

Remote- Select Board Regular Meeting
Monday, January 3, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.
Remote

Select Board Members Present via Zoom: Chair Marc Strange, Steven Marantz, Joshua Levine, Mark Gold, Thomas Lachiusa.

Staff Present via Zoom: Lyn Simmons, Michael Barbieri, Jennifer Leydon.

Also Present via Zoom: Nicholas Amanti, Scott Smith (Max Burger)

Chair Strange called this meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. 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 Strange 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 law requires such participation. This meeting allowed for public comment.

Announcements

Christmas Tree Pick Up: Christmas tree pick up will commence January 3, 2022 and continue through January 14, 2022. Trees should be placed at the curb for pick up, with no stands, ornaments, or lights attached.

Emergency Notification Test: On Sunday January 16, 2021, we will be running a test of the Town's Emergency Notification system starting at 5:00 pm. The test will consist of two messages. The first will be sent to all residents registered in the system. They will receive a message stating this is Longmeadow Emergency Management with a test of the Longmeadow Emergency Notification system. If you received this test, you are registered for the system. If you wish to modify your registration, please go to Longmeadow.org and click on Emergency notifications. We use this system to broadcast important information in the case of an emergency. Sincerely, Chief Dearborn, Longmeadow Emergency Management. The second test will follow a few minutes later. This message will state, this is Longmeadow Emergency Management, if this is the second message you are receiving tonight you are registered for the Town of Longmeadow Emergency notification system. If this is the first test you have received we would ask you to go to Longmeadow.org and click on emergency notifications to register for the Town's Emergency notification system. We use this system to broadcast important information in the case of an emergency. Sincerely, Chief Dearborn, Longmeadow Emergency Management. This test will take approximately an hour to conduct due to the number of contacts we will be pursuing. It is our hope that this will help us gain more contacts in our base system. The second test will reach contacts that are registered and not registered from the global database. After the test we will do a database clean up on numbers and addresses not deliverable. This will help to speed up our message delivery going forward. We will publicize the test the week before.

Board and Committee Interviews

Marie Angelides, of 199 Tanglewood Drive, applied to the Select Board to fill a vacant appointment on the Council on Aging Board of Directors. Mr. Gold asked Ms. Angelides why she was interested in this position. Ms. Angelides stated that she was involved in the process of the new Adult Center when she was on the Select Board. Ms. Angelides said that there are some exciting new things going on at the center and she would like to join in to help in some way. Mr. Gold also asked how FOLCOA and the COA Board could work together in terms of responsibility, authority, and reducing conflict. Ms. Angelides stated that there is room for all groups to be of value to work together to reach goals of the new center. Mr. Lachiusa asked Ms. Angelides how she feels the COA could find new ways to fundraise. Ms. Angelides stated the moving in new directions and expanding services in programming is important for the COA.

Ron Johnston, of 39 Burns Meadow, applied to the Select Board to fill a vacant appointment on the Council on

Aging Board of Directors. Mr. Johnston stated that he was interested in giving back to the Town in advocating for seniors particularly those who need help. Mr. Gold asked Mr. Johnston how he sees the three groups interacting with each other, and what is the COA Board's relationship to these other groups. Mr. Johnston stated that he was unfamiliar with the other groups, but stated that a middle ground should be found to work together. Mr. Lachiusa asked Mr. Johnston if there are any specific events that he would like to see happen that are not currently. Mr. Johnston stated that the physical activities that are available now are more prominent than before. Mr. Johnston stated that he would like to be an advocate for homebound citizens who may not be able to use the center as frequently.

Board and Committee Appointments

Mr. Gold made the motion to appoint Stephan Platzer to the Council on Aging Board of Director's to a three-year term expiring on June 30, 2024. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Strange- YES, Mr. Marantz- YES, Mr. Levine- YES, Mr. Gold- YES, Mr. Lachiusa- YES

Public Hearing

A. Max Burger Longmeadow, LLC d/b/a Max Burger

Mr. Gold made the motion to enter the Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Strange- YES, Mr. Marantz- YES, Mr. Levine- YES, Mr. Gold- YES, Mr. Lachiusa- YES

Max Burger Longmeadow, LLC d/b/a Max Burger has applied to the Longmeadow Select Board to amend their liquor license under Section 12 for a change of officers, stock, or ownership at 684 Bliss Road, Longmeadow, MA. Scott Smith, General Manager for Max Burger, and Attorney Nicholas Amanti were present to discuss the application for a liquor license amendment. Members of the board were able to ask questions concerning the application. This hearing allowed for public comment.

B. Public Comment – NONE

Mr. Gold made the motion to close the Public Hearing. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Strange- YES, Mr. Marantz- YES, Mr. Levine- YES, Mr. Gold- YES, Mr. Lachiusa- YES

Mr. Gold made the motion to approve Max Burger's application to amend their Liquor License for a change of officers, stock, or ownership. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Strange- YES, Mr. Marantz- YES, Mr. Levine- YES, Mr. Gold- YES, Mr. Lachiusa- YES

Resident Comments - None

Select Board Comments- None

Town Manager's Report

COVID-19 Update As of December 30, 2021, there were 145 COVID-19 cases in town, 94% are breakthrough cases. As we all know, we are in a surge at the moment and are seeing cases skyrocket. We are also facing a huge change in isolation timeline and quarantine parameters coming from CDC and DPH. The good news is, the majority of cases in town seem to be mild and symptoms leave the system of the infected as swiftly as they enter. On the other side of that statement, the virus is traveling at a much higher rate and is MUCH more transmittable. The last data pertaining to vaccination responsive rate was about 35% without the booster and 75% with, so until the warmer weather comes in and slows this virus down, please stay as safe and protected as possible.

DPW We had two notable retirements from the DPW at the end of calendar year 2021 representing a combined 85 years of service! Wayne Buck served as the DPW Yard Foreman for the past 31 years and prior to that held other positions including General Foreman, Sweeper/Sander and Labor-Medium Equipment Operator. Wayne served the Town of Longmeadow for 42 years. Bruce Covalli, served as the Town's Water Meter Reader for the last 22 years. Prior to that Bruce held other DPW positions including Equipment Station Operator,

Sweeper/Sander and Skilled Laborer. Bruce served the Town of Longmeadow for 43 years. We thank them for their dedicated years of service and wish them well in their retirements.

Website Refresh In early 2020 the idea to refresh the Town's website was discussed. The contract the Town has with CivicPlus includes a free website refresh after five years of use. We became eligible for this refresh in 2018. The work toward this was paused in 2020 and most of 2021 when other time sensitive priorities took over. However, the initial steps toward this project have started with a formal website refresh kicking off in mid-late February. The entire process is expected to take several months with a new refreshed Town website going live in the summer of 2022. A small working group of robust users will work with CivicPlus to make decisions on the layout, color scheme and content cleanup. Many of the changes will be based on the site analytics we are currently reviewing, such as top website searches and most visited pages. One big change that will be made to align the Town's website with other municipal sites is the change in the web address. At tonight's Select Board meeting there is a request to authorize the Town to pursue the URL address of www.longmeadowma.gov, securing this address will allow the newly refreshed site to launch with that domain name and replace the current longmeadow.org address.

Old Business

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Mr. Marantz made the motion to approve the December 20, 2021 Select Board Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Strange- YES, Mr. Marantz- YES, Mr. Levine- YES, Mr. Gold- Abstain, Mr. Lachiusa- YES

B. Eversource Gas Update and responses to questions from public forum

The Longmeadow Select Board held a public forum on November 15, 2021 with Eversource Gas to discuss the proposed Western Mass Natural Gas Reliability Project. Some questions could not be answered during the forum due to time constraints. Residents were able to submit their questions to Chair Strange, and a list was sent to representatives from Eversource for a follow up. For the full discussion on the Eversource Gas Update, please click [here](#) or on the LCTV Youtube page under "Select Board Meetings" (42:00 – 1:17:00). The list of questions and answers can be found in the Select Board Agenda Packet linked under "Documents" at the end of these minutes.

New Business

A. Set Date for Annual Town Election

Town Clerk, Kathy Ingram is recommending that the Select Board vote to set the date of the Annual Town Election as Tuesday, June 14, 2022 with a Preliminary Election date, if needed, to be held on Tuesday, April 26, 2022.

Mr. Gold made the motion to set the 2022 Annual Town Election to June 14, 2022. Mr. Marantz seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Strange- YES, Mr. Marantz- YES, Mr. Levine- YES, Mr. Gold- YES, Mr. Lachiusa- YES

B. 2022 Annual Town Meeting Warrant Schedule

Mr. Gold made the motion to approve the 2022 Annual Town Meeting Warrant schedule and submission deadlines. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Strange- YES, Mr. Marantz- YES, Mr. Levine- YES, Mr. Gold- YES, Mr. Lachiusa- YES

C. .Gov Domain Registration Application

The domain name will be used to relocate the Town of Longmeadow's web presence and email addresses from the currently used longmeadow.org domain. It is the Town's belief that the use of the .gov domain will make it easy for our

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residents to know that the services provided are official, as is the stated purpose of the DotGov program. The Town is requesting that responsibility for the domain name **longmeadowma.gov** be delegated to our Municipality.

Mr. Gold made the motion to authorize the Town of Longmeadow to submit the .Gov domain registration application to seek longmeadowma.gov as the Town domain address and to safely migrate over to that website. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Strange- YES, Mr. Marantz- YES, Mr. Levine- YES, Mr. Gold- YES, Mr. Lachiusa- YES

Correspondence - NONE

Adjourn

Mr. Levine made the motion to adjourn the Select Board Regular Meeting at 8:32 p.m. Mr. Marantz seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Strange- YES, Mr. Marantz- YES, Mr. Levine- YES, Mr. Gold- YES, Mr. Lachiusa- YES

Documents



SB 1_3_22 Agenda
Packet.pdf

Select Board 1_3_22 Agenda Packet

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Barbieri

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