

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

APRIL 21, 2021

REGULAR SESSION

Members Present: Justin Sullivan, Chris Zorra, Adam Petronio,
David Andrade, Michael Healy

Town Administrator: Shawn E. Cadime

Asst. Town Administrator/
Director of Human Resources: Carol-Ann Days

The meeting was held via Zoom.

Chairman Sullivan opened the meeting at 6 p.m. He advised that, per Governor Baker's Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 20, the public will not be allowed to physically access this Board of Selectmen meeting. Public comments and questions could have been submitted to the Board prior to the meeting by completing the Google Form by Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at 4:30 p.m.

The meeting will be broadcast live via Seekonk Cable TV9, streamed live on TV9's Facebook, and streamed live on the Town of Seekonk's YouTube channel.

In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 20(f), any person recording must notify the Chairman at the beginning of the meeting.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE OPENINGS

Mr. Petronio announced that volunteers are needed on the 540 Arcade Avenue Building Committee (1 Moderator appointment), Board of Assessor (1 BOS), Capital Improvement Committee (2 Board of Selectmen), Commission on Disability (5-13 BOS), Economic Development Committee (5 BOS), Energy Committee (1 BOS), Historical Commission (3 BOS), Parks & Recreation (1 BOS), Recycling Committee (3 BOS), South End Fire Station Building Committee (1 Moderator), Veterans' Council (2 BOS), Zoning Board of Appeals (2 Alternates).

Chairman Sullivan noted today is Administrative Assistant Day. He recognized all the assistants who work in Town Hall, especially Chris Testa, Kristin L'Heureux, and Pat Gamer.

LICENSE HEARING

Consider the Request from EFL Auto Shop d/b/a Auto Shop for a Class II Motor Vehicle License at 49 Mink Street, Unit B, Seekonk, MA – Ned Lundgren

Mr. Ned Lundren and his daughter Hilary were in attendance via Zoom.

Chairman Sullivan confirmed that the inspection was conducted today and property is in order.

A motion was made by Mr. Andrade, seconded by Mr. Petronio, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the request from EFI Auto Shop d/b/a Auto Shop for a Class II motor vehicle license at 49 Mink Street, Unit B with the understanding that there are no more than 40 vehicles on the property at any point.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Accept the Resignation of Krystal Dos Santos as Senior Secretary for the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals

Mr. Cadime advised he spoke to Ms. Dos Santos. She has accepted a position that will be better for her career. She has been an integral part of that office and town hall. She will be missed. He recommended to accept the resignation with regret.

A motion as made by Mr. Andrade, seconded by Mr. Petronio, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the resignation of Krystal Dos Santos with regret.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Consider the Request for Street Acceptance of Palmer River Road and Forward to the Planning Board for a Recommendation

Mr. Andrade made a motion, Mr. Petronio seconded, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To consider the request for street acceptance of Palmer River Road and forward to the Planning Board for a recommendation.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Prior to the vote, Mr. Zorra said he heard about draining issues and other matters.

Mr. Cadime said that will be reviewed prior to making a recommendation. There have been issues. It might constitute coming back to the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Rick Bessette of Madeira Ventures called in and offered to answer questions.

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Mr. Healy suggested the Board wait until the Planning Board review. There are several Conservation issues with that road.

Mr. Bessette said he has been talking to Mr. Aubin. Items on the punch list were completed. He thought the next step was to go to the Planning Board.

Town Planner John Aubin III advised that GPI Engineering provided a punch list to Mr. Bessette. He is waiting for a report from GPI. That will be noted in the Planning Board report back to the Board of Selectmen.

Discussion with the Seekonk Connolly Field Turf & Renovation Building Committee Regarding Proposed Project

Dr. Rich Drolet, Superintendent. of Schools, stated the Finance Committee approved a warrant article in the fall 2019 and the Board of Selectmen recommended approval of the design phase. This is important for the students and also the entire town.

Mr. Chris Huntress of Huntress Sports made a presentation to the Finance Committee and is now before the Board of Select men.

The building committee is working very hard to move this forward. The tennis and basketball courts were recently improved. A turf field is extremely safe.

Mr. Huntress and Turf Field Building Committee Chairman Steve Prew were in attendance.

The proposal will include a new synthetic turf field, new 400 millimeter running track, field event improvements, sound system, LED sports light, new storage shed, press box, improved walkway fences and gates and improved drainage. All are ADA and Title 9 approved.

Mr. Zorra read a statement taken from the November Town Meeting. There was scrutiny over this building committee. He noted this building committee was tasked with improving the entire complex.

Mr. Healy said the presentation made at that Town Meeting was vague. It is supposed to be just a turf field. It was misleading to the people who voted at Town Meeting.

Mr. Andrade said this is the first time he is seeing this presentation.

Mr. Petronio said it is good that it is a multi-use field.

Mr. Prew said the committee met with coaches in order to get input. He said Mr. Pozzi was not consulted.

Mr. Huntress explained the maintenance cost is \$7,500 per year. He recommended an independent third-party testing firm. The field has a ten-year warranty. There is a chalk pad which protects against concussions.. It has a 25-year warranty.

In response to Mr. Andrade's question, Mr. Huntress had a cost estimate he shared with the Finance Committee.

Mr. Cadime questioned when the carpet needs to be replaced. He asked about lighting.

Mr. Huntress said the cost to replace carpeting is \$450,000. Five LED lights will go on the poles and foundation in place now.

Dr. Drolet said the project could have been over \$4M. The building committee decided against the bleachers and lighting poles to keep the cost under \$3M. He said the School Department would be willing to contribute when it is time to replace the turf in 10 to 15 years from now.

In response to Chairman Sullivan's question, Mr. Huntress said there is a lot of value doing the turf field and the track together. When they evaluated the existing track, it is 20 years old and asphalt is shrinking and cracking. There is a tremendous amount of savings in doing it all together.

Mr. Petronio asked if the \$450,000 replacement in fifteen years is in today's dollars.

Dr. Drolet said the plan is to rent out the field. He said, if approved, it could be done within a year.

Mr. Andrade said he is a proponent of the project but there are a lot of issues. The Board should have seen the presentation sooner.

Chairman Sullivan is it is possible to make a recommendation on Town Meeting floor.

Mr. Cadime said this field is not involved with Parks & Recreation. It will be controlled by the School Department and School Committee.

Mr. Zorra noted people sitting in the lower stands cannot see over people who stand there.

Mr. Huntress said they are trying to be cost effective.

Mr. Zorra agreed that the fields should be rented when not in use by schools.

Chairman Sullivan requested that the presentation and cost estimate be forwarded to the Board for review.

He thanked the Turf Field Building Committee and Huntress Sports for the work they have done.

Mr. Andrade echoed those words. He doesn't want his comments to be perceived as questioning the Committee. He wants more information.

Dr. Drolet noted that the high school football team does not practice on the field and the soccer team plays elsewhere.

Consider Approving the Warrant for Spring Town Meeting

Article 1	Reports of Town Officers or Committees
Article 2	Budget
Article 3	Salaries of Elected Officials
Article 4	Request from Planning Board for Stipend
Article 5	Dog License Receipts
Article 6	EMS Lease Payment
Article 7	Transfer of Funds from Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund
Article 8	Report of the Community Preservation Fund
Article 9	Dispose of Surplus Property
Article 10	Authorize Treasurer to Borrow
Article 11	Transfer Free Cash – Snow and Ice
Article 12	Provisions of Mass. General ByLaw, Chapter 140 Section 139(c)
Article 13	Appropriation of \$1,700,000 for DPW Facility - Modified to \$1.5M OPM and Architectural Design
Article 14	DPW Building Committee
Article 15	Change in ByLaw - Earth Removal
Article 16	Change title to Earth Import
Article 17	New Building for Library
Article 18	Library Building Committee
Article 19	Turf Fields
Article 20	Transfer Three Properties from School Committee to Board of Selectmen
Article 21	Chronic Nuisance Properties (change language)

A motion was made by Mr. Andrade, seconded by Mr. Petronio, and it was unanimously

VOTED To amend language in Chronic Nuisance Bylaw, Section 4:4 as follows:
“If the person responsible fails or refuses to contact the Chief of Police or Designee to discuss and prepare a plan to remediate the issue set forth in warning within a time period prescribed, the Chief of Police or Designee shall issue a notice to declare a nuisance property.”

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye;
Chairman Andrade – Aye.

Article 22 \$250,000 traffic light at Arcade Avenue
Article 23 \$40,100 collective bargaining supervisors
Article 24 \$12 900 collective bargaining clerical
Article 25 Road Acceptance for Woo Drive
Article 26 Zoning Amendments

Mr. Zorra suggested to increase building committees for DPW and library to 8 or 9.

Mr. Cadime said the Board cannot change the library.

Mr. Cadime stated it is difficult to get five members.

Mr. Petronio suggested for the future to have a non-voting member on boards or commissions to serve as clerk.

Mr. Healy suggested to keep at five and interested people should be told what the scope of the committee/board is.

A motion was made by Mr. Petronio, seconded by Mr. Andrade, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Warrant for the Spring Town Meeting.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye;
Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Make Recommendations on Articles for Spring Town Meeting
Assign Warrant Articles for the Board of Selectmen

Article 1 - Mr. Andrade to read.

A motion was made by Mr. Andrade, seconded by Mr. Petronio, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 2 – 2021-2022 budget

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorro – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye;
Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Mr. Alexander will read Article 2.

Mr. Petronio will read Article 3 and Article 4.

A motion was made by Mr. Petronio, seconded by Mr. Zorra, and it was unanimously

VOTED: Not to make a recommendation on Article 4 (Planning Board stipend).

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The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

A motion was made by Mr. Andrade, seconded by Mr. Petronio, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 5.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Mr. Zorra will read Article 5.

A motion was made by Mr. Petronio, seconded by Mr. Andrade, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 6.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Mr. Healy will read Article 6.

A motion was made by Mr. Petronio, seconded by Mr. Healy, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 7 and items contained within.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Mr. Zorra will read.

A motion was made by Mr. Petronio, seconded by Mr. Healy, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 8.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Mr. John Alves to read.

A motion was made by Mr. Petronio, seconded by Mr. Zorra, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 9.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Mr. Petronio will read.

A motion was made by Mr. Petronio, seconded by Mr. Zorra, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 10.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Chairman Sullivan will read Articles 10 and 11.

A motion was made by Mr. Petronio, seconded by Mr. Andrade, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 11.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

A motion was made by Mr. Petronio, seconded by Mr. Andrade, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 12.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Mr. Zorra will read.

A motion was made by Mr. Healy, seconded by Mr. Petronio, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 13 as amended.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Mr. Healy will read.

A motion was made by Mr. Petronio, seconded by Mr. Healy, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 14.

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The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye;
Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Mr. Petronio will read.

A motion was made by Mr. Andrade, seconded by Mr. Petronio, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 15.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye;
Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Mr. Andrade to read.

A motion was made by Mr. Zorra, seconded by Mr. Petronio, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 16.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye;
Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Chairman Sullivan to read.

A motion was made by Mr. Andrade, seconded by Chairman Sullivan, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To not recommend Article 17.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye;
Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Article 17 and 18 to be presented by the Library Board of Trustees.

This is the Article regarding the new library. Board members agreed this is not the right time.
The Finance Committee also not recommending at this time.

A motion was made by Mr. Andrade, seconded by Mr. Petronio, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To not recommend Article 18.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye;
Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

A motion was made by Chairman Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Andrade, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To make recommendation on Article 19 on Town Meeting floor.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye;
Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Chairman Sullivan will read.

There will be further discussion at the next Board meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Petronio, seconded by Mr. Andrade, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 20.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye;
Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Mr. Petronio will read.

A motion was made by Mr. Healy, seconded by Mr. Petronio, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 21 as amended.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye;
Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Mr. Healy will read.

A motion was made by Mr. Andrade, seconded by Mr. Petronio, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 22.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye;
Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Mr. Andrade will read.

A motion was made by Mr. Healy, seconded by Mr. Andrade, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 23.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye;
Chairman Sullivan.

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Mr. Andrade will recommend.

A motion was made by Mr. Petronio, seconded by Mr. Andrade, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 24.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Mr. Healy will read.

A motion was made by Mr. Andrade, seconded by Mr. Petronio, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 25.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Mr. Andrade will read.

A motion was made by Mr. Healy, seconded by Mr. Petronio, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To recommend Article 26.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Andrade – Aye.

Town Planner John Aubin III will present.

COMMUNITY SPEAKS – None.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – None.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Bristol County Advisory Board – None.

Aitken School Expansion Building Committee Report

Mr. Zorra reported the trailer should be off the property soon and landscaping will begin. There will be an open house sometime in June.

Mr. Petronio asked if there were resignations in writing from the two members of the Veterans Council that resigned. He noted the Veterans Agent has received talent bank forms.

Mr. Cadime was not sure. If so, he will meet with them and they will be appointed at the next meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION


At 7:41 p.m., Mr. Andrade motioned, seconded by Mr. Petronio, to go into Executive Session to act under authority of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 22(f) and Section 22(g) to review and approve executive session minutes of January 8, 2020, January 22, 2020, February 5, 2020, March 4, 2020, April 15, 2020, April 29, 2020, May 13, 2020, May 27, 2020, June 29, 2020, July 22, 2020, August 5, 2020, August 19, 2020, August 27, 2020, September 2, 2020, September 16, 2020, September 23, 2020, September 30, 2020, October 14, 2020, October 21, 2020, October 28, 2020, December 2, 2020 and December 16, 2020 pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 20A, Section 21(a)(7); not to return to open session.

The vote: Mr. Healy – Aye; Mr. Petronio – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Sullivan – Aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Petronio, Clerk

Prepared by:


Patricia Gamer, Secretary

Items Distributed at the April 21, 2021 Board of Selectmen Meeting

Letter of resignation from Krystal Dos Santos as senior secretary with Planning Board and ZBA

Documents for Palmer River Road

Warrant for Spring Town Meeting