

STOCKBRIDGE SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, August 24, 2023
6:30 p.m.
ZOOM MEETING - TOWN OFFICES, 50 MAIN STREET

Present:

Chuck Cardillo, Jamie Minacci, Patrick White and Mike Canales

Call to Order:

Chuck opened the meeting and began with the Pledge of Allegiance

National Grid – Verizon Joint Pole Hearing

Chuck made a motion to open the public hearing. Aye Patrick, Aye Chuck, Aye Jamie.

The representative explained the customer at 5 Averic Road has underground service and they are going to give them a mid-span pole for an overhead service drop. With no comments from the public Chuck made a motion to close the evidentiary portion and to deliberation by the board. Aye Patrick, Aye Chuck, Aye Jamie. With no comments, Patrick made a motion to approve. Chuck seconded. Aye Patrick, Aye Jamie, Aye Chuck.

Lincoln Lane – Private sewer connection discussion

Michael said that there was a request made to the Highway Department that had a failing sewer connection and believed he could repair it. After contacting Tony Campetti, Sewer Superintendent, he identified the connection as being private. Mike said that there was no direct cause of damage by the Town and therefore the Town cannot authorize the use of Town funds on private property. Mary Green stated her dispute that the Town could be liable. Chuck stated that as it is a private manhole, he would recommend that the owners replace it with a Town specified manhole, the Town could take it over after a year. Otherwise, it is up to the owners to fix it. Mike said that it is up to the Board to decide if the Town is primarily responsible for the damages to the system and do the upgrade or not. Jamie said that there is no data or facts. Chuck said that while he would like to help, he could not justify the use of tax payers' monies. Patrick felt that the Town should do it. Chuck made a motion that the Town does not fix the manhole. Jamie seconded. Aye Jamie, Aye Chuck, Nay Patrick

Take action on one-day alcohol licenses

Chuck read: Take action on one-day alcohol licenses for Chesterwood Museum on September 7th from 5-8PM, September 14th from 6-7PM and October 14th from 5-6PM. Patrick made a motion to approve. Jamie seconded; all were in favor.

Chuck moved to take action on on-day alcohol licenses for Berkshire Botanical Garden on September 8th from 6-11PM, September 9th from 5-11PM and September 10th from 12-6PM. Jamie seconded; all were in favor.

Chuck moved to take action on one-day alcohol license for Antimony Brewing for the Josh Billings after race held at Camp Mahkeenac on September 10th from 10PM –5PM. Jamie seconded; all were in favor.

Chuck moved to take action on minutes for July 27, 2023. Jamie seconded; all were in favor.

Promotion of Scott Muir from part-time firefighter/EMT to full time Firefighter/EMT

Chuck announced the promotion of Scott Muir from part-time firefighter/EMT to full time Firefighter/EMT. Chuck made a motion that they appoint Scott to the position. Patrick seconded; all were in favor. The Board stated their congratulations.

Curtisville Bridge – additional estimate for engineering review of option for restoration of the bridge

Mike said that **(#3)** Structure North Consultant Engineering did a visual inspection and felt there were options, keeping it a stone arch bridge but most likely as a pedestrian bridge. Physical assessment will still need to be done. The other two options are to **(#1)** take down the stone bridge and create a pedestrian walk bridge or **(#2)** taking down the existing bridge and reusing the stones on the facade and having it be a road bridge. He asked the Board to consider these three options and not wait longer. Mike said that they have the funds. Patrick made a motion for the third at \$14,500. Chuck seconded; all were in favor.

Announce Cemetery Commission openings

The new bylaws have been established by the state so the new set up is a five-member board; one from select board, one from Laurel Hill and three from the public. If anyone is interested contact Town Hall. Appointments will be made at the September 14th meeting.

Cemetery signs presentation

Candace Currie proposed signs to add to four cemetery entrances stating *Cemetery open dawn to dusk*. Patrick suggested using iron or wood. Patrick made a motion to approve the basic size, shape and words on the sign. Chuck seconded; all were in approval.

ARPA Discussions

o Installation of a Pine Woods walkway, discussion of letter from MassDOT. Mike said that they have been following up with Mass Highway and after some follow-up, Mass Highway sent a letter stating that they are interested to construct a sidewalk from Pine woods to North Church Street and were agreeable to work with the Town; contingent with the Town agreeing to complete a 450-foot section from the North Church Street side to Grange Hall which is Town property. Mike suggested to commit to the project and put ARPA funds towards sidewalks and various roads. Chuck made a motion that they use the balance of the ARPA for the sidewalk and various roadwork. Patrick seconded; (Jamie recused herself) all were in favor.

o Park Street Bridge – Mary Flynn Trail - repair and long-term responsibility

Legally the Memorial Bridge is owned by Laurel Hill. The Town owns one side and Laurel Hill Owns the other side. Laurel Hill would like the Town to take over ownership and responsibility of care for the bridge. A thought was if repairs are made then go to Town Meeting to see if the Town would take as a gift the parking area side, then making the bridge the responsibility of the Town. The suggesting is to fix the bridge using ARPA funds and then go to Town Meeting. Chuck made a motion to appropriate \$100,000 from ARPA to do the work to the Memorial Bridge. Jamie seconded; all were in favor.

Charging Station Rates discussion

Mike said that they are up and running and a rate needs to be added. Mike felt it should be temporarily set to 30% above our current kWh (about 12.3 cents) setting it at about 15.5 cents/kWh. Mike suggested bringing to Town Meeting the option of setting up a revolving fund for expenses. Chuck made a motion to set it at thirty percent over the kWh. Patrick seconded; all were in favor.

Announce resignation Roxanne McCaffrey

Mike noted that Roxanne McCaffrey has resigned from the position of Council on Aging Director. Mike and the Board thanked Roxanne for her service. Jack Gremli has also resigned from the Board.

Award Bid for RECONSTRUCTION OF CROSSWALKS ALONG MAIN STREET & BITUMINOUS CONCRETE PAVING - Various Town Roads

Palmer Paving was the low bidder. Mike asked the Board to authorize him to enter into contracts for the paving and crosswalk construction. Chuck made a motion that they authorize Mike to finalize contracts. Patrick seconded; all were in favor.

Josh Billings race letter

The Josh Billings will be held on September 10th. Patrick made a motion to approve the race. Chuck seconded; all were in approval.

Executive Session: To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Police and DPW unions, and the Chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining of the public body and they will not be coming back into public session after. Patrick seconded; Aye Patrick; Aye Chuck; Aye Jamie

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