

Select Board

June 6, 2023

Present:

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

Call to order: 6:00 PM

Chair Klein 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.

Select Board members participating in the meeting were Liz Klein, Chair, Bill Ramsey, and Joseph Fisher.

Executive Session under MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(6) to discuss potential acquisition of real estate

Declaration by Chair Klein: “Before I entertain a motion to go into executive session under item 2 of the agenda, I hereby declare that discussion of this agenda item in an open session may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Town.”

Motion to enter executive session: Mr. Fisher made a motion to enter Executive Session under MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(6) to discuss potential acquisition of real estate. The Board will reconvene in Open Session after the Executive Session. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Return to Open Session: 6:56 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to approve the minutes dated May 23, 2023. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Proclamation

Jennifer Young, Director of Elder Services, requested that the Select Board recognize World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15. This day was launched in 2006 by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization at the United Nations. The purpose is to raise awareness of elder abuse and neglect throughout the world. The members of the Select Board read a proclamation in honor of World Elder Abuse Day.

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to proclaim Thursday, June 15, 2023 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Special (One-Day) Wine and Malt Beverages Licenses: Untold Brewing for “The Green at Derby Street Shops - Summer Community Beer Garden”

Mike Dyer, 156 Union Street, from Untold Brewing requested approval of 25 Special One-Day wine and malt beverage licenses for their “Summer Community Beer Garden” to be held on the Green at the Derby Street Shoppes on various days throughout the summer. In the event of inclement weather, they have requested the ability to cancel specific dates and to reschedule them at a later date. This is the third year that Untold Brewing has operated the outdoor beer garden. Police Chief Jones has reviewed and approved the request.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to approve the issuance of twenty-five (25) Special (One-Day) Wine and Malt Beverages licenses to Untold Brewing for a series of events known as “The Green at Derby Street Shops – A Summer Community Beer Garden,” to be held on select Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays beginning on June 9, 2023 and ending on October 28, 2023, as outlined in the letter dated May 16, 2023. The hours of the events shall be limited to 11:00 am to 8:00 pm, and such licenses shall be further subject to the following conditions:

- **The event location is shown as the “The Green” located between REI and Kohls at The Derby Street Shops, which space is approved for use for community events by the Modified Special Permit issued by the Zoning Board of Appeals, dated August 20, 2020, issued to WSM Hingham Properties, LLC, and shown on the Restricted Use Area Plan, dated March 9, 2020 and approved in connection with the Special Permit.**
- **In order to comply with the Special Permit, the event location shall be modified in order to provide a minimum 6'-wide pathway between the rear and main parking fields.**
- **Access shall be maintained to the fire sprinkler connection on the Kohl's building façade.**
- **All applicable permits shall be obtained from the Board of Health.**

Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Agreement with Preferred Mechanical for Hingham Town Hall HVAC Maintenance and Repair

Jeff Pizzi, Facilities Manager, Horatio Hemmings, Maintenance Department, and Michelle Monsegur, Assistant Town Administrator for Finance, were present. Ms. Monsegur explained that Town Hall has worked with Preferred Mechanical for years, however they notified Mr. Pizzi this year that the price for the Town's preventative maintenance and repair contract would increase significantly. In past years, the price of the contract has been just under \$10,000. In order to make sure that the Town is getting the best price for the services provided, the Town requested bids for these services. Preferred Mechanical came back as the lowest bidder at close to \$18,000. The new contract will include twice per year preventative maintenance. The contract is for 2 years, with an option to extend for a third year. Service calls will be an additional cost.

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Agreement with Preferred Mechanical for Hingham Town Hall HVAC Maintenance and Repair in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 for a term from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025 with an option for the Town to extend for an additional twelve months. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Agreement with Foth Infrastructure and Environment, LLC to provide engineering and consulting services to prepare the Town of Hingham's MEPA Expanded Environmental Notification Form

Town Engineer, J.R. Frey, and Town Counsel, John Coughlin were present. Engineer Frey explained that this contract will enable the Town to move forward with the permitting efforts related to the coastal structures in the inner harbor. The amount for this contract was approved at Town Meeting. Approval of this agreement will bring the Town closer to the construction phase. Foth has a long history (20 years) of successfully working with the Town of Hingham. J.R. Frey will serve as the project manager. Counsel Coughlin noted that the agreement reads identical to the Town Meeting vote. Structures that are contemplated for permitting and design include the Town Pier, Veterans Park Wharf, the Mobile Station Wharf, Barnes Wharf and the seawall from Barnes Wharf to Steamboat Wharf. There is one segment of private seawall that will be permitted through the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) process because it is incorporated into the Town's flood protection efforts.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Agreement with Foth Infrastructure and Environment, LLC to provide engineering and consulting services to prepare

the Town of Hingham's MEPA Expanded Environmental Notification Form in an amount not to exceed. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Agreement with Hill International, Inc. for Constructing Testing and Inspection Services for the Public Safety Facility project

J.R. Frey, Town Engineer, and Bob Garrity of the Public Safety Facility Building Committee were present. J.R. Frey explained that, as part of the project, there will be a significant amount of materials testing that occurs to make sure that the quality and integrity of the materials that are used in the constructing the facility meet all applicable standards. This agreement would allow Hill International to hire a professional testing company to perform all the required testing during the construction phase. Hill International went through a detailed procurement process and received proposals from three qualified testing companies and, ultimately, felt that Briggs was the best choice. Bob Garrity explained that there would be various types of testing throughout the entirety of the construction process.

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Fourth Amendment to Agreement with Hill International, Inc. for Construction Testing and Inspection Services for the Public Safety Facility project in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Discussion and potential vote to establish a speed limit of 25 miles per hour in certain areas inside a thickly settled and/or downtown business district under M.G.L. c. 90, § 17C and Article 25 of the 2022 Town of Hingham Annual Town Meeting

Police Chief David Jones and Sgt. Jeffrey Kilroy attended as representatives of the Traffic Committee. J.R. Frey explained that The Traffic Committee, the Select Board, and the Advisory Committee put forth Article 25 to the 2022 Annual Town Meeting, which allows the Town to give the Select Board the authority to set the speed limit on certain streets to 25 mph. The Traffic Committee has now decided to implement the first phase of this plan. Engineer Frey said that the Traffic Committee is proposing the creation of a downtown safety district that would have a 25 mph limit. A map of the proposed area was shared with the Select Board. Engineer Frey felt that the proposed safety zone would make vehicular and pedestrian travel safer in this congested area of town. Mr. Ramsey thanked the Traffic Committee for moving this forward and asked about enforcement. Chief Jones recommended that signs be placed prior to enforcing the new speed limit. The Chief felt that education would be the best first approach. Mr. Ramsey asked for additional traffic calming measures, such as flashing lights or a traffic island, to be implemented in the near future and asked for an update in 60 days. Engineer Frey noted that the Select

Board only has the authority to set the speed limit on public ways, not on private streets and was happy to provide an update in the near future. Ms. Klein asked how the Traffic Committee is addressing the next steps. Engineer Frey said that they intend to order signage and look into any available grant funding. They will also investigate additional locations in Town that may need lower speed limits. There was some additional discussion about how speeding fines would be doubled in these areas.

Phil Edmonson, 55 Cottage Street, thanked the Traffic Committee, the Police Department and the Select Board for implementing this speed limit change and encouraged a discussion of additional safety measures in the downtown area, citing confusion amongst drivers at several intersections.

Frank and Nancy Mellen, 182 North Street, reminded the Board that their house was hit by a driver two years ago. They voiced their support for the reduced speed limit.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Traffic Committee and establish a speed limit of 25 miles per hour in the following areas of Hingham as described below and on the attached map, titled Section 17C-Downtown Area and dated June 6, 2023, under M.G.L. c. 90, § 17C and Article 25 of the 2022 Town of Hingham Annual Town Meeting.

- Water Street, from the intersection with Summer Street to the property line boundary between parcel 62-0-42 and 41 Water Street;
- Mill Street;
- Station Street;
- North Street, from the intersection with Otis Street and Summer Street, to the property line boundary between 198 and 200 North Street;
- Fearing Road, between North Street and Cottage Street;
- South Street, from the intersection with North Street to the intersection with South Lane;
- Main Street, from the intersection with North Street to the property line boundary between 90 and 100 Main Street;
- Central Street, from the intersection with North Street to the property line boundary between 33 and 37 Central Street;
- Lincoln Street, from the intersection with North Street to the property line boundary between 49 and 53 Lincoln Street.

Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Update on the Hingham Master Plan

Emily Wentworth, Community Planning Director, and Master Plan Committee Chair Gordon Carr were in attendance. Gordon Carr walked the Select Board through their visioning process, various

recommendations of the Master Plan and implementation efforts. Core elements of the Master Plan include:

- Economic Development
- Natural, Open Space and Recreation Resources
- Sustainability, Water and Energy
- Population and Housing
- Historic and Cultural Resources
- Services and Facilities
- Transportation and Circulation

The Goals of the Mast Plan are to:

- Honor town character.
- Protect the environment and prepare for the impacts of climate change.
- Improve safety for all modes of travel and reduce traffic congestion.
- Provide a variety of housing to encourage population diversity and aging in the community.
- Support a vibrant, resilient local economy.
- Provide high quality services the support the health and wellness of resident of all ages.
- Provide public facilities and infrastructure that support the Town's need to manage growth and town services.

The Master Plan includes 7 goals, 37 policies and 134 recommendations. The Select Board is responsible for 65 policy recommendations. A Master Plan Implementation Committee, along with Town staff, will work on carrying out recommendations and policies of the plan. There was some discussion of making updates available to the public. The Select Board members thanked Gordon Carr and Emily Wentworth for their efforts.

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

Ms. Klein reminded residents that the Select Board is still accepting Talent Bank application for openings on various town boards and committees.

Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Town Administrator/Select Board Reports

Mr. Ramsey said that he recently had the pleasure of participating in a Mock Town Meeting conducted by Hingham's third grade students. It was a fun and educational experience where the students got to speak and vote on various Warrant Articles of their own creation.

Mr. Ramsey also announced that Hingham's Janine Suchecki will be recognized on Monday, June 12, 2023 at the Massachusetts State House for work on female veterans' issues throughout the state.

Ms. Klein attended the Hingham High School graduation over the weekend. Congratulations were extended to the Class of 2023.

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

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

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