

Date: October 19, 2020

Date Minutes Approved: October 26, 2020 TOWN CLERK

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

2020 NOV 10 PM 2: 04

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

DUXBURY, MASS.

Present: Theodore J. Flynn, Chair; David J. Madigan, Vice Chair; and Amy M. MacNab, Clerk

Staff: René Read, Town Manager; John Q. Adams, Finance Director; and Nancy O'Connor, Executive Assistant

Others: Gordon Cushing, Recreation Director and Members of the Finance Committee (Open Session only); Jeff Blake, Esq., KPLaw; Members of the Duxbury Affordable Housing Trust; Members of the CPC; and Joe Grady, Conservation Administrator (Exec Session Only)

CONVENED IN OPEN SESSION (*via remote participation of the Board members and staff*)

I. CALL TO ORDER This meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00 pm.

This Open Meeting is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 Virus. In order to mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 Virus, we have been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor's Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible physical location. Further, all members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely. The Order, which you can find posted on our agenda, allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting. For public access – please email at oconnor@town.duxbury.ma.us or call-in at 781-934-1100 x5400 for questions or comments.

This meeting is convening via Zoom video conference produced and recorded by PACTV, and can be viewed live on the Duxbury Government Access Channels – Verizon 39 or Comcast 15; or for those without cable, on PACTV's Prime streaming channel at PACTV.org/LIVE. This meeting will then be available via video on-demand on PACTV's website.

II 6:00PM – EXECUTIVE SESSION

For the purpose of discussing consideration of the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate since an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the strategizing and negotiating position of the Town, if the chair so declares, regarding 761 Temple Street.

Ms. MacNab moved that the Board of Selectmen go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing consideration of the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, regarding 761 Temple Street, since an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the strategizing and negotiating position of the Town, if the chair so declares, in accordance with Mass. General Laws Chapter 30A, section 21, and that the Board will adjourn immediately after the completion of this Executive Session.

Mr. Flynn, as Chair, declared that the necessity for an Executive Session to discuss consideration of the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real estate, as to do so in an Open Session may have a detrimental effect on the Town's strategizing and negotiating position.

Seconded by Mr. Madigan Roll Call Vote: Mr. Flynn-Aye; Mr. Madigan-Aye; Ms. MacNab-Aye

After the business of the Executive Session was concluded, Ms. MacNab moved that at approximately 6:30 PM, the Board of Selectmen adjourn the Executive Session reconvene in Open Session (at or around 7:00pm).

Seconded by Mr. Madigan Roll Call Vote: Mr. Flynn-Aye; Mr. Madigan-Aye; and Ms. MacNab-Aye

III. OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENTS: No official “open forum” as these are remote meetings. No public comments via phone calls were received during this meeting. Ms. Susanna Sheehan of the Duxbury Clipper stated via email that she heard the police are no longer in charge of the beach and the Recreation Department has taken it over and could they please address this now. Mr. Flynn responded that it has not been finalized yet. Mr. Read also added that they are still looking at with respect to the budget.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Acceptance of Donation from Duxbury Youth Basketball for the Alden Street Tennis Court conversion project to a new full-size basketball court – presented by Gordon Cushing and Brian Campbell of Duxbury Youth Basketball

Mr. Gordon Cushing stated that Duxbury Youth Basketball made a \$5,000 donation to the Town for the Alden Street Basketball court project. He then introduced Mr. Brian Campbell of Duxbury Youth Basketball. Mr. Campbell stated that he was there on behalf of Duxbury Youth Basketball and commented that they have had a great relationship with the Recreation department. He continued to say that they shared the same interest for youth sports and appreciated the opportunity to contribute to a second full-size court. The Selectmen thanked Mr. Campbell and Duxbury Youth Basketball.

Ms. MacNab moved that the Board of Selectmen accept with gratitude Duxbury Youth Basketball’s donation of \$5,000 for the Alden Street Basketball Court project.

Seconded by Mr. Madigan Roll Call Vote: Mr. Flynn-Aye; Mr. Madigan-Aye; Ms. MacNab-Aye

Discussions pertaining to FY22 Budget (joint meeting with the Finance Committee)

Mr. Adams shared spreadsheets comparing FY20 first quarter to FY21 first quarter revenues and appropriations. Discussions also included department spending at the budgeted rate versus the activity/utilization of those department services. The detailed spreadsheets are filed in the Selectmen’s meeting packets.

Open ATM/STM Warrants for the March 13, 2021 Annual Town Meeting and Call for Articles

Ms. MacNab moved that the Board of Selectmen votes to open the March 13, 2021 Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting warrants.

Seconded by Mr. Madigan Roll Call Vote: Mr. Flynn-Aye; Mr. Madigan-Aye; Ms. MacNab-Aye

CALL FOR ARTICLES - 2021 TOWN MEETING

The Board of Selectmen invites citizens to submit articles for the 2021 Annual Town Meeting. Articles must be submitted to the Town Manager’s Office by 12:00 PM on Monday, November 30, 2020. The complete article language and a brief explanation of the article are required. Please contact Nancy O’Connor at 781-934-1100 x 5401 with any questions.

Call for State Election

Ms. MacNab moved that the Board of Selectmen directs the Constable of the Town of Duxbury to notify and warn the inhabitants of Duxbury who are qualified to vote in the State Election to vote at Precincts One through Six at the Lt. Timothy J. Steele Athletic Building, 130 Saint George Street, Duxbury, Massachusetts on Tuesday, the 3rd Day of November, 2020 from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Seconded by Mr. Madigan Roll Call Vote: Mr. Flynn-Aye; Mr. Madigan-Aye; Ms. MacNab-Aye

Discussion and review of Boards and Committees – Selectmen liaison assignments

Mr. Flynn suggested that they all review the list and discuss at the next Selectmen's meeting.

All agreed.

V. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

COVID-19 Update

Duxbury isn't in the red just yet, but I thought we might be there because of last week's resurgence.

Last Friday I advised the public that we 198 positive cases of COVID-19 in our community which was an increase of eleven (11) cases from the previous week. In the prior week we had an increase of 8 cases and the week before we saw an increase of 13 cases. The last two weeks have probably been the most challenging we've had in recent weeks since this pandemic began due largely to trying to figure who our positive contacts were and those who were considered close contacts.

As we witnessed an uptick in the number of cases overall, particularly amongst children (we have had 6 positive cases in our schools), the specific circumstances related to some of these cases appear to point to youth hockey games attended by a number of kids here on the south shore. Last week we had over 150 kids out of school (plus teachers). While most of those absences were a result of close contacts related to the 6 positive cases, we have estimated that 50-60 of those kids were out because of sports-related activities (i.e., being teammates on a team with a positive case requires that the entire team be quarantined/not in school since the school's guidelines state that they are considered close contacts) or other external cases.

For our youth baseball, flag football and 7 v. 7 football programs, the Town worked very closely with the heads of these organizations and made sure that all of the proper COVID-related safety protocols were in place well before they were authorized (issued a permit by the Town) to commence with their activities per the state phasing program.

To their credit, the Duxbury Youth Hockey program has reached out to the Town to ask for our guidance on how best to conduct their activities and achieve compliance. However, since Duxbury does not have a rink, our Board of Health has no jurisdiction over the requirements where Duxbury kids might be playing. The overall compliance with the state protocols and regulations rests with the towns in which those rinks are located. What we have found is what appear to be inconsistencies between the rinks and how they are being operated. In fact, in a recent email to the hockey parents here in Duxbury (of which I am one), it was noted that, "It is important to note that each rink manages the situation differently" and they provided the link to each of the rinks we visit (there 25 rinks in all):

<http://www.sschockey.org/Page.asp?n=158568&org=SSCHOCKEY.org>

While their guidelines are somewhat varied, they do seem to be largely compliant. Most importantly, they all appear to require that masks be worn at all times by everyone entering a facility (and coaches at all times as well) and must remain on the person's face. However, in some cases, they allow for the removal of the masks by the players when on the ice (in some cases, they are required for face-offs but can be removed thereafter). This may be problematic. For all of our youth sports participants utilizing Duxbury facilities, we have required masks for players, coaches and parents/spectators at all times. When asked about the requirement for hockey participants to wear a mask on ice, the DPH advised us that hockey is no different from any sport. As high-risk play has to be modified, one of the required modifications is all players wear a mask all the time unless they have a medical exemption. Of course, the best way to reduce that potential for exposure is to not have the kids play at this time but that's a decision for the individual parents to make.

Also, I would also like to point out that because of the lag time with positive tests coming from the doctor's office administering the test and those results being logged into the State's reporting system, the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network (MAVEN), to which our Town Nurse has direct access, parents find out test results before the Town Nurse. There are two tests being administered – the antigen test which is the rapid test and is not as effective as the PCR test which is definitive and is considered the “the gold standard” – it's the test that the state uses and is considered the most reliable. That said, it is important that sports teams send an email to the team members letting them now of the positive case and the need for quarantine if they are contacted by a parent, in addition to notifying BOH. It would be helpful if the team representative(s) include in that email the date of exposure and a line that says “if your child was at practice/game on such and such a date they are considered close contacts” and that way kids who were not present are not being identified as close contacts. Also, if they can do so, it would be helpful to have the teams take attendance as it would be very helpful in contact tracing to know if a kid was or was not there.

There is an ultimate long-range goal here to which both the Town and the Schools are striving – we both would like to see the return of full-time, in-class learning at some point and I am committed to helping make sure that the Town can do everything in its power to help bring that back to the members of this community.

VI. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS/RE-APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

Ms. MacNab moved that the Board of Selectmen appoint as follows:

<u>Design Review Board</u>	<i>(Sarah McCormick-Chair)</i>	
Justin Heil	Appointment to an unexpired term	06-30-21
Heidi Pape Laird	Resignation	

We thank Ms. Laird for her service and wish her well.

Seconded by Mr. Madigan Roll Call Vote: Mr. Flynn-Aye; Mr. Madigan-Aye; Ms. MacNab-Aye

The Design Review Board has one Alternate seat available.

If anyone is interested in volunteering on a board or committee, you are encouraged to fill out a Talent Bank form, which can be found on the Town's website under the Forms & Documents tab.

VI ONE-DAY LIQUOR LICENSE REQUESTS - None

VII EVENT PERMITS - None

VIII MINUTES

Ms. MacNab moved that the Board of Selectmen approves the 10/05/20 Selectmen's Open Session Minutes, as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Madigan. Mr. Flynn-Aye; Mr. Madigan-Aye; Ms. MacNab-Aye

IX ANNOUNCEMENTS

1) November 3, 2020 - Presidential Election

The last day to register to vote to participate in the Presidential Election is Saturday, October 24, 2020. Early voting is from October 17 through October 30.

Hours: Monday – Thursday from 9am to 3pm

Friday from 9am to 12pm

Saturday & Sunday from 9am to 1pm

Election Day – November 3 – Hours are from 7am to 8pm

All voting in Duxbury takes place at the Lt. Timothy J. Steele Athletic Building, located at 130 Saint George Street. Completed Absentee/Mail-in ballots can be dropped off any time in the Town Clerk's secure Ballot Drop Box located at the back of Town Hall at 878 Tremont Street.

2) Next Scheduled Selectmen's Meeting will be on Monday, October 26, 2020 @ 7:00PM

X ADJOURNMENT

Ms. MacNab moved that at approximately 9:30PM, the Board of Selectmen adjourn.

Seconded by Mr. Madigan Roll Call Vote: Mr. Flynn-Aye; Mr. Madigan-Aye; and Ms. MacNab-Aye

Minutes submitted by Nancy O'Connor

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

- 1) Agenda
- 2) Executive Session motion (materials kept separately)
- 3) Donation documentation
- 4) Budget documentation – revenues and appropriations first quarter FY20 and FY21
- 5) Motions to open warrants, Call for Articles and Call for State Election
- 6) List of Boards and Committees
- 7) Committee Appointments/resignations
- 8) Minutes
- 9) Announcements

