

Select Board

May 16, 2023

Present:

- Select Board: Mr. Bill Ramsey, Chair, Ms. Liz Klein, and Mr. Joseph Fisher
- Ms. Michelle Monsegur, Assistant Town Administrator for Finance
- Mr. Art Robert, Assistant Town Administrator for Operations

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 Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023 and all other applicable laws temporarily amending 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.

She announced that Select Board members participating in the meeting were herself, Liz Klein, Chair, Bill Ramsey, and Mr. Joseph Fisher.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to approve the minutes dated April 26, 2023. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to approve the minutes dated May 2, 2023. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Battle of Grape Island Day Proclamation

Ms. Klein explained that all residents are invited to watch the “Battle of Grape Island” reenactment this coming Sunday, May 21 from 1:00 pm to 3:00pm near the Bandstand at Hingham Harbor. Chair Klein noted that the Select Board plans to read the Grape Island Day Proclamation at the event.

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to proclaim Sunday, May 21, 2023 as Grape Island Day in the Town of Hingham. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Maddie's Promise Proclamation

Chair Klein explained that this proclamation declares May 23, 2023 as Maddie's Promise Day in Hingham. This day honors Maddie McCoy's way of life and her promise to help other children diagnosed with rare cancers. Maddie's Promise is a non-profit organization that was started in memory of Hingham resident Madeline "Maddie" McCoy in 2019 in order to raise money for pediatric cancer.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to proclaim Tuesday, May 23, 2023 as Maddie's Promise Day in the Town of Hingham. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Ms. Klein announced that the Maddie's Promise Gala will take place on Friday, May 19. Tickets are still available.

Special One Day license: Springham

Mr. Rich DiBona of Vitamin Sea Brewing was present. He explained that the event, "Springham," will take place at the Hingham Heritage Museum on Saturday, May 20 from 3:00-7:00pm. It is a family-friendly event with live music, family activities, a biergarten, food, and a chance for people to visit the newly-renovated Visitors Center and Museum shop. A Police detail should be set up within two days before the event. Chair Klein and Mr. Ramsey noted that they were both familiar with the event. There is no rain date scheduled for this event.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to approve the issuance of a Special (One-Day) Wine and Malt Beverages license to Vitamin Sea Brewing for Springham to be held at Hingham Heritage Museum on Saturday, May 20, 2023 from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Special One Day license: Summerfest

Mr. Tom Pyles, 727 Main Street, represented St. John the Evangelist Parish. He requested a Special One-Day License to serve wine and malt beverages at their annual "Summerfest" event on Saturday, June 11, 2023. The event commemorates the year-end program at the church. They plan to hold a service,

followed by music, kids' games, and the serving of adult beverages. He reported that they usually have a turnout of approximately 120 guests. He noted that a police detail has been ordered.

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to approve the issuance of a Special (One-Day) Wine and Malt Beverages license to St. John the Evangelist Parish for Summerfest 2023 to be held on Sunday, June 11, 2023 with a rain date of Sunday, June 18, 2023 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Special One Day license: Stellwagon Beer Company

Mr. Mike Snowdale of Stellwagon Beer Company requested approval of three Special One-Day Wine and Malt Beverage licenses to pour alcohol at three of Weir River Farm's Sunset Picnics this summer. This is their third year participating in the Sunset Picnics. He said that the Weir River Farm provides music and a food truck. Other breweries participate as well. All servers will be TIPS certified and a Police detail is also planned. The Sunset Picnics are planned for Thursday nights in the summer. Mr. Snowdale expected between 100-200 guests, though attendance would be weather-dependent.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to approve the issuance of three Special (One-Day) Wine and Malt Beverages licenses to Stellwagon Beer Company for the Weir River Farm's Sunset Picnics to be held on Saturday, June 22, 2023 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, August 24, 2023 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm, and August 31, 2023 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Appointment of Assistant Harbormasters (Potential candidates: Bradford Betzner, Michael Nash, Cameron Lumbard, Charlie Sichel, and James Tian)

Harbormaster, Ken Corson, explained that the Harbormaster's Office consists of himself, a full-time Head Assistant Harbormaster and various Assistant Harbormasters that are part-time seasonal employees. They work at the discretion of the Harbormaster, when needed, doing a variety of tasks at the harbor. The number of hours they work is based upon the funding available to the Harbormaster's Office. He requested approval for the reappointment of two individuals and the first-time appointment of three other individuals. Those up for reappointment have significant experience in the Assistant Harbormaster position. This will be their fourth year in the position. While they are not Police Officers, they have the ability to perform search and rescue operations and to assist boaters. Charlie Sichel and Cameron Lumbard will be Harbor Attendants and will be learning the operations of the department, including pump-outs. James Tian is currently a Special Police Officer for the Town of Hingham and will have the added ability to conduct arrests and other law enforcement capabilities. Mr. Corson expects a

busy season and expects to possibility hire an additional Assistant Harbormaster. Mr. Fisher commented that one of the new appointments is a minor and asked if Mr. Corson had ever appointed a minor before. Mr. Corson noted that he has appointed a minor before and that he takes into account the individual's boating experience and their knowledge of the harbor. He said that Charlie Sichol has a Commercial Fishing License and a vast knowledge of boats at a young age. He will be supervised while on the water and his parents have given consent. The hiring of these individuals is covered by the Harbormaster's budget.

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to reappoint Bradford Betzner and Michael Nash as part-time Assistant Harbormasters for the Town of Hingham for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to appoint Cameron Lumbard, Charlie Sichol and James Tian as part-time Assistant Harbormasters for the Town of Hingham for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Agreement with Steamboat Wharf Marina Services, Inc. for a Harbormaster Marine 1 Navigation Electronics replacement

Harbormaster Ken Corson and Ms. Kathy Reilly, Procurement and Contracts Manager, were present. Ms. Reilly explained that they went through a procurement process and Steamboat Wharf Marina Services was the only vendor to respond. Mr. Corson and Ms. Reilly confirmed that their bid covered all the necessary criteria. Mr. Corson expected the work to take about one week. Ms. Klein asked for more information regarding the funding. Mr. Corson said that they apply for an annual security support grant from Homeland Security. This agreement is for the replacement of navigational equipment for their boat, Marine 1, which was purchased back in 2011. Equipment to be replaced includes GPS, radar and other navigational equipment. Three-quarters of the cost of will be funded by the Homeland Security grant and one quarter of the cost will come from the Harbormaster's FY23 Capital budget. Ms. Reilly felt comfortable with the price and felt that it was very close to the estimate. Mr. Corson said that the Town has a good working relationship with the vendor. Mr. Fisher suggested that it would be a good idea to have a warranty in place. Mr. Corson was happy to look into that. Mr. Corson felt that they have gotten a good deal of use out of the current equipment and that it was time for it to be replaced.

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Agreement with Steamboat Wharf Marina Services, Inc. for Harbormaster Marine 1 Navigation Electronics replacement in an amount not to exceed \$52,209.78. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Agreement with Mag Retail Holdings - FED, LLC D/B/A McGovern Municipal HQ

Ms. Kathy Reilly, Procurement and Contracts Manager, and Fire Chief Steve Murphy were present. Ms. Reilly requested that the Select Board authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Agreement with Mag Retail Holdings - FED, LLC d/b/a McGovern Municipal HQ for a 2023 Ford Explorer Limited Hybrid 4WD vehicle to be used by the Fire Department. She advised that the procurement for this vehicle was done through the Greater Boston Police Council Contracts which is managed by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC). Chief Murphy stated that the vehicle would replace his vehicle, a Chevrolet Tahoe, and that the Ford Explorer was the only brand that offered a hybrid model. They were very fortunate to find this vehicle since Police and Fire Departments have been having much difficulty and delays in obtaining new vehicles as of late. They will not pay for or receive the new vehicle until July 1, 2023. The new vehicle does not come with any upgrades needed by the Fire Department, such as lights and radios. It will be brought to an outfitter after July 1 to have those items added. The Fire Department has set aside a total of \$70,000 for the entire outfitted vehicle. Chief Murphy had no concerns about staying within their budget.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Agreement with Mag Retail Holdings - FED, LLC D/B/A McGovern Municipal HQ for a 2023 Ford Explorer Limited Hybrid 4WD vehicle to be used by the Fire Department in an amount not to exceed \$51,003.00. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Agreement with TL Edwards, Inc.

Mr. J.R. Frey, Town Engineer, and Ms. Kathy Reilly were present. Mr. Frey explained that this contract was procured through the MAPC and would cover the majority of Hingham's typical roadway construction. The contract, in the amount of \$450,000, will primarily cover applying new asphalt on select roads. The vendor has had Hingham's roadwork contract for the last three years. Mr. Frey reported that they do very good work. The project is budgeted through Chapter 90 State funds. Mr. Frey added that they have funds remaining from previous years, which they will also be able to use. They plan to start work to begin in late June. All of Teal and Edwards' work should be complete by

September/October. Mr. Frey explained that the price of asphalt directly correlates with the price of oil, which explains the price increase between this contract and their last one. He also noted that this contract represents about 95% or more of the Town's total asphalt purchase in any given year. While the total cost written into the contract is \$450,000, Mr. Frey expects the total cost of the work to be closer to \$400,000. In addition to this contract, the Town also has contracted with Mass. Pavement Reclamation to do road reclamation, sidewalk upgrades, and most of the prep work to get roads ready for new asphalt.

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Agreement with TL Edwards, Inc. for roadway management work in an amount not to exceed \$450,000.00 for a term ending December 31, 2023. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: 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 from the public.

Town Administrator/Select Board Reports

Mr. Robert said that the latest American Red Cross blood drive took place at the Hingham Senior Center today. With 32 registered appointments and several walk-ins, the event was a success.

Mr. Robert also shared that on Friday, May 19, from 8:30am – 11:00am, the group Hingham Cares will be hosting an event at the Sanborn Auditorium at Town Hall. The event, called "Tall Cop," will be a presentation that aims to help parents and others address substance abuse and to share some of the latest strategies that are being used to help family members and others.

Ms. Monsegur reported that, in the next few weeks, the Town anticipates receiving about \$1.3M in FEMA reimbursements, thanks to the efforts of Fire Chief Steve Murphy, Police Chief Davis Jones, and Deputy Police Chief Ryan O’Shea. These reimbursements will cover costs the Town incurred due to Police and Fire overtime during the Covid pandemic in 2020 and 2021. She thanked the chiefs for their painstaking efforts to secure this funding for the Town.

Ms. Klein reported that the Weir River Water System was presented with an award at the State House last week for being the top municipal water system in the state. She attended a luncheon that was held for the employees after the ceremony.

Ms. Klein also reported that yesterday was Peace Officers Memorial Day. The Town held a ceremony, organized by Mr. Keith Jermyn and the Veterans Council.

She also reminded the public that Talent Bank applications are due June 2nd for volunteer positions on various Town boards and committees. The Select Board plans to hold interviews for volunteer positions during the weeks of June 5th and June 12th. A list of vacancies is available on the Town website at <https://www.hingham-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/12343/Talent-Bank-Vacancies-Reappointments-and-Applicants---May-16-2023>. Ms. Klein encouraged residents to take a look at the vacant positions and to send in Talent Bank forms.

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

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

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