



TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH

Meeting Minutes

Select Board

August 13th 2024 at 7pm in the
Gala Meeting Room, Town Hall
40 South Street, Foxborough, MA 02035

Attendees

Members Attending In-Person: Stephanie McGowan, Chair, Bill Yukna, Vice Chair, Debbie Giardino, Clerk, Mark Elfman & Dennis Keefe

Members Attending Virtually via Zoom: n/a

Other Attendees In-Person: Paige Duncan, Town Manager, Katie Lang, Select Board Liaison, Catherine Feerick, Director of Land Use & Economic Development

Other Attendees Virtually via Zoom: n/a

Members Absent

Members not in attendance included: n/a

Minutes

All Select Board meetings are recorded and broadcast by Foxboro Cable Access on Government Channel 22/38 and at FCATv.org/live

1. 7:00pm - Citizen's Input

Select Board Update

New Business – Moment of silence for Chief Ed O’Leary.

Old Business

3. Special Town Meeting - November 18, 2024

Select Board to vote to open the November 18, 2024 Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Six weeks seems like a good time frame. Want to give enough time but not have things linger. Posting of the Warrant will be late October to meet the 14 day posting before the meeting regulation.

Motion to open the Special Town Meeting Warrant by D. Giardino, 2nd by B. Yukna.

Approved 5-0.

Select Board to determine the Special Town Meeting Warrant closing date.

Motion to set September 13th 2024 as the closing date for the Special Town Meeting warrant by D. Giardino, 2nd by B. Yukna.

Approved 5-0.

2. MBTA Communities

Catherine Feerick, Director of Land Use & Economic Development, to discuss next steps re MBTA Communities requirement.

This is coming down from the State after legislation passing in 2021 establishing a multi family zoning requirement near transit stations in the Commonwealth. 171 Communities effected.

Stake in the process is twofold. I want the Town to be in compliance but the most important piece is to preserve the access of funds as those go away if we do not comply. We want to maintain the grant flow. The Town voted down this district but that dose not mean that the regulation is waived.

First meeting to meet with the residents is tomorrow night here at Town Hall. I am going to be out at Library, Veterans and COA events to get the word out and answer any questions. We want to find an agreed upon location and be in compliance. These sessions will be general and give an overview, answer any questions. We want to encourage everyone to attend. Tomorrow, August 14th at 6pm in Town Hall, about an hour long.

Not presenting the existing plan? Not tomorrow. Want to hear residents' comments and concerns. We are open to discussing other options/areas.

Jay Tallerman will be in attendance tomorrow for him to review what has been going on in other communities who have not been complaint as of now and their battles.

Need to outline to criteria and need to outline what grants will be lost if we do not comply. Might need to plan for this to happen not that it will not happen. Need to be very clear the outline and the risks.

What happens is we vote no again? What are the other communities doing who have voted down?

Deadline for the state is the December 31, 2024.

Milton results will not be ready by the end of the year.

Will another joint meeting with Planning be necessary? More than likely after a few meetings Catherine hosts to review feedback. Should there be a conversation with the Kraft Group since the half mile radius of where this community needs to be land, is Kraft owned land – in an open forum.

Catherine brings a fresh perspective and a new set of eyes. Unbiased and with no agenda.

3. Discuss rezoning of existing Senior Center (75 Central Street) and 69 Central Street from R15 to General Business/Foxborough Center Overlay District.

Vote to authorize the Select Board to authorize.... That property might yield move value with it being rezoned. From R15 to General Business within the Foxborough Overlay District. Would also need to do 69 Central Street which is a multi-family so we do not have spot zoning. Could bring this to Town Meeting to see if it is supported. If yes, marketed as non-residential.

The sale of the current COA would go into the General Fund. If it was bonded, it could go towards the purchase of 76 Main Street. Good to get a feel from the residents before it's even put on the market. As it is just zoned residential, other things can go in there by law which might have other impacts.

Daycares can bring a high traffic area whereas a dentist would be less flow.

This opens the discussion. Next step would bring this back the Planning Board to sponsor the article to bring forward.

Discuss possible disposition of Parcel B (parcel size=1,957 square feet) off Market Street, behind Judy's Flowers (34 School Street).

Interesting little rectangle that currently looks like their land. The parcel is now not fenced in and its back on the town books. Idea would be to sell it. Town has no use for the land. Odd parcel behind an operating business who has used it for years and next to another parcel that the owner could use. The Town should make this a tax paying parcel. Good idea to put that on the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Review & Vote on the updated Town Meeting Warrant & Annual Budget Procedure guide.

Updated Board of Selectmen to Select Board, time of meeting, position updates, update of timeframe for the Financial Summit, shifted the Assistant Town Manager job responsibilities, and housekeeping of the format of "AdCom." There is a summary of what was changed in the preamble. May 2021, amended in December 2021 and amended in August 2024.

Motion to approve the updated Town Meeting Warrant & Annual Budget Procedure guide by D. Giardino, 2nd by B. Yukna.

Approved 5-0.

4. 7:35pm - Remote Participation Policy

Discuss & Vote on revised Remote Participation Policy.

The one that we had was pre-Covid and needed an update. Under the old policy, we could not have more board members on zoom than in person but that was just the policy and not the MA guidelines. No executive session by remote was allowed but the new policy allows it for illness, weather, and out of Town. A little more flexibility. We just want to comply with our own policy.

Motion to approve the revised Remote Participation Policy by the D. Giardino, 2nd by B. Yukna.

Approved 5-0.

5. 7:45pm - Town Manager's Update

Around Town Updates:

Preseason football game last and this Thursday night. Concerts next Wed, Fri, Sat and Sun.

The Kraft Group intends to construct a new 150,000 SF Training Facility building. It will be at the rear of the site. Two stories over Lot 6C parking lot.

On July 31st, Health Director Matt Brennan, the Board of Health and Health Dept hosted a site visit by the US Center for Disease Control "CDC". 5-10 members of the CDC came from DC. Also in attendance was the Mass Dept of Public Health, National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), Mass Health Officers Association (Matt is treasurer). Discussed Mass local health departments, our shared health initiative (Bristol Norfolk Public Health Partners, consisting of Easton, Foxborough, Mansfield, Norton, Plainville and Sharon amongst other topics).

Bench update - DPW plan is to begin pouring the concrete bases later this month (August) and be complete with bench installation sometime in September.

Opioid settlement fund usage – working on proposal to bring forward to BOS, hopefully in September. BOH held meeting on it 7/22/24. Can be watched on FCA's youtube channel if interested.

Our actuary completed the OPEB report as of June 30, 2024.

OPEB Trust Bank Balance on our books as of 6/30/24 is \$19,173,516. It was \$16,120,737 as of 6/30/23.

Net OPEB Liability went from \$33.8 million to \$28.8 million.

Funded ratio went from 32.27% as of 6/30/23 to 39.92% as of 6/30/24.

Earnings were \$983K more than forecasted; actual earnings were \$1.9 million (strong investments)

Assumptions used in the study: The town will continue to contribute \$1,064,069 each year until the pension is fully funded.

OPEB is expected to be fully funded by 2033.

ARPA funds - ARPA update to come next meeting. We found there are some items like the police camera that ARPA funds cannot be used to pay for so maybe an item on the CIP list, furniture for the community center, ideas for the skate park – This Board will be the ones that decide. Skate Park center piece to be installed on or around September 9th 2024.

Human Resources Updates:

Donald Treannie Jr – submitted a letter of intent to retire from Foxborough Fire & Rescue on or about September 7, 2024. 44 years.

Miriah Gilbert from Assessor's Office - received MAA Designation from the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers. To maintain certification a member must attend twenty-eight (28) hours of continuing education over the two-year period. The Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers (MAAO) is a statewide organization of 1,400 professionals dedicated to providing local communities with accurate and reliable information upon which to manage finances. The purpose of this organization is to educate the Assessing Officers of Massachusetts and their assistants in the field of assessing in this State; to assist in creating efficient and uniform administration of local tax laws; to afford opportunity for the discussion of subjects pertaining to local taxation; to provide methods for encouraging the development of desirable tax laws and to discourage the adoption of harmful measures relating to taxation or to the duties of local taxing officials; and to promote public understanding of the work of Assessing Officials on their behalf to the general public.

The professional designation program was developed to promote and display a level of professionalism acquired through a wide-ranging series of educational requirements and experience in the field of Assessing. The program confers three designations (MAA, RMA & CMA) that indicate the commitment of the recipients to adhere to the high standards of professional practices developed by the MAAO.

Current Open Positions -

Public Works Engineer - The primary purpose of this position is to provide technical support and project management assistance to any public works or town projects as assigned by the Town Engineer or Director of Public Works.

DPW Equipment mechanic

DPW Water Technician I

DPW Flagger/Laborer for Highway Department

Recreation Director will be posted.

I will miss September 10th BOS meeting.

Construction Updates

Walnut Street – ongoing. Chris was successful in obtaining a waiver to allow Walsh to work on days that Xfinity Center has events. They were losing up to 2 days a week. This waiver is on a trial basis.

West and Mill Street paving – Repaving completed.

East Street – Chris is going to look to patch where the barrels are. They had hoped to get water system work done but it's taking longer than expected.

Dam Updates

Received from DCR our outstanding Certificates of Non-Compliance and Dam Safety Orders. These letters refer to following dams which were issued Certificates of Non-Compliance for Poor/Unsafe Condition back in 2008.

West Street Dam

Now in GOOD condition after rehabilitation work. Updated inspections were emailed to DCR by Environmental Partners on 07/15/2024 and physical copies have also been sent at their request. Now that construction and as-built is complete, an Emergency Action Plan is being developed by PARE Corp.

Glue Factory Pond West Dam (i.e. 131 Morse Street)

Dam removal design is in progress by PARE Corp. Primarily funded through Dam and Seawall grant.

Will explore construction grant funding for removal once design is completed.

Carpenter Pond Dam (by the Lakeview Pavilion)

PARE Corp. currently developing Phase II study which explores dam repair alternatives.

Not Mentioned: Crackrock Pond Dam

Crackrock Pond Dam was issued a Certificate of Non-Compliance in 2020.

PARE Corp. currently developing Phase II study which explores dam repair alternatives.

National Grid Maintenance scheduled

Bridge Washing/Cleaning operations along the I-495 corridor in Foxborough.

Use of Town Property Permits:

Farmer's Market discontinued for the year due to turnover in Rec Dept. Will be reinvigorated and should be back next year.

7. Action Items

Select Board to reappoint Town Election Workers with a term of September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025. See agenda attachment for the list of names.

One name is deceased. ** Found to be incorrect. On the posted agenda, the correct names, with no deceased was listed.

Motion to reappoint/appoint the Town Election Workers listed on the attachment of the agenda for a term to start September 1, 2024 and end on August 31, 2025, by D. Giardino, 2nd by B. Yukna.

Approved 5-0.

Kraft Sports & Entertainment Group - Approve additional time for the Premier Lacrosse League games on September 2, 2024, additional game to be played at 6pm. Data Sheet approved April 9, 2024.

Motion to approve the additional time for the Premier Lacrosse League games on September 2, 2024, additional game to be played at 6pm, by D. Giardino, 2nd by B. Yukna.

Approved 5-0.

Select Board - Approval of Minutes from meeting on July 16, 2024.

Motion to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes from our meeting on July 16th 2024, by D. Giardino, 2nd by B. Yukna.

Approved 5-0.

Adjourn

Adjournment at 8:22pm

Motion to adjourn, by D. Giardino, 2nd by B. Yukna.

Approved 5-0.

Supporting Documents

Expire 8-24 Town Election Workers Appointment List

Market Street - Parcel B

New SB Minutes 71624

Remote Participation Policy_2021_Adopted 060921 rev 7.20.23

Revised Public Body Remote Participation Policy_081324

Revised Town Meeting Warrant & Annual Budget Procedure 8162024

Senior Center Rezoning Exhibit

MBTA Communities