

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2020**

Chairwoman Manupelli called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. via remote participation. Participating members were Mrs. Gonzalez, Mr. Schultz, Mr. Wallner, Mr. O’Leary, and Town Administrator, Michael Gilleberto.

CALL TO ORDER OPEN SESSION

Chairwoman Manupelli called to order the open session at 6:34 p.m.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Manupelli states how the meeting is being broadcasted.

Mr. Gilleberto states the Board will reconvene in Open Session at approximately 7:30 p.m.

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSES OF EXEMPTION 3 (COLLECTIVE BARGAINING – HEALTH INSURANCE; PENDING LITIGATION – SECONDARY SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT), AND EXEMPTION 6 (REAL ESTATE – 4, 12, AND 14 CONCORD STREET, 303 MAIN STREET, AND 327 MAIN STREET), SUCH DISCUSSIONS IN OPEN SESSION WILL HAVE A DETRIMENTAL IMPACT ON THE TOWN, AND TO ADMIT THE FOLLOWING: HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR ROBERT COLLINS, FINANCE DIRECTOR ELIZABETH ROURKE, TOWN PLANNER DANIELLE MCKNIGHT; PAUL MCKINLEY, JILL MURPHY, AND JOE SPENCER FROM WESTON AND SAMPSON, AND DAVE GIANGRANDE FROM DCI AND FURTHER THAT THE SELECT BOARD WILL RETURN TO OPEN SESSION FOR REGULAR SESSION.

MOTION BY:	MRS. GONZALEZ	
SECONDED BY:	MR. O’LEARY	
VOTED BY:	MR. SCHULTZ	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE
	MR. O’LEARY	AYE
	MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:41

RECONVENE – 8:32

Mrs. Manupelli states that NORCAM is broadcasting the meeting and states the Board members present.

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BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. O’Leary:

- Acknowledged the passing of Laura Salvo, owner of the Hornets Nest and graduate of North Reading High School. Sends condolences to family and friends.
- Would like a report from the Town Clerk to see if any legislation has been passed pertaining to elections and mail in ballots. He further states five other states are doing it and would like to give everyone ample opportunity to vote.
- States Stimulus checks are hitting accounts.

Mr. Wallner:

- Continues to be impressed with In This Together 01846 with over 120 volunteers. He acknowledges Kim Manzelli, Dan Greenberg, Katherine McCabe, Andrea Gladu, Kristine Pecora, Mary Prenney and Jen Ford, who he states are doing a great job, and further states there is a need in Town for this activity.
- States we will be seeing what “road diet” looks like in Reading, they will be bringing their highway down to three lanes and it’s something North Reading has been talking about. He wants the residents to know that Reading started the discussions in 2018 and they are implementing it now. He states that he has always heard this process could take 5-10 years and feels the State is being more cooperative in working with the Towns. He wants the residents to pay attention as it is something we want to do in our own Town.

Mr. Schultz:

- Reports as the liaison to the Board of Health (BOH), that the BOH has issued an order limiting persons entering essential establishments to keep residents and workers safe. Residents and Seniors have called BOH to thank them as they now feel safer going into establishments.
- BOH should be receiving second round of funding from MBPH this week or next.
- BOH is working Harvard BU School of Public Health and will be getting 6 public health students to assist with contact tracing.
- Stated the Town has been posting COVOD 19 statistics twice a week on the Town Website.

Mrs. Gonzalez:

- Acknowledged the passing of former Building Inspector, Jim DeCola’s father; a 93 year old WWII Veteran, sent condolences to family and friends.
- Took part in a MMA briefing where there was discussion regarding drive through elections.
- Gave a shout out to the Town Administrator who did a reading with the kids for Flint Memorial Library.
- Thanks Lynn Kelly for coordinating birthday parties for kids in Town.
- Thanks Peter Accolla for the Saturday night dance party on Facebook.

Mrs. Manupelli:

- Thanks Lynn Kelly for coordinating birthday parties that kids will never forget.
- Thanks Mrs. Pecora, a quiet volunteer who is a big part of ITT01864.
- Thanks the TA, Finance Director, Town Employees, and First Responders, who are still working at maximum speed.

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Mr. O'Leary:

- States the Select Board meeting was postponed from Monday night due to power outages, and acknowledges the great response of Public Safety Officials, DPW, Police, Fire, and RMLD.

Mrs. Manupelli:

- Responds to Mr. O'Leary's comments stating her neighborhood also lost power and thanks everyone for the great response.
- States she was part of the MMLA (Lawyer portion of the MMA) discussion regarding remote town meetings; there may be some special legislation regarding this. Town Election is scheduled for June 23rd.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MINUTES

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE THE **APRIL 6, 2020** REGULAR SESSION MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

MOTION BY:	MRS. GONZALEZ	
SECONDED BY:	MR. O'LEARY	
VOTED BY:	MR. SCHULTZ	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE
	MR. O'LEARY	AYE
	MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE THE **APRIL 6, 2020** EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

MOTION BY:	MRS. GONZALEZ	
SECONDED BY:	MR. O'LEARY	
VOTED BY:	MR. SCHULTZ	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE
	MR. O'LEARY	AYE
	MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

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COVID 19 UPDATE

Mr. Gilleberto informs the audience that there are 52 confirmed cases in Town, 19 have recovered, 32 are being monitored and 1 is deceased. He continues to say there is an ongoing focus on personal protective equipment for first responders and employees. He further stated the Town received a large shipment of materials on Saturday through MEMA. He will continue to provide updates on Tuesdays and Fridays and will provide information if anything comes up in between. He is keeping an eye toward the May 3rd timeline to see if there will be any improvements or changes in restrictions.

CONSULT WITH TOWN MODERATOR REGARDING CONTINUING THE MAY 11, 2020 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Mr. Gilleberto informs the audience that they have been consulting with the Town Moderator, Town Council, Public Safety and Public Health Officials regarding Special and Annual Town Meeting. They are requesting to continue the Special Town Meeting and delaying the June 8th Town Meeting until June 29th. Town Moderator, John Murphy states it makes sense to move the meetings out as it is important to give the community the opportunity to be in attendance and to participate in the process. Mr. Gilleberto stated he wants both meetings to take place at the Annual Town Meeting. Attorney Darren Klein informed the Board that the Town Moderator can postpone the meeting up to 30 days and can postpone a second time up to an additional 30 days. He further stated that most Towns are pushing their meetings out.

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO RECOMMEND TO THE TOWN MODERATOR THAT THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MAY 11, 2020 BE CONTINUED TO JUNE 8, 2020 AT 7:10 PM, AND THAT IT BE FURTHER CONTINUED TO JUNE 29, 2020 AT 7:10 PM.

MOTION BY:	MRS. GONZALEZ	
SECONDED BY:	MR. O'LEARY	
VOTED BY:	MR. SCHULTZ	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE
	MR. O'LEARY	AYE
	MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

REVIEW JUNE TOWN MEETING ARTICLES AND CONSIDER POTENTIAL DELAY OF JUNE TOWN MEETING

Mr. Gilleberto states the list of articles is still developing and he has received the School Committee Article pertaining to the energy efficiency LED lighting project. He further stated the Town Moderator will have to sign the postponements for the meetings.

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MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO DELAY JUNE TOWN MEETING TO JUNE 29, 2020 AT 7:00 PM.

MOTION BY:	MRS. GONZALEZ	
SECONDED BY:	MR. O'LEARY	
VOTED BY:	MR. SCHULTZ	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE
	MR. O'LEARY	AYE
	MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

FY 2021 REVENUE/EXPENSE PLAN UPDATE

Finance Director Liz Rourke gave a presentation (see attached).

- Mr. Schultz thanks Ms. Rourke and Mr. Gilleberto for taking a conservative look at revenues.
- Ms. Rourke states she thinks receipts will be down on account of the virus and may need to reduce items further.
- Mr. O'Leary stated they will have to look at numbers again going forward, with a 14% reduction in receipts. Lottery and meal tax receipts are going down. We will have to pare down as much as we can and hopefully won't have to go to a 1-12 budget.
- Finance Committee Member Don Kelliher inquired how the Town will be affected with 3 months to possibly a year of mortgage forbearance. Mr. Schultz responded banks will still be making tax payments.
- Mr. Gilleberto states a hiring freeze has not been initiated but positions are being scrutinized prior to being filled.
- Ms. Rourke states they will be looking at what can be deferred to the October Town Meeting in the Capital Improvement Plan.
- Ms. Rourke states interest income will drop significantly due to interest rates being drastically reduced, therefore decisions need to be made about the Fifteen Million Dollars on the CD; the entire amount still hasn't been budgeted. CD is coming due in May.

EXTENSION OF RMLD AGREEMENT

Mr. Gilleberto states that the agreement expires in 2030, however the Town is required to give a 10 year lead that they will renew the agreement. He further stated that the Town has had a productive working relationship with RMLD and that Lynnfield has extended their agreement and Wilmington is currently discussing renewing the agreement. Mr. O'Leary stated he was part of the first 30 year agreement discussions and RMLD has been a great partner. Mr. Wallner commented he noticed of Mr. O'Leary's signatures on the agreement.

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MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO AUTHORIZE THE EXTENSION OF THE TERM OF THE TWENTY YEAR AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF NORTH READING AND READING MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT AND TO SIGN THE EXTENSION.

MOTION BY:	MRS. GONZALEZ	
SECONDED BY:	MR. O'LEARY	
VOTED BY:	MR. SCHULTZ	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE
	MR. O'LEARY	AYE
	MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

WATER/WASTEWATER UPDATE

Mr. Gilleberto states the following:

- work continues for temporary and long term water solutions with Andover,
- the Administrative Consent order has been filed with MA DEP,
- Work continues for the temporary water chlorination facility located at 327 Main Street, Boston Flower Market. He stated the terms of agreement have been reached and he is recommending the Board sign a friendly acquisition.
- Informed the audience the temporary water chlorination facility location is different from the permanent location.

Due to technical issues, Mrs. Manupelli is unavailable. Mr. O'Leary calls for the motion.

ACQUIRE TEMPORARY EASEMENT FOR WATER TREATMENT – 327 MAIN STREET (BOSTON FLOWER MARKET)

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO ADOPT THE ORDER OF TAKING IN THE FORM PRESENTED TO ACQUIRE A TEMPORARY EASEMENT FOR WATER SYSTEM PURPOSES IN THE PROPERTY AT 327 MAIN STREET, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO EXECUTE THE ORDER ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD UPON RECEIPT OF A WAIVER OF DAMAGES AND APPRAISAL FOR SUCH TAKING FROM THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY.

MOTION BY:	MRS. GONZALEZ	
SECONDED BY:	MR. SCHULTZ	
VOTED BY:	MR. SCHULTZ	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE
	MR. O'LEARY	AYE
	MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE

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Mr. Gilleberto states that Water Superintendent, Mark Clark, DPW Director, Patrick Bower, Mr. O’Leary, and Mr. Schultz have been working for over 2 ½ years with the family and is happy to be taking this critical action tonight. Mr. Gilleberto also recognizes the work of the DPW staff and Matt Prince for putting in the effort to allow the Town to get something in place. He further states there is more work to do and will continue to push forward. Mr. Clark states they have been working hard with the State to come up with a solution that would allow Andover to provide us with the water the Town needs through the summer while getting the permanent location constructed. He further states that by signing the Consent Order it allowed the Town to move forward very quickly and hopes things continue to move smoothly.

LEGAL BILLS

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO APPROVE LEGAL BILLS FOR FEBRUARY, 2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,674.84 AS FOLLOWS:

KOPELMAN AND PAIGE, P.C. (GENERAL)	\$ 9,315.34
KOPEMAN AND PAIGE, P.C. (LABOR)	\$ 1,248.00
20 ELM STREET 40B PROJECT	<u>\$ 1,111.50</u>
TOTAL	\$11,674.84

MOTION BY:	MRS. GONZALEZ	
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	MR. WALLNER	AYE
	MR. O’LEARY	AYE
	MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

No written report. Topics discussed:

- Yard waste drop off is open from 8:00-4:00 on Saturday’s for leaves, grass clippings and brush. A curbside pickup has taken place.
- The Special Education Parent Advisory Counsel went ahead with “Light the Town up Blue” for autism awareness month and to promote acceptance; all funds are raised through donations.
- There is an ongoing Human Service effort going on for residents who may be in need. He recognizes the efforts of volunteers in ITT01864, including Mr. Wallner, Mary Prenney, Susan Magner and Jen Ford for conducting outreach to Seniors through phone calls.

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OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Mr. O'Leary:

- Acknowledges hard work by volunteer groups, first responders, Mystic Valley Elder Services which still provides meals on wheels, local restaurants, and the Horseshoe who provided Easter dinners for members of the community. He asks the residents to support local businesses and to wear masks.

Mr. Wallner:

- States this will be the fourth and last weekend to sing Sweet Caroline on Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Schultz:

- Thanks the Clergy in Town for keeping everyone safe during Holy Week. Appreciates the services that were held on line that allowed the parishioners to still participate. Thanks everyone for following the rules.

Mrs. Gonzalez:

- States Saint Teresa's has the Monstrance visible at the rectory window.
- Open Space and Recreation Plan is on its final piece. She has placed a virtual open house on all the North Reading social media sites. She asks the residents to look at it and give feedback.

Mrs. Manupelli:

- Lost internet connection. She thanks everyone for their participation.

MADAM CHAIR, I MOVE TO ADJOURN.

MOTION BY:	MRS. GONZALEZ	
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VOTED BY:	MR. SCHULTZ	AYE
	MRS. GONZALEZ	AYE
	MR. WALLNER	AYE
	MR. O'LEARY	AYE
	MRS. MANUPELLI	AYE

VOTE: 5-0 (UNANIMOUS)

ADJOURN: 9:49 P.M.

DATE

LIANE R. GONZALEZ, CLERK