

**Board of Selectmen  
Open Meeting of May 10, 2023  
Seekonk Town Hall, 100 Peck Street  
BOS Meeting Room**

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Members Present: Justin Sullivan, Pam Pozzi, Chris Zorra, Michelle A. Hines, Michael P. Healy

Chair Healy opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

**Board and Committee Openings**

P. Pozzi read the Board and Committee vacancies into the record.

**Community Speaks** –

Tim Hayden, 40 Linden Road, stated he was concerned with fiberoptic cables not properly fastened to poles. There is a cable laying on the ground at Olney Street and Canochet Street and others throughout Town that are not properly fastened to a pole. He said he would help if he knew who to contact. He is retired from National Grid.

S. Cadime asked him to follow up with the Superintendent of Public Works, Dave Cabral (who was in the audience).

**A. Follow up discussion regarding a Billboard By-law amendment to forward to the Planning Board for a Public Hearing**

Gary Sagar asked the Board to consider a zoning amendment to allow business to rent billboard space along Route 95. It will allow businesses to market their business while increasing revenue for the Town.

M. Healy suggested setting a limit to the number billboards.

P. Pozzi said she would consider the distance of the billboard to a resident's home.

M. Hines said what would be allowed to be advertised on the billboards should also be considered.

J. Sullivan suggested forwarding the request to the Planning Board for their recommendation.

S. Cadime asked the Board to also consider the Sign By-law. The biggest complaint for local businesses is signage in Town.

J. Sullivan said they could have two different warrant articles: 1) discuss/address billboard advertising; and 2) amending the existing sign By-law.

**J. Sullivan made a motion to forward discussion of a Billboard By-law and consider any amendments to the current Signage By-laws that are in place over to Planning Board; it was seconded by M. Hines, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**B. Discussion regarding the results of the ballot question relative to the Town’s form of Government**

Gary Sagar suggested forming a Charter Commission to discuss changing the form of government. Forty-seven percent of voters voted in favor of the non-binding ballot question.

M. Hines said she was concerned with putting the same things forward to voters.

M. Healy said the Board will discuss further at a future meeting.

*M. Healy asked the Board if anyone had any objections to take items C & D together and to have one vote.*

**C. Vote to award/sign the BAN (Bond Anticipation Note) of \$1,175,000 (DPW and South End Fire Station) and**

**D. Vote to award/sign the GOB (General Obligation Bond) of \$3,830,000 (High School Turf and Senior Center Phase II)**

S. Cadime explained these two items can be taken together with one vote.

**M. Hines made a motion as the Clerk of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Seekonk, Massachusetts (the “Town”), certify that at a meeting of the board held May 10, 2023, of which meeting all members of the board were duly notified and at which a quorum was present, the following votes were unanimously passed, all of which appear upon the official record of the board in my custody:**

**Voted: that the sale of the \$3,830,000 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2023 Bonds of the Town dated May 23, 2023 (the “Bonds”), to Robert W. Baird & Co., Inc. at the price of \$4,233,891.50 and accrued interest is hereby approved and confirmed. The Bonds shall be payable on May 1 of the years and in the principal amounts and bear interest at the respective rates, as follows:**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
2024	\$270,000	5.00%	2032	\$265,000	5.00%
2025	270,000	5.00	2033	265,000	5.00
2026	270,000	5.00	2034	265,000	4.00
2027	270,000	5.00	2035	265,000	4.00
2028	265,000	5.00	2036	265,000	4.00
2029	265,000	5.00	2037	265,000	4.00
2030	265,000	5.00	2038	100,000	4.00
2031	265,000	5.00			

**Further Voted:** to approve the sale of a \$1,175,000 4.470 percent General Obligation Bond Anticipation Note issued as a State House Note of the Town dated May 23, 2023, and payable May 23, 2024 (the “Note”), to Newburyport Five Cents Savings Bank at par and accrued interest, if any.

**Further Voted:** that in connection with the marketing and sale of the Bonds, the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Sale and Preliminary Official Statement dated May 3, 2023, and a final Official Statement dated April 26, 2023 (the “Official Statement”), each in such form as may be approved by the Town Treasurer, be and hereby are ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted.

**Further Voted:** that the Bonds shall be subject to redemption, at the option of the Town, upon such terms and conditions as are set forth in the Official Statement.

**Further Voted:** that the Town Treasurer and the Select Board be, and hereby are, authorized to execute and deliver continuing and significant events disclosure undertakings in compliance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 in such forms as may be approved by bond counsel to the Town, which undertakings shall be incorporated by reference in the Bonds and Notes, as applicable, for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds and Notes from time to time.

**Further Voted:** that we authorize and direct the Town Treasurer to establish post issuance federal tax compliance procedures and continuing disclosure procedures in such forms as the Town Treasurer and bond counsel deem sufficient, or if such procedures are currently in place, to review and update said procedures, in order to monitor and maintain the tax-exempt status of the Bonds and Notes and to comply with relevant securities laws

**Further Voted:** that any certificates or documents relating to the Bonds and the Notes (collectively, the “Documents”), may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be regarded as an original and all of which shall constitute one and the same document; delivery of an executed counterpart of a signature page to a Document by electronic mail in a “.pdf” file or by other electronic transmission shall be as effective as delivery of a manually executed counterpart signature page to such Document; and electronic signatures on any of the Documents shall be deemed original signatures for the purposes of the Documents and all matters relating thereto, having the same legal effect as original signatures.

**Further Voted:** that each member of the Select Board, the Town Clerk and the Town Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing votes.

I further certify that the votes were taken at a meeting open to the public, that no vote was taken by secret ballot, that a notice stating the place, date, time and agenda for the meeting (which agenda included the adoption of the above votes) was filed with the Town Clerk and a copy thereof posted in a manner conspicuously visible to the public at all hours in or on the municipal building that the office of the Town Clerk is located or, if applicable, in accordance with an alternative method of notice prescribed or approved by the Attorney General as set forth in 940

**CMR 29.03(2)(b), at least 48 hours, not including Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, prior to the time of the meeting and remained so posted at the time of the meeting, that no deliberations or decision in connection with the sale of the Bonds or the Notes were taken in executive session, all in accordance with G.L. c.30A, §§18-25, as amended.; it was seconded by J. Sullivan, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**E. Consider the re-appointment of Brittney Faria as the Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA) representative**

**J. Sullivan made a motion to re-appoint Brittney Faria as the Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA) representative; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**F. Consider the re-appointment of Dave Cabral to Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) Joint Transportation Planning Group**

**J. Sullivan made a motion to re-appoint Dave Cabral as Southeaster Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) Joint Transportation Planning Group; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**G. Consider the appointment of James Halpin as alternate to Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) Joint Transportation Planning Group**

**J. Sullivan made a motion to appoint James Halpin as the alternate to Southeaster Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) Joint Transportation Planning Group; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**H. Consider the appointment of a Board of Selectmen member to the Bristol County Advisory Board**

**C. Zorra made a motion to appoint M. Healy to the Bristol County Advisory Board; it was seconded by M. Hines, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**I. Consider the appointment of Shawn Cadime as the Board of Selectmen representative for Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD)**

**C. Zorra made a motion to appoint Shawn Cadime as the Board of Selectmen representative for the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD); it was seconded by M. Hines, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**J. Consider awarding the contract for Architectural Design Services for the proposed Department of Public Works Complex to Brewster Thornton Group Architects**

S. Cadime asked the Board to accept the contract for Architectural Design Services for the proposed Department of Public Works Complex to Brewster Thornton Group Architects in the amount of 1,448,486 total cost for design services which will also include construction management if the project moves forward.

**J. Sullivan made a motion to award the contract for Architectural Design Services for the proposed Department of Public Works Complex to Brewster Thornton Group Architects in the amount of 1,448,486; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**K. Discussion of Spring Town Meeting**

The Board was pleased with the attendance overall, but disappointed with the audio and video. Chair Healy did discuss these concerns with TV 9. It was not their equipment used in the auditorium. There was a longstanding grounding issue in the auditorium.

**L. Consider the approval of minutes from April 5, 2023; April 12, 2023; and April 26, 2023**

**J. Sullivan made a motion to approve the open meeting minutes of April 5, 2023 with M. Hines amendments; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**J. Sullivan made a motion to approve the open meeting minutes of April 12, 2023 with M. Hines amendments; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**C. Zorra made a motion to approve the open meeting minutes of April 26, 2023 with M. Hines amendments; it was seconded by J. Sullivan, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

### **COMMUNITY SPEAKS:**

Kyle Juckett, Hammond Street, thanked the Town Administrator for his comments at the Spring Town Meeting regarding the difficulty of retaining and hiring public safety personnel. Mr. Juckett asked that the Board and School Department continue having conversations regarding additional Student Resource Officer(s). He advocates for one in each school.

Anthony Procopio, 5 Stone Ridge Drive, said he was concerned with the crosswalk in front of library. The area is not only difficult to cross but the crosswalk is not handicap accessible. He asked if any modifications could be made, such as adding a cone to the middle of the road or have additional signage.

Mr. Procopio also asked for guidance on how a development can be accepted by the Town. The last home was completed in the subdivision in 2022. He has been speaking with the developer, but was told there are some outstanding issues, one of them being drainage. Mr. Procopio asked if anything he can do to move the process forward.

Zach Medeiros, 166 Lauren Drive, stated his concerns with the proposed speed limit zone on Arcade Avenue. According to the Mass Amendments to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, speed limit zones in school zones add protection for children and guardians. He does not think the sign on Arcade Avenue would be effective since there is not enough pedestrian volume. He suggested the Town amend their MassDOT grant application for a speed limit zone for one of the elementary schools or the middle school.

Brian Rawnsley, Shirwood Drive, said he was concerned with all the noise coming from the ball fields located at North School. The fields are now being used on Sundays for flag football. He played a video from his phone of the noise. He asked if Hurly Middle School fields could be used instead.

### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

- A. South End Fire Station Building Committee – The architect is working with the design for the communications tower.
- B. Department of Public Works Building Committee–The board approved the contract tonight (Item J).

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

- A. Accounts Payable Warrant – Signed
- B. Bristol County Advisory Board (M. Healy) – Nothing at this time
- C. Aitken School Expansion Building Committee Report (C. Zorra) –The OPM and Jill Brillhante are finalizing the numbers. They still have outstanding issues. Chair Healy asked when they would be receiving the financial report. C. Zorra said they are going over warranty issues. He does not have a timeline at this time.
- D. 540 Arcade Avenue Building Committee Report (M. Hines) – Work continues with painting, stairway, railings, and ceilings. Flooring will be discussed at next week's meeting since the original flooring has been discontinued.

E. TV9 Liaison Report (M. Healy) – A meeting was held yesterday. Since their last meeting, they have done 21 productions, covered the Police Chief’s Installation, Seekonk Lions Fishing Derby, Annual Taste of the Town, Spring Town Meeting, and Friends of Friends Silver Tea at Human Services. The Library and Short films showcase will return to production and Bill Whitely will have a new show. They also asked Animal Control to have a feature to showcase animals that are available for adoption. There is an open seat on the Board. They interviewed (3) candidates for this position.

C. Zorra asked Mr. Cadime for updates on 1) a solar sign for the Hurley Middle School crosswalk; 2) speeding/traffic on Davis Street; and 3) High School First Responders Club ride along opportunity.

M. Healy asked Mr. Cadime if the Superintendent of Public Works could speak with the Town’s trash vendor. There has been a decline in service and he has been receiving more complaints.

### **Adjournment**

**J. Sullivan made a motion to enter into executive session and to reconvene to open session for potential contract approval at 7:55 p.m. to A) conduct a strategy session with respect to negotiations with the United Steelworkers Supervisors Unit Local 9517-09 per MGL c 30A § 21(a) (3) as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town; B) to conduct a strategy session with respect to negotiations with the United Steelworkers Clerical Unit Local 9517-10 per MGL c 30A § 21(a) (3) as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town; C) to conduct a strategy session with respect to negotiations with the Seekonk Public Library Employee Association, MLSA, AFT Massachusetts, AFL-CIO per MGL c 30A § 21(a) (3) as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town; D) to conduct a strategy session with respect to negotiations with DPW AFSCME Council 93 per MGL c 30A § 21(a) (3) as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town; and E) to act under authority of the Open Meeting Law, General Laws Chapter 30A, §22(f) and §22(g), and review and approve the executive session minutes of February 15, 2023 and April 5, 2023 pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(7); it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**Justin Sullivan-Aye; Pam Pozzi-Aye; Chris Zorra-Aye; Michelle Hines-Aye; Michael Healy-Aye**

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle A. Hines, Clerk

Prepared by:  
Kristen L’Heureux

**Items Distributed at the May 10, 2023 Board of Selectmen Meeting**

- Correspondence from Gary Sagar regarding a zoning amendment for billboards along Rt 95
- Correspondence from Gary Sagar regarding the 2023 election questions results for the forms of government
- Email from Town Treasurer/Collector regarding the BAN and BOND notes
- Appointing Designee to the Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG)
- 2023-2024 SRPEDD Commission Member Appointment Form