion for Annual Town Meeting – not discussed
3. MMA Annual Meeting – The MMA Annual Meeting and Trade Show will be held this weekend in Boston. MIIA credits can be earned by attendance at some of the many programs being held. Select Board members are to let Ms. Angelides know which programs they plan on attending so that credits can be maximized.

The Springfield water issue will be discussed at a future meeting with the Board of Health and possibly the Springfield Water Commissioners.

Mr. Foster made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 p.m. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. The vote was 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

The next regular Select Board meeting will be on Monday, February 3.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie House

Documents:

Agenda

Announcements sheet

Senior Housing Task Force applications

Town Managers Report memo

Departments December Reports

Draft Minutes January 6, 2020 Regular and Joint meetings

SB/TM Financial Policy draft amendments

Charter Section 5 Town Manager draft amendments

SB/TM policy amendments

Article Submission memo

Correspondence:

Comcast 1/10/2020

Comcast 1/9/2020 (2)

Cultural Council 1/4/2020