

SELECT BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, February 8, 2023
DRAFT MINUTES

A hybrid meeting of the Town of Orleans Select Board was held in the Nauset Room at Town Hall and via Zoom and Channel 18 at 4pm on February 8, 2023.

In attendance were Select Board Chair Reed, Vice Chair Herman, Clerk Runyon with Mr. Galligan, and Mr. Mathison arriving during Executive Session. Interim Town Administrator Sumner attended the meeting via Zoom as did the Director of Finance Ms. Doane.

4:00pm Call to Order - Ms. Reed called the meeting to order at 4pm.

Meet in Executive Session to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property located on Main Street; to discuss strategy with respect to litigation: Wastewater Treatment Facility construction and to discuss the deployment of security personnel for town facilities.

Mr. Herman moved the Select Board go into Executive Session to consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property and that the Chair declare that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the body, and to reconvene in Open Session. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion passed.

The chair declared that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the body.

The Select Board meeting reconvened with nothing to report from Executive Session.

Public Comment: Megan Kelly from Eldredge Parkway stated that she wanted the light in front of the Firehouse fixed as promised.

5:15pm Eversource Pole Hearing- The hearing was officially opened at 5:15pm. Marissa Jackson from Eversource explained the improvements needed to eliminate antiquated equipment in the Eldredge Park area and comply with requests to stay out of the roadway.

Mr. Galligan moved to authorize the request from Eversource for the installation of conduits and manholes on Eldredge Parkway in the Lots Hollow area consistent with a revised sketch dated 2/8/22 (revised to 2023) and consistent with conditions placed by the Town Department of Public Works and Water. Mr. Herman seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion by saying AYE. Motion passed: 5-0-0.

Meet with Fire Chief – The Chief spoke briefly about the recent tragedy in Orleans and the enormous effort made by fire crews, police, and many local and regional agencies.

FY24 Budget Review – The Chief briefly reviewed the budget and addressed staffing issues and the application for a grant for 8 firefighters per shift. The issue of an override and levy capacity was discussed and the implications of getting a grant or not getting a grant. Mr. Sumner will follow up with the Town Counsel and others to gather information and investigate a possible warrant article. Chief Deering also spoke about the Emergency Management Program budget and wish list. There was a brief discussion of staffing for the Emergency Management Center during an enduring event. New recommendations for ambulance billing were made based on changes to Medicare reimbursement rates.

Mr. Galligan moved to adopt the changes to the ambulance billing, policy and procedure rates as proposed. Seconded by Mr. Herman. All voted AYE in favor of the motion. Motion passed: 5-0-0.

Mr. Herman moved to adopt the new Fire Chief Employment Agreement and Deputy Fire Chief Employment Agreement as stated in the Select Board packet. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion. All voted AYE in favor of the motion. Motion passed: 5-0-0.

Meet with Police Chief –

FY24 Budget Review - Chief McDonald spoke about the upcoming budget, maintenance increases and overtime calculations. New AEDs are needed for the police. Tasers need replacing. Mental health services are needed to help meet community needs. A solution is being explored across the region.

Mr. Galligan moved the Board move ahead with the Memorandum of Agreement for a school resource officer as presented in the Select Board packet. Mr. Herman seconded the motion. All voted AYE in favor of the motion. Motion passed: 5-0-0.

1:43:09

Meet with Bike, Pedestrian, and Traffic Study Committee – Chair of the Committee Ms. van Oot spoke about the committee's activities since September.

Update on Committee Activities – Many actions were listed as accomplished and others were noted as upcoming challenges. Ms. van Oot stated the revised charge for the recently- renamed group needs to align with the Complete Streets policy of 2017 and the actual work of the new committee. She mentioned current projects and potential new projects by the Committee. She asked for support of the reduction of carbon emissions and promotion of healthy living by encouraging walking or biking.

Mr. Runyon moved to approve and adopt the revised charge as presented in the packet. Mr. Mathison seconded the motion. All voted AYE in favor of the motion. Motion passed: 5-0-0. 2.02.54

Meet with Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners –

Quarterly update - Mr. McClennen introduced Ian Catlow and his Quarterly Update presentation about construction progress. (included in the Select Board packet)
Warrant Article - It was suggested that a placeholder for a warrant article be prepared to close out the project.

Meet with Wastewater Management Advisory Committee –

Quarterly update on CWMP and future project phases and timeline were presented by Tom Parese of AECOM. The full presentation is included in the Select Board packet.
The Annual Report of Cape & Islands Water Protection was included in the packet. There was some discussion of grants and costs.
3.18.42

8.23pm Follow up discussion of Organization Study results for Recreation- Mr. Sumner said he had asked the Collins Center for some further details and clarity as part of the final study. He will work with Ms. Doane on restructuring the revolving fund. He reviewed possibilities for moving the Recreation Department out of DPW, which the Select Board said it supported. Ms. Wilson joined the discussion and suggested a working group to help the Recreation Department transition to a changed model of operation and outcomes.
3.47

9:00 Discussion on Cape Cod National Seashore request for member and alternate member nominations for CCNS Advisory Commission.

Mr. Herman moved to nominate Barry Spaulding as the general member for CCNS Advisory Commission and Charlie Carlton as the alternate member while retaining Bob Summers as a second alternate member with thanks for his valued service. Mr. Mathison seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed: 5-0-0.

Discuss request from Energy & Climate Action Committee for town-wide adoption of the MA energy laws through potential Town Meeting warrant article. The Chair of the Energy and Climate Action Committee Susan Chandler discussed a specialized energy code to help the Town get to Net Zero by 2050.

Town Administrator's Report – Mr. Sumner updated the Board about the Town Manager search. Ms. Doane met with officials on the Nauset building project to discuss managing the debt. He discussed an increase of 3.8% rate for health premiums for town employees. Work continues on the new parking management system. The Collins Center will review the compensation for part time town employees. The town applied for a grant from the Cape Cod Commission for an update to the comprehensive plan.

Adjourn -

Mr. Runyon moved to adjourn. Mr. Herman seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Fountain*