

MINUTES
SELECT BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, July 19, 2023
Nauset Room, Town Hall
Final

A meeting of the Town of Orleans Select Board was held in the Nauset Room at Town Hall and via Zoom and Channel 18 at 5:00 p.m. on July 19, 2023.

In attendance in the Nauset Room were Chair Herman, Vice Chair Mr. Mathison, Clerk Ms. Reed, Mr. Galligan, and Mr. Runyon. The Town Manager Kimberly Newman also attended.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Public Comment

No one presented for public comment.

Eversource Pole Hearing – 107 Main Street

The chair opened the hearing. Director of Public Works Tom Daley explained there were no issues with the installation.

Mr. Mathison moved to close the public hearing. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion. Vote by roll call: Mr. Runyon, Mr. Mathison, Ms. Reed, Mr. Galligan and Mr. Herman voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

The Chair closed the public hearing at 5:06 p.m.

Mr. Galligan moved to approve the plan submitted by NStar dba Eversource to install and maintain underground cables, conduits, and manholes, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as it may find necessary at 107 Main Street, said underground cables, conduits, and manholes to be installed substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked Plan No. 11475151 dated June 16, 2023. Ms. Reed seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Wastewater Management Advisory Committee Update

Mr. Galligan briefly spoke about the Quarterly update on CWMP and future project phasing. A full-year update is due with the Secretary of Environmental Affairs in October/November. New regulations went into effect on July 7, 2023. Favorable construction bids came in for the Meetinghouse Pond area. There will be a slight update to the SRF which will need to go before the Town Meeting in the fall.

Public Hearing – Water Rate Increase

Mr. Daley from the Department of Public Works reviewed the asset management plan including water rates and increases. The proposed increase in water rates for 2024 is 3.14% with a slight variation in the tiers. There were no questions from the public or online.

Mr. Runyon moved to close the hearing. Mr. Galligan seconded the motion. Vote by roll call: Mr. Runyon, Mr. Mathison, Ms. Reed, Mr. Galligan and Mr. Herman voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

There was some discussion about a “seasonal” rate and about protecting local businesses and families with

children. The increase will become effective in the October 2023 bills. The aquifer is just above the drought trigger line, at the moment.

Mr. Runyon moved to approve the water rate fee schedule as submitted in the Select Board agenda and packet. Ms. Reed seconded the motion. Vote by roll call: Mr. Runyon, Mr. Mathison, Ms. Reed, Mr. Galligan and Mr. Herman voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Committee Reappointments

The need for professional skills on the Building Code of Appeals Committee was discussed as well as the need for succession planning and new members.

Mr. Runyon moved to reappoint Peter Coneen for a one year term to the Building Code of Appeals expiring June 30, 2024 and Robert Capurso for a three year term expiring on June 30, 2026. Ms. Reed seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Ms. Reed suggested deferring discussion of appointees for Lower Cape TV until the vacancies are more widely advertised.

Charter Review Committee request to accept final report and recommendations

The Board reviewed all the recommendations of the Charter Review Committee and the executive considerations.

Mr. Galligan moved, with many thanks, to accept the final report and recommendations of the Charter Review Committee. Ms. Reed seconded the motion. All voted Aye. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

Discussion of FY24 Select Board Goals

Visionary goals, objectives and action points were briefly discussed. The Board members shared ideas about whether to seek further input and community feedback to the goals and whether to formally adopt them with a vote. Opinions varied. The Board agreed to hold a formal vote to adopt the goals at a future meeting and allow public feedback prior to the vote.

Annual Summer Informational Meeting – Meet with various Town staff

Frequently asked questions and their answers were shared by various departments including DPW, Police, Fire, Building, Conservation, Snow Library, Tax Collector, Licensing, Planning, Water, COA, Recreation, and the Town Clerk's Office. The Chamber of Commerce also provided FAQs. These FAQs appear in written form in the Select Board packet for the meeting.

Meet with DPW Director Tom Daley for Quarterly Update

Mr. Daley provided a rapid-fire update for the Department of Public Works and forewarned of upcoming road paving/improvements. "On a somber note," he said, the cost of disposing of mattresses would be going up to \$100/each due to increased charges for contracted removal. He also reviewed water projects, natural resource projects, sewerage, and the pickleball courts. Details are included in the Select Board packet for this meeting. He said about five hundred letters are going out later this week regarding Phase II of the sewer project to landowners. He said there will also be a letter going out to Phase I property owners with some guidance about connecting to the sewer.

Mr. Galligan shared a rough scope about the Bay Ridge Lane property and some unbuildable lots surrounding it that might be suitable for a CPC grant. This will be dealt with more fully at a later Select Board meeting.

Building and Facilities Quarterly Update with Buildings & Facilities Manager Ron Collins

Mr. Collins reviewed the highlights of the Quarterly Update in the Select Board packet including Orleans Elementary School Assessment Study and HVAC project, Town Hall repairs and renovations, Town Hall Annex renovations, Fire Rescue Station air handles, COA air handlers, and Green Communities & Renewable Energy Initiatives. Mr. Collins reviewed the costs of some of the projects.

Liaison Reports and Member Updates

Mr. Runyon reviewed a Finance Committee discussion about the Enterprise Fund and the treatment of debt and indirect expenses.

Ms. Reed mentioned how busy the Energy & Climate Committee are with stretch codes, an energy coordinator and preparing for the fall town meeting. The Affordable Housing Committee and the Affordable Housing Trust Board had a joint meeting on the Housing Needs Study with substantial information becoming available regarding the future needs and ideas for housing and cost burdens by homeowners and others.

Mr. Herman reviewed some of the many introductory meetings attended with Kim Newman. Next week there will be an informational meeting on the Pesticide Ban. There will be a reception for the new Town Manager at Town Hall next Thursday 4.30 to 6pm. (A notice is on the town website). Mr. Herman noted an OPC event and a great library presentation.

Mr. Reed moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Runyon seconded the motion. All voted AYE. Motion carried: 5-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Fountain*



Andrea Reed, Clerk

Documents in July 19, 2023 packet:

1. Agenda
2. 107 Main Street Pole Hearing Public Notice
3. 107 Main Street Site Plan
4. Eversource Petition for 107 Main Street Pole Hearing
5. Department Manager Comments for Pole Hearing
6. Public Hearing Notice for Fee Increase
7. Committee Reappointment Schedule
8. Wastewater Management Advisory Committee Quarterly Update
9. Amended CWMP/MEPANPC Schedule
10. Summer Informational Meeting Packet
11. DPW Quarterly Report
12. Buildings & Facilities Quarterly Report
13. Charter Review Committee Final report
14. 2024 Select Board Goals