

**Board of Selectmen  
Open Meeting of June 21, 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  
Town Administrator: Shawn E. Cadime  
Assistant Town Administrator/HR Director: Carol-Ann Days

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

**Board and Committee Openings**

M. Hines read the Board and Committee vacancies into the record.

**Community Speaks** – No one was present to speak

**A. Consider the Conditional Offer of Employment for Samantha Douglas for the position of Part-Time Kennel Worker**

Chair Healy advised the Board the candidate decided not to take the position.

**B. Consider the appointment of Jeff Cabral to the Parks and Recreation Committee effective July 1, 2023**

Mr. Cadime stated he, along with the Parks and Recreation Coordinator, and Human Services Director met with several candidates interested on filling the vacant seat on Parks and Recreation. Mr. Cadime made the recommendation to appoint Jeff Cabral to the Parks and Recreation Committee beginning July 1, 2023 for a three-year term.

Jeff Cabral was present at the meeting.

**J. Sullivan made a motion to appoint Jeff Cabral to the Parks and Recreation Committee; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

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

**C. Consider the appointment of Constables, Special Police Officers, Detention Attendants and Traffic Constables not requiring disclosure as recommended by the list provided by Police Chief David Enos, Jr. (see attached list)**

Chief Enos provided the following list to the Board:

**Constables:** Police Chief Enos, Deputy Police Chief, LaFleur, Captain Jardine, Lieutenant Kelly, Lieutenant Chalifoux, Lieutenant Dowd, Sargent Hedrick, Sargent Kelley, Sargent Casper, Sargent Peterson, Sargent Fundakowski, Sargent Laprade, and Sargent Perry

**Special Police Officers:** Craig Mace, Jason O'Hara, Edward McDonald, Eric Dallaire, Scott Dumond, Paul Strollo, and Thomas Newman

**Traffic Constables (Police):** David Snap, Michael Bourque, William Dallaire, and Thomas Piquette

**Traffic Constables (School Department):** Gail Turgeon, Ted Dziedzic, Robert Pickett, Kenneth Scolaro, Peter Segal, Karen Contois, Maurice Holmes, Robert Richardson, Kenneth Scolaro, and Virginia Post

**Detention Attendants:** Sandra Phillips

**M. Hines made a motion to approve the Constables, Special Police Officers, Detention Attendants and Traffic Constables not requiring disclosure; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

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

**D. Consider the disclosure of G.L.c. 268A, § 20(f) and the reappointment of Special Police Officer Ronald Ricky**

Chair Healy read the reappointment of Special Police Officer Ronald Ricky into the record as recommended by Police Chief Enos.

**M. Hines made a motion to reappoint Ronald Ricky as a Special Police; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

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

**E. Consider the disclosure of G.L.c. 268A, § 20(f) and the reappointment of Detention Attendant Taylor Cordeiro**

Chair Healy read the reappointment of Detention Attendant Taylor Cordeiro into the record as recommended by Police Chief Enos.

**M. Hines made a motion to reappoint Taylor Cordeiro as a Detention Attendant; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

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

**F. Consider the disclosure of G.L.c. 268A, § 20(f) and the reappointment of Detention Attendant Melissa Zasowski**

Chair Healy read the reappointment of Detention Attendant Melissa Zasowski into the record as recommended by Police Chief Enos.

**M. Hines made a motion to reappoint Melissa Zasowski as a Detention Attendant; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

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

**G. Consider the disclosure of G.L.c. 268A, § 20(f) and the appointment of Detention Attendant Kelly Magill**

Chair Healy read the appointment of Detention Attendant Kelly Magill into the record as recommended by Police Chief Enos.

**M. Hines made a motion to appoint Kelly Magill as a Detention Attendant; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

**H. Consider the disclosure of G.L.c. 268A, § 20(f) and the appointment of Traffic Constable Jonathan Martel**

Chair Healy read the appointment of Jonathan Martel into the record as recommended by Police Chief Enos.

**M. Hines made a motion to disclose and appoint Jonathan Martel as a Traffic Constable; it was seconded by C. Zorra, was unanimously approved.**

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

**I. Consider the disclosure of G.L.c. 268A, § 20(f) and the appointment of Traffic Constable Douglas Young**

Chair Healy read the appointment of Douglas Young as Traffic Constable into the record as recommended by Police Chief Enos.

**M. Hines made a motion to disclose and appoint Douglas Young as a Traffic Constable; it was seconded by C. Zorra, was unanimously approved.**

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

**J. Consider the disclosure of G.L.c. 268A, § 20(f) and the appointment of Traffic Constable James Roy**

Chair Healy read the appointment of James Roy as Traffic Constable into the record as recommended by Police Chief Enos.

**M. Hines made a motion to disclose and appoint James Roy as a Traffic Constable; it was seconded by C. Zorra, was unanimously approved.**

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

**K. Consider the disclosure of G.L.c. 268A, § 20(f) and the appointment of Traffic Constable Kevin English**

Chair Healy read the appointment of Kevin Martel as Traffic Constable into the record as recommended by Police Chief Enos.

**M. Hines made a motion to disclose and appoint Kevin English as a Traffic Constable; it was seconded by C. Zorra, was unanimously approved.**

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

**L. Consider the disclosure of G.L.c. 268A, § 20(f) and the appointment of Traffic Constable Shaun Whalen**

Chair Healy read the appointment of Shaun Whalen as Traffic Constable into the record as recommended by Police Chief Enos.

**M. Hines made a motion to disclose and appoint Shaun Whalen as a Traffic Constable; it was seconded by C. Zorra, was unanimously approved.**

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

**M. Consider the disclosure of G.L.c. 268A, § 20(f) and the appointment of Traffic Constable Timothy Goodwin**

Chair Healy read the appointment of Timothy Goodwin as Traffic Constable into the record as recommended by Police Chief Enos.

**M. Hines made a motion to disclose and appoint Timothy Goodwin as a Traffic Constable; it was seconded by C. Zorra, was unanimously approved.**

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

**N. Read into the record the Moderator’s reappointments of Matthew Salisbury and Michael Bradley to the Finance Committee**

Chair Healy read the Town Moderator’s reappointment of Matthew Salisbury and Michael Bradley to the Finance Committee into the record.

**O. Consider the reappointment of Board and Committee members; Community Preservation Committee; Conservation Commission; Cultural Council; Human Services Council; Parks and Recreation; Taxation Aid Fund Committee; Veterans Council; Zoning Board of Appeals**

M. Hines read the following list of reappointments for a three-year term:

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

Willit Mason

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Nathan Socha  
Kristin Kearney  
Brett Roberts

**CULTURAL COUNCIL**

Ann-Marie Gillett  
Robert Emlen  
Deborah Baldizar

**HUMAN SERVICES COUNCIL**

Beverly Della Grotta  
Keith Perry

**PARKS AND RECREATION**

James Troiano

**TAXATION AID FUND COMMITTEE**

Kim Lallier

**VETERANS COUNCIL**

Moises Moniz

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

Robert Read (Moving to Alternate Member) Term to Expire 2025  
Greg Gauthier (Moving to Full Member) Term to Expire 2026  
Mallory Demty (Moving to Full Member) Term to Expire 2026

**J. Sullivan made a motion to approve the reappointments as stated by the Chairperson; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

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

**P. Consider the request for a Right of Way permit by Beverly Jesuino to provide gas service at 4 Greenwood Ave while the road is under moratorium until 9/30/2026**

Superintendent of Public Works, Dave Cabral, met with the resident who recently purchased the home. The road moratorium was not disclosed to them. Typically, Mr. Cabral would oppose opening a roadway under moratorium, however, the work being proposed at Greenwood Avenue is cracked. He provided photos to the Board.

Beverly Jesuino of 4 Greenwood Avenue was present. In summary, she purchased the home in October with the intent of her mom moving in on the first floor. She was advised by the Realtor she could get gas into the home. The moratorium was not disclosed. Gas pipes were put into the house and all gas appliances were purchased. Ms. Jesuino said she understood the policy and is willing to put the funds forward to properly complete the project.

D. Cabral stated the gas company will be responsible for digging a trench and tying in the service. The restoration of the roadway will be handled by Eversource. If the Board approves the request, he would recommend a mill and overlay.

**J. Sullivan made a motion to approve the roadway cut at 4 Greenwood Avenue as presented by Mr. Cabral with a mill and overlay for 50' as discussed with the cost being borne by Eversource and the resident; it was seconded by M. Hines, and it was unanimously approved.**

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

**Q. Consider establishing a School Zone for the Seekonk High School along Arcade Avenue**

Dave Cabral explained MassDOT requires a school zone be establish by the Select Board. He provided a templet of a solar powered flashing beacon. Mr. Cabral proposed the signs be located approximately 300 feet before Marsden Court and opposite Hudson Street. The signs will read 20 mph 20-30 before the start of school and 20-30 minutes at the end of the school day.

P. Pozzi said she was concerned with having multiple speed limit signs, as well as the new traffic light being close to each other.

D. Cabral said the speed limit on Arcade Avenue is 35 mph except when the beacon flashes 20 mph. A speed limit sign needs to be posted after the school zone to alert drives they are no longer in a school zone.

**J. Sullivan made motion to approve establishing a school zone for the High School as presented by Mr. Cabral and to utilize the grant as awarded; it was seconded by M. Hines, and it was unanimously approved.**

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

## **R. Joint meeting with Planning Board**

**Chair David Sullivan opened the joint Planning Board meeting with the Select Board.**

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

Phoebe Lee Dunn-Aye; Sandra Escaler-Aye; David Sullivan-Aye; Sandra Foulkes-Aye; Bruce Hoch-Aye

## **Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Stakeholders Meeting for the Attleboro Dye Works (ADW) Dam**

D. Cabral stated a community meeting with the Planning Board is scheduled for next Tuesday.

Kim Armstrong, the Structural Engineer, and Sage Winter, the Landscape Architect with GPI provided an update. In summary, the Dam status is being monitor by the Office of Dam Safety and has been assessed as being in “POOR” condition and is considered a low hazard. The removal vs. repair options were briefly discussed. Repairing the dam will provide additional trails and cost approximately \$1.8M. Dam removal would cost approximately \$1M.

J. Sullivan asked if there were grants available to help with the cost of dam removal or repair.

Kim Armstrong said dam removal would provide more options than dam repair. Typically, towns have to match at least 25%.

P. Pozzi asked if the dam would be removed naturally or if it would be filled in.

K. Armstrong said they would study the paths and try to put in natural bends or obstructions of rocks.

## **Discuss procedures for incomplete subdivisions and roadway acceptance initiation**

J. Aubin summarized the subdivisions that are dormant, partially completed, and completed but the street hasn't been accepted by the Town. Developers are responsible to come forward to have their subdivision accepted at Town Meeting; however, some developers have not done so or have walked away from the development. Residents in these developments would like them finished. One of the greatest concerns are the public improvements, such as drainage. He suggested working with DPW through the TRC (Technical Review Committee) to identify issues and come back to the Board with possible options or improvements. The Planning Board will continue moving forward with enforcement. Mr. Aubin suggested asking Town Counsel to a joint executive session to discuss legal action.

## **Discuss suggested amendments to the sign By-law**

J. Aubin said this is in follow-up to Mr. Sagar's suggestion of raising revenue along Route 195 by renting advertisement space on billboards.

M. Healy suggested limiting the number of billboard signs along 195 either by lot size and/or east/westbound.

S. Cadime said the State will dictate the space between the signs.

J. Aubin said in regard to the general Sign By-law, he'd like to ask Town Counsel to review some options. The Sign By-law would be separate from the Billboard By-law which may be an overlay district.

M. Hines said she would like to have the Sign By-law be more business friendly to keep the businesses the Town has and for those that would like to come to Town.

J. Aubin asked the Board to forward him specific complaints they receive from business.

J. Sullivan suggested looking at surrounding communities on how they handle business advertising.

**P. Dunn made motion to close the joint Planning Board meeting with the Select Board at 7:51 p.m.  
Roll Call Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

Bruce Hoch-Aye; David Sullivan-Aye; Phoebe Lee Dunn-Aye; Sandra Escaler-Aye; Sandy Foulkes-Aye

**S. Consider the appropriation of \$189,928.29 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for a one-time payment for the Aitken School Building Project**

M. Healy said the finances were provided to the Board tonight. He summarized the Aitken Financial Overview provided from the Committee:

Approved Project funding:	\$13,250,000.00
Total expenditures:	<u>\$12,639,928.29</u>
Project underbudget:	\$ 610,071.74
Town bonded:	\$12,450,000.00

J. Sullivan explained they were told the project was under budget by \$1M so they did not bond for the full amount. Not accounted in the bond request was bonding costs and open invoices.

Chairperson of the Aitken School Expansion Building Committee, Jackie Proulx, said they had issues with drainage, HVAC, and items under warranty. The committee knew they would be under budget but the total was unknown.

J. Sullivan said the town voted on two warrant articles that were included in this project (expansion and HVAC work). He asked to see a running balance sheet for the separation of invoices for the expansion project (approved at \$10.5M) and the AC/ventilation project.

Mr. Quinlin said he was unable to give separate invoices due to the Mass bidding law. The design fees are exact (what designers charged to increase their scope of work to design the AC). He provided a breakdown of the total project budget and said he could provide his reasoning behind the document he provided. The figures were reconciled with the school and the Munis system.



S. Cadime said the expenses can be confirmed through Munis for the dollar amount, but it cannot extract the expansion costs from the AC costs.

J. Sullivan said the base expenditures for the expansion was \$10,962,512; the budget scope was \$586,247 underbudget; AC project \$1,677,416 which was \$23,825 underbudget.

M. Hines asked why the committee did not bond for the full amount that the Town approved.

S. Cadime said when they went out to bond for the second time, they understood there would be a savings to the project. At that time, they anticipated \$200,000 being needed to move forward with the project. To save the tax payer money, \$800,000 was paid down, \$200,000 was bonded for short-term payment then rolled over to long-term payment.

**J. Sullivan made the motion to approve the appropriation of \$189,928.29 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to cover the balance and close out the Aitken School expansion project and the HVAC project; it was seconded by P. Pozzi; and the Board voted: 4 in favor/1 abstention (C. Zorra).**

**T. Review the Open Meeting Law Complaint filed by Patrick Higgins**

M. Healy addressed the open meeting law complaint filed by Patrick Higgins. KP Law drafted a letter to respond to the complaint. In summary, the minutes were completed in a timely manner, however, it was not clear on the agenda that the minutes were to be reviewed, redacted, and released at the meeting.

**J. Sullivan made a motion to approve KP Law's response; it was seconded by M. Hines.**

C. Zorra asked if using "Select Board" instead of "Board of Selectmen" is cause for concern.

S. Cadime said the change needs to be done in the Town Charter. The official name is Board of Selectmen until the Charter is changed and accepted at Town Meeting.

**J. Sullivan amended the motion to approve KP Law's response with the change from Select Board to Board of Selectmen; it was seconded by M. Hines, and Voted: 4 in favor and 1 abstention (P. Pozzi)**

**COMMUNITY SPEAKS:**

Doreen Taylor from 175 Bradley Street stated in regard to the Aitken School expansion project, the air conditioning was included in the RFP. She said the warrant article and ballot question was for the existing building and was given \$1,750,000. It also stated it was in control of BOS. It did not say funds would be comingled. We were asked to combine the two at Town Meeting for November 19, 2018 (Warrant Article 11) and May 13, 2019 (Warrant Article 22). On Town Meeting floor on May 13, 2019, Warrant Article 23 was amended from \$2M to \$1,750,000 to design, renovate or reconstruct and furnish the Mildred Aitken Elementary School with air conditioning in the existing building. It does not mention expansion. Ms. Taylor submitted a public records request with the School Department on June 15<sup>th</sup>

asking them to provide documentation on the directives on Article 11 (11/19/18) and Article 22 (5/13/19). The ballot did not mention combing the funds; therefore, the money should not have been used as part of the expansion. The budget for the expansion project was voted for \$11.5M not \$13M.

Zach Medeiros from Lauren Drive said he wanted to address the new traffic signs being proposed at the High School. He suggested only having the feedback and flashing signs on during school time.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Discuss other topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chairman 48 hours before the meeting. *Nothing at this time.*

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

- A. South End Fire Station Building Committee - The architect and OPM have been working with the Building Department to pull building permits.
- B. Department of Public Works Building Committee – They met last Wednesday to go over the walkthrough they had.

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

- A. Accounts Payable Warrant – Signed
- B. Bristol County Advisory Board (M. Healy) – A Zoom meeting was held on Thursday at 6:00 to amend the budget.
- C. Aitken School Expansion Building Committee Report (C. Zorra) – *See Agenda Item S for discussion*
- D. 540 Arcade Avenue Building Committee Report (M. Hines) – The second coat of paint is being done and the floors are finished. A construction meeting was held yesterday and there will be an upcoming meeting to discuss electrical/generator.
- E. TV9 Liaison Report (M. Healy) – no meeting has been scheduled at this time.

Chair Healy congratulated the Seekonk High School boy's baseball team for winning their first championship.

Chair Healy asked the Board to consider moving the meeting July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting to July 12<sup>th</sup> due to the fiscal year end. The Board agreed.

- M. Hines asked for a follow up regarding the telephone/fiberoptic wires at Canochet and Olney Streets.
- D. Cabral said is hoping to rent a bucket truck to repair the wire.

M. Hines stated she and Mr. Zorra followed up on residents' concerns regarding the noise and parking located at North School Fields on Sundays. They witnessed flag football league playing on the fields. There were a lot of kids playing and parking was congested but the streets were passable. The Town has a chain link fence and other property owners have added additional fencing. Ms. Hines said she noticed the Town's fence located at a resident's property had been cut and replaced with a gate. She asked Mr. Cabral to remove the gate and repair the Town's fence. She also suggested reevaluating (repair/remove) the no parking signs because they are no longer readable. The missing sign that was discussed at a previous meeting was found and the Parks and Recreation Coordinator will look into this further.

P. Pozzi asked if a pedestrian crosswalk sign could go on Arcade Avenue and Scott Road. There are a couple of students who use the crosswalk and people access the trails by the reservoir.

### **Adjournment**

**M. Hines made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. and reenter into open session for potential contract approval 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; E) to conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Assistant Town Administrator/HR Director per MGL c 30A § 21(a) (2) as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town; and F) to conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Deputy Police Chief per MGL c 30A § 21(a) (2) as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town; it was seconded by J. Sullivan, and it was unanimously approved.**

**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 June 21, 2023 Board of Selectmen Meeting**

- Memo from Animal Control Officer, Andrea Russo – Conditional offer of employment for Part-Time Kennel Worker
- Talent Bank Form for Parks & Recreation Committee
- Memo from Town Moderator, Peter Hoogerzeil – Reappointments of Finance Committee Members
- Reappointment list for Boards and Committees

- GIS map for right-of-way permit at 4 Greenwood Avenue
- School Zone information along Arcade Avenue near the High School  
Attleboro Dye Works slideshow presentation
- Memo/documents from Town Planner, John Aubin for the joint meeting/work session regarding incomplete subdivisions and roadway acceptance procedures
- Aitken School Financial Overview and total project budget - Chairperson of Aitken School Building Committee