

**Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Select Board  
Friday, March 25, 2022  
Remote Online Meeting (833 2793 0196)  
Called to Order at 3:05 p.m.**

Remotely participating were Board members, Chair, Harvey Boshart, Christopher Houston, and Laurie Bent. Also present were Town Manager Leon A. Gaumond, Jr., Assistant Town Manager/Human Resources Director Lisa Yanakakis.

Mr. Boshart called the meeting to order and read the following:

*Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order concerning imposition on strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, meetings in the Town of Weston will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. We will strive to provide access to such meetings via a link to call in, or other similar option. In the event we are unable to accommodate the same, despite best efforts, we will post recorded sessions of the meeting as soon as possible following the same. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceeding.*

**Executive Session pursuant to: (6) G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(6) to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property located at 135 North Avenue. A vote regarding whether to go into executive session is expected; and votes may occur during the executive session. The Board will return to open session after the executive session.**

**MOTION:** Mr. Boshart moved to proceed into Executive Session at 3:07 p.m.. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bent. **Roll call vote:** Mr. Boshart, Mr. Houston, and Ms. Bent voted in the affirmative. **Approved unanimously.**

Mr. Boshart resumed the Select Board meeting regular session at 3:30 p.m. after concluding executive session.

**Resident Comment:** None.

**Approve FY23 Budget**

Mr. Gaumond stated that the Finance Committee on March 24, 2022 approved the FY23 Operating Budget as presented by the Town Manager.

**MOTION:** Ms. Bent moved to approve the FY23 Operating Budget. The motion was seconded by Mr. Houston. **Roll call vote:** Mr. Boshart, Mr. Houston, and Ms. Bent voted in the affirmative. **Approved unanimously.**

**Approve Annual Town Meeting Warrant**

Mr. Boshart noted the importance of the order of the warrant articles. Mr. Houston suggested to have the non-consent CPC articles last in the warrant. The Select Board agreed to have the Housing Trust CPC article be the first of the non-consent CPC items.

Mr. Gaumond reviewed the warrant articles in the order to determine Select Board approval. Mr. Houston stated that he would like to add an additional article regarding the property at 55 Church Street. Mr.

Houston stated that there may be opportunities to rehabilitate the property. Mr. Houston talked to Town Counsel a few hours earlier, he noted that there may be a need for the Town to be nimble to rehabilitate the property. Mr. Houston recommended adding the 55 Church Street article to the Consent Agenda. Members of the Select Board agreed.

### **Consider Taking Positions on Any Articles & Discuss Warrant Article Assignments for Presentation Purposes**

Mr. Boshart agreed to present the FY23 Operating Budget. Mr. Houston agreed to present the Consent Agenda articles.

Mr. Houston recommended that the Septic Repair Program be placed as the last article on the warrant. The Select Board agreed. Mr. Gaumont outreached to the Board of Health and the resident, he did not hear from the interested parties. The Select Board agreed to not take a position regarding the Septic Replacement Program.

Mr. Houston suggested that the Select Board oppose the Change Structure of the Select Board article on the basis that a significant change in governmental structure should not be done in an ad-hoc Citizens' Petition, but should be pursuant to a broader governmental study of the structure of the Town. Mr. Houston suggested that the Select Board support the Government Study Committee warrant article. Mr. Houston volunteered to present the article of the Government Study Committee. Mr. Boshart suggested that the Citizens' Petition be placed after the Government Study Committee warrant article. Members of the Select Board agreed with the placement of the articles, support the Government Study Committee, and to oppose the Citizens' Petition.

Mr. Houston agreed to present the Highland Intersection Improvements, he noted that the substantive presentation would be from Traffic & Sidewalk Committee.

Mr. Gaumont stated that Recreation Master Plan Committee agreed to have the Pickleball Design Fees article on the Town Meeting warrant. Mr. Houston noted that a Special Town Meeting could occur in the fall and that the Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee could potentially pass over the Pickleball article at Town Meeting if they decide. The Select Board decided to not take a position regarding the Pickleball article.

The Select Board agreed to support the Water Tank appropriation and the related Municipal Utility Structures bylaw change. Ms. Bent agreed to present both articles.

Mr. Boshart agreed to present the Public Tree Maintenance Plan.

Ms. Bent described two look-back periods regarding the Private Tree bylaw. Ms. Bent described a tree survival period and two years post-construction. Mr. Boshart asked what would be the enforcement regarding the two look-back periods. Ms. Bent stated that enforcement may be challenging. Ms. Bent stated that there are exceptions to the tree bylaw. Ms. Bent stated that there may be an ad-hoc committee regarding enforcement. Imaikalani Aiu, Town Planner noted that the look-back period is a deterrent. Mr. Boshart stated that if the bylaw is approved at Town Meeting, there should be a review of the bylaw outcomes in the future to determine effectiveness. Ms. Bent noted that the term "substantially demolished" was replaced with "totally demolished". Ms. Bent noted that the bylaw only effects setbacks on a property. Ms. Bent stated that Lori Hess, Chair of Tree Advisory Group, Planning Board member, will present the Private Tree bylaw.

**MOTION:** Mr. Houston moved the 2022 Warrant as amended subject to remaining clerical or non-substantive changes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bent. **Roll call vote:** Mr. Boshart, Mr. Houston, and Ms. Bent voted in the affirmative. **Approved unanimously.**

#### **Approve Debt Exclusion Question(s) for Town Election Ballot**

**MOTION:** Ms. Bent moved to send the language to the Town Clerk's Office to prepare the election ballot. The motion was seconded by Mr. Houston. **Roll call vote:** Mr. Boshart, Mr. Houston, and Ms. Bent voted in the affirmative. **Approved unanimously.**

#### **Appoint Weston Police Chief**

Mr. Boshart stated that Chief Dennis Linehan and Deputy Chief Mark Ullucci were interviewed by the Select Board on March 23, 2022. Mr. Boshart noted that both candidates were impressive. Mr. Boshart thanked the Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager and Ms. Bent for their efforts in the interview process.

Ms. Bent noted that her choice for the next Weston Police Chief is Chief Linehan. Mr. Houston and Mr. Boshart concurred. Mr. Boshart noted that both candidates did extensive research for the position. Mr. Houston noted that he felt his choice would be the best fit for the Department presently.

Ms. Yanakakis noted that there were no comments from members of the public.

**MOTION:** Ms. Bent moved to appoint Dennis Linehan as Police Chief, contingent upon favorable outcomes of physical and psychological evaluations and a background check as well as a mutually acceptable negotiated contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Houston. **Roll call vote:** Mr. Boshart, Mr. Houston, and Ms. Bent voted in the affirmative. **Approved unanimously.**

#### **Consent Agenda**

**MOTION:** Ms. Bent moved the Consent Agenda as follows:

Accept gift of \$100.00 from Dana Callow & Becky Callow to the Council on Aging.

Accept gift of \$74,688.00 from Mary Avanto Trust to the Dana W. Carter Memorial Scholarship Fund.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Houston

**Roll call vote:** Mr. Boshart, Mr. Houston, and Ms. Bent voted in the affirmative. **Approved unanimously.**

**MOTION:** Mr. Houston moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bent. **Roll call vote:** Mr. Boshart, Mr. Houston, and Ms. Bent voted in the affirmative. **Approved unanimously.**

**The regular meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.**

---

Christopher E. Houston  
Clerk

*Note: A copy of all documents, explanatory material, and exhibits presented to and used by the Select Board as part of this meeting are attached to the approved minutes*