

STOCKBRIDGE SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, April 13, 2023
6:30 p.m.
ZOOM MEETING - TOWN OFFICES, 50 MAIN STREET

Present:

Patrick White, Chuck Cardillo, Jamie Minacci and Mike Canales

Call to Order:

Patrick called the meeting to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Building Inspector

Patrick thanked Ned Baldwin for his years of service as Building Inspector. Ned is retiring on May 1st. Mike added that he spoke with Matt Kollmer, Building Inspector in Lee and Lenox and the alternate in Stockbridge. Mike asked the Board to appoint Matt for the next six months and to evaluate and decide how to move forward in that time period. Chuck made a motion to hire Matt for the six-month trial period. Patrick seconded; all were in favor.

Joint Meeting with the Finance Committee to finalize the budget

- Discussion of open items in budget, including whether to add a full-time member to the Stockbridge Fire Dept., short-term rental tools, bridges (Curtisville, Butler, Park St.), OPEB, and any other items that merit review.

Jay Bikofsky, Finance Committee Chairman, called the joint section of the meeting to order.

Fire Chief Vincent Garofoli requested the new fire engine which was approved at the 2022 Town Meeting. Patrick made a motion to place the order for the fire truck immediately. Chuck seconded; all were in favor. The Chief also requested \$90,000 for equipment: 25 new sets of turnout gear. Patrick made a motion they order the fire gear. Jamie seconded; all were in favor. Finally, the Chief requested an additional full-time annual contract employee for the daytime shift. This employee could also be used to cover other departments/jobs in Town as needed. Patrick made a motion to approve the operating budget for the Fire Department. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.

The Finance Committee closed the joint portion of the meeting.

The Selectmen continued with their meeting.

Jamie said that TriTown Connector, a new micro transit, officially starts May 1st. It is an on demand ride service with each ride from \$2.50-\$3.00. Hours of operation are 6am-9pm weekdays and 8am-8pm on weekends. They will be offering free rides to Town Meetings. See flyer below.

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Lake Management

Harvesting review for Summer 2023

Mike said that they are prepared for harvesting and are expanding coverage to just under 10 acres this summer. Hopes are to have the harvester in the lake by June 1st.

Harvesting proposal from SBA

The Stockbridge Bowl Association requested the Board to endorse to file under another section of the wetland protection act to allow for increased acreage of harvesting. Pat Kennelly hoped that the Town would provide non-binding support of them going for an NOI.

Patrick made a motion that they provide non-binding support for the SBA to pursue the advanced harvesting permit. Jamie seconded; all were in favor.

Update on dredging

Mike updated the dredging process and said they have been moving forward and are waiting to see if Bullard Woods can be used for a drying spot. This is expected in this summer.

Water chestnut

Mike said that the process of pulling the chestnuts is being accessed.

Appointments

- Kampoosa Bog Stewardship Committee: Sally Underwood Miller

Jamie made a motion that they accept Sally Underwood Miller for the

Kampoosa Bog Stewardship Committee. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.

- Conservation Commission/voting member: Chuck Kohrer
Patrick made a motion to nominate Chuck Kohrer as the full member of the Conservation Commission. Jamie seconded; all were in favor.
- Council on Aging: Andrea Lindsay. This was tabled to the next meeting.
- Stockbridge Cultural Council - Joan Burkhard, Anne Ferril, John Perkel
Jamie made a motion that they accept the three people to the Stockbridge Cultural Council. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.

Bylaws

Cemetery

- Cemetery bylaw recommendation

Karen Marshall, Cemetery Commission chair reviewed the proposed changes. The Commission has nine members and they would like to cut it down to five members with three-year terms and that the Commission shall have charge, care, and management of the Town Cemeteries and make all policies for that management. Natural burials will also be allowed. Other changes can be viewed in the meeting packet. Patrick made a motion to refer this bylaw to the Warrant. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.

Warrant review

Mike asked if they would like to consider lumping articles together again. The Board felt that the seventeen CPC articles should be grouped together. Even though grouped, a hold can be placed on any individual article. If no holds, one vote is taken. If there are holds, all but those held will be voted on and discussion would go back to the holds and then vote. This can also be done with Free Cash, Water and Sewer reserve articles. Patrick made a motion to combine all the Warrant articles they can.

For Highway, key road areas will be paved this fall. The crosswalk job will be tied into the paving. Hugh added that the dirt roads are done and line painting will begin. Signs are also being replaced. Road speeds and remedies were also discussed. Revisited was combining articles. Chuck made a motion they do that. Patrick seconded; all were in favor.

Patrick asked that any articles that may be subject to debate, be done first. Articles 1-7 are set in stone. Article 8 will be paying off the debt. Patrick proposed the bylaws and citizen's petition earlier. Jamie and Chuck agreed to move the bylaws up on the Warrant (9-12) but wanted the citizen's petition at the end.

Patrick discussed STR tracking tools. Chuck suggested a one-year trial.

Patrick made a motion to add STR software for one year and pay for it with free cash. It will be added to the Warrant. Mike felt there was enough money in the budget for engineering.

Patrick wanted to look at OPEB funding and questioned accessing it. When it is fully funded, he would like to have a policy to draw on the expected liability annually while always being at 100% funded. Jamie and Chuck chose to take no action.

Inclusionary Development Bylaw

Patrick made a motion to include the Inclusionary Development Bylaw on the Warrant. Town Counsel, Donna Brewer reviewed the changes. Donna said the intent of the bylaw is to provide for some affordable housing to be created when there are projects that have at least ten new or renovated residential units as a part of their design. The intent is that after built the units will continue to remain affordable. A section was added for this. A provision is that the developer can either construct the affordable unit, pay money (which will go the Affordable Housing Trust) or create an affordable unit somewhere in Town. Patrick made a motion that they include the Residential Inclusionary bylaw on the Warrant. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.

ADU Bylaw

Town Counsel stated that one of the larger changes to the original draft was to remove: only being available to those whose primary residence or domicile was on the property by removing the reference to primary residence or domicile. Also, units can be a rented but the other one must be owner-occupied; only one unit rented at a time. Patrick stated that he did not like the potential of having short-term rentals when people are not there for months and he also did not like the potential of having two rentals on one property.

Comments were made concerning positive and negative aspects of the bylaw; bylaw language, primary residents, owner occupied and second homeowners being limited.

It was asked that it be more thought out before going forward and to not regulate short term rentals through an ADU bylaw. It was agreed to remove it from the agenda and take time to do further work on it. Patrick made a motion to table it. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.

Patrick made a motion that they approve the Warrant. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.

Public Comment:

Denny Alsop said that there was a lot of confusion in Town about the Rest of River (ROR) and he requested that the Select Board vote to have ROR meetings with the ROR representative be in public sessions rather than in Executive Session.

Josh Bloom from Lee gave his opinion on the Rest of River Committee and how meetings were held concerning the EPA Cleanups: GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site.

Adjournment:

With no further business, adjourned the meeting.

Please see <https://ctsbtv.org/government-channel-1303/> to view the full meeting.

