

Select Board

February 21, 2022

Present:

- Select Board: Mr. Bill Ramsey, Chair and Mr. Joe Fisher
- Mr. Tom Mayo, Town Administrator
- Ms. Michelle Monsegur, Assistant Town Administrator for Finance

6:00 PM: Call to order

Mr. Ramsey called the meeting to order and read the following statement:

“This meeting is being held remotely as an alternate means of public access pursuant to an Order issued by the Governor of Massachusetts dated March 12, 2020 Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law. You are hereby advised that this meeting and all communications during this meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. If any participant wishes to record this meeting, please notify the chair at the start of the meeting in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20(f) so that the chair may inform all other participants of said recording. “
No one indicated that they were recording.

He announced that Select Board members participating in the meeting were himself, Bill Ramsey, and Mr. Joe Fisher who was participating remotely. Ms. Liz Klein was unable to attend. The meeting was conducted both in person and remotely via Zoom.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to approve the minutes dated February 14, 2023. Ms. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Fisher: yes

Mr. Ramsey: yes

WASTEQUIP Manufacturing Company LLC

Mr. Matt Cahill, Assistant Superintendent, and Mr. Steve Messinger, both of the DPW, and Ms. Kathy Reilly, Procurement and Contracts Manager, were present. Mr. Cahill explained that they plan to procure a new trash compactor as a replacement of one at the Transfer Station. Mr. Messinger noted that the current compactor has been in service for more than twenty years and they hope that the new machine will have the same longevity. Ms. Reilly was happy to find this on the State contract that is managed by the Department of Environmental Protection, which meant that they could purchase the trash compactor quickly. Mr. Cahill added that the long-term plan is to replace all of the trash compactors, but they plan to move two of them to the paper recycling area to get more use out of them. These items have been on their Capital list for several years and they hope to replace the remaining three over the next several years. Ms. Reilly expects the compactor to be delivered by the end of the fiscal year. It will come with a three-year warranty. Mr. Messinger also explained how the old compactor would be recycled when disposed of.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Agreement with WASTEQUIP Manufacturing Company LLC for a Trash Compactor and related equipment for the Department of Public Works in an amount not to exceed \$64,520.00. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Fisher: yes

Mr. Ramsey: yes

2023 Annual Town Meeting Warrant Article Discussion

Article E: Salaries of Town Officers

Ms. Monsecur explained that this is a perennial article and that Hingham is required by Massachusetts General Law to have Town Meeting set the salaries of elected officials. The amounts of the salaries have not changed in a long time. She explained that Select Board members are paid a stipend of \$2,000, with the Chair receiving \$2,500. Light Board members receive a much smaller amount, around \$200 each. The Board of Assessors also receive a stipend as well. The one elected official that is treated more like a regular employee is the Town Clerk. Her salary is set as part of the Town's Wage and Classification Plan.

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to recommend favorable action on Article E. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Fisher: yes

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Article BB: Climate Action Implementation

Mr. Brad Moyer of the Energy Action Committee, 36 Wanders Drive, presented. He explained that the charge of the Energy Action Committee states that the Committee has completed its work when the Climate Action plan has been finalized, which he anticipated would happen between the end of March and Early May 2022. Mr. Moyer reported that there are approximately 130 recommendations within the plan that require evaluation and implementation. Various groups throughout Town would take these recommendations and move forward with them, not unlike what might be seen in a Master Plan. They recommended that there be a successor committee to the Climate Action Planning Committee to continue to involve existing committees and citizens at large to provide a level of oversight and a continued refreshing of the plan. The article in question is the recommendation for such a committee. This committee would be very similar to the existing Climate Action Planning Committee, with the added role for the Sustainability Coordinator as a consultant. Additionally, existing members of the committee who would have responsibilities under the plan, such as HMLP and the School Committee, would be ex-officio members, not voting members. Mr. Moyer felt that this would provide a good level of oversight. The committee would primarily be made up of existing members, with members also appointed by the Select Board and the Town Moderator. Mr. Fisher asked if the Sustainability Coordinator was an employee of the Town. Mr. Mayo clarified that, as of now, that role is a contract position, but it is being proposed as a town employee as part of the FY24b budget. There was some additional discussion on whether non-residents could sit on that committee, as a body set up by Town Meeting. Mr. Mayo would follow up on that and noted that it could be incorporated into a

recommendation by the Advisory Committee. Mr. Ramsey felt comfortable proceeding with a vote since the Fire and Police Chiefs have been non-voting members of building committees in the past. Mr. Fisher agreed.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to recommend favorable action on Article BB. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Fisher: yes

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Appointments (for a list of Talent Bank Applicants, please visit Hingham-ma.gov/SB)

There were no appointments.

Public Comment

“The Hingham Select Board encourages community engagement and welcomes questions and comments as agenda items are discussed at the meeting. In addition, we have set aside up to fifteen minutes for public comment for items that fall under the purview of the Select Board and are not already on tonight’s agenda. If any guests wish to speak, please seek to be recognized. Once recognized, state your name and address and address your comments to the Chair. Comments will be limited to three minutes per speaker and must relate to topics within the scope of the responsibilities of the Select Board. Speakers are encouraged to present their remarks in a respectful manner and not to indulge in personalities. The Public Comment period is not a time for debate by members of the Select Board. The Select Board is not adopting or endorsing any of the comments made during the Public Comment period.”

There were no comments.

Town Administrator/Select Board Reports

There were no reports this evening.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Fisher: yes

Mr. Ramsey: yes

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM.

Documents: A complete meeting packet of supporting documentation is on file and available for public review in the Select Board office