

# Select Board

June 13, 2023

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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 Ms. Liz Klein, Chair, Mr. Bill Ramsey, and Mr. Joseph Fisher.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

## **Approval of Minutes**

The Select Board decided to approve meeting minutes at their next meeting.

## **Certificate of Recognition for Janine Suchecki for her work with Woman Veterans**

Mr. Ramsey said a few words about the importance of women veterans throughout Hingham’s history and reported that Hingham’s Janine Suchecki was one of the first female veterans of the Navy who graduated from their Sonar course. Mr. Ramsey noted that Janine Suchecki does a great deal of work with female veterans in Hingham and the surrounding communities. On June 12, 2023 Janine was honored at the State House by Governor Healy with a gubernatorial citation for being one of the finalists for the Deborah Sampson award, which is a state-wide award honoring women veterans in Massachusetts. Mr. Ramsey read a citation for Janine, prepared by the Select Board in honor of this great achievement.

## **Juneteenth Proclamation**

The members of the Select Board read a proclamation in honor of the Juneteenth holiday.

**Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to proclaim June 19, 2023 as Juneteenth Independence Day in the Town of Hingham. Mr. Ramsey seconded.**

## **Roll Call Vote:**

**Bill Ramsey: yes**

**Joe Fisher: yes**

**Liz Klein: yes**

**Extension of the Intermunicipal Agreement for Cooperative Recycling on the South Shore**

Randy Sylvester, DPW Superintendent, sought approval for an extension to the agreement for cooperative recycling. Eighteen South Shore towns participate in the reciprocal agreement, with the primary goal of enhancing the Town's purchasing power in the area of recycling. Under this agreement, the Town has the ability to join into agreements with these other towns, should they be advantageous to Hingham. The annual fee for the 5-year agreement is approximately \$4,000. Randy Sylvester said that this agreement has been financially advantageous for Hingham, especially through the Household Hazardous Waste Day. Hingham has been part of the cooperative since 1998.

**Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to authorize the Chair to sign the Extension to the Intermunicipal Agreement for Cooperative Recycling on the South Shore for a five-year term commencing on July 1, 2023 in the form attached hereto. Mr. Fisher seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Bill Ramsey: yes**

**Joe Fisher: yes**

**Liz Klein: yes**

Randy Sylvester notified the Select Board that the Transfer Station disposal fees that the Select Board approved last year would need to be increased soon because the cost to the Town has increased tremendously with the current inflation. Superintendent Sylvester said that he would prepare a cost analysis on the topic, which he would present to the Select Board soon.

**Discussion of Draft Naming By-law Policy**

Phil Edmundson, Chair, reconvened the meeting of the Naming By-law Committee at 6:19 pm. Also present were committee members Wendy Ellison and Victor Baltera. Chair Edmundson thanked the Select Board for their support for the efforts of the Committee. One condition of the Town Meeting Article was that the Select Board must approve a new Naming By-law policy and so the Committee is seeking input from the board on the draft policy that they have written. Ms. Klein asked for a summary of the policy and noted that the Board feels that this will become a key part of the town's fiscal strategy moving forward. Chair Edmundson explained that the Committee performed extensive research on how Hingham's benchmark towns have approached the issue of Naming, but also looked beyond that to other towns in the Commonwealth. Among the towns, there were extremely differing approaches to the naming of public buildings. The goal of the committee was to come up with a policy that was somewhere in the middle of these varied approaches. One of the most sensitive areas was the role of commercial institutions in naming buildings. The committee members highlighted that, while some naming for commercial entities seemed inappropriate, they wanted to leave it somewhat open to local Hingham businesses, especially when the naming has to do with sports teams. Chair Edmundson felt that the approval of naming for commercial entities should always be reviewed by Town Counsel. Chair Klein asked about the re-naming of buildings. Chair Edmundson noted that it is addressed in the by-law. Victor Baltera suggested that, if a building does get named for a person, the Town could decide to enter

into a naming agreement, which could include morality agreements, a naming time frame, or other related clauses. The committee felt that each situation should be approached on a case-by-case basis and reviewed by Town Counsel. Chair Edmundson noted that the creation of a policy is meant to assure some sense of consistency. The committee members explained some of the outreach that took place and the some of the comments they received from the public and organizations. The majority of the comments were in favor of making the by-law less restrictive. During their discussions the committee took into account that naming can be an emotional issue for some people. They feel that the draft by-law emphasizes for residents to be mindful of naming when considering different projects. There was some discussion on how naming relates in youth sports. Chair Klein said that the expectation of the Board is that, once the Naming By-law is approved by the Select Board, other boards and committees would adopt it as well.

The meeting of the Naming By-law Committee adjourned at 6:45 PM.

### **Select Board Goals and Objectives**

Ms. Klein reminded the public of the FY24 Select Board goals. Mr. Fisher suggested an additional goal of tracking the status of the MOU between the Town and the Schools. Ms. Klein suggested that the Select Board should have quarterly meetings as a way to keep on track and to manage progression. Mr. Fisher and Mr. Ramsey felt that it would be important to include a goal that would identify a single point of contact for the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor permitting offices, which would disseminate information to all departments who are involved in certain large projects. Mr. Fisher felt that the implementation of a single point of contact could be a way to be responsive to residents and those who are working on projects. Mr. Ramsey suggested adding traffic calming measures to their goals. Mr. Fisher also suggested adding a quarterly review of their goals and progress. Ramsey suggested looking at a way to track resident requests, similar to the DPW's tracking method. Tom Mayo commented that he was familiar with an app called Commonwealth Connect and was interested in learning if it could be of help to Hingham.

**Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to adopt the FY24 Select Board Goals and Objectives as presented. Mr. Ramsey seconded.**

### **Roll Call Vote:**

**Bill Ramsey: yes**

**Joe Fisher: yes**

**Liz Klein: yes**

### **Authorize the Town Administrator to review and approve Special One-Day liquor licenses.**

Tom Mayo explained that the Select Board receives many One-Day liquor licenses to be approved by the Select Board. In an effort to streamline the process and free-up the Select Board members' time, it was proposed that authority to approve these requests could be given to the Town Administrator. Town Administrator Mayo suggested that a checklist be implemented to assure the applicants have submitted all the proper paperwork. Mr. Ramsey commented that the Board rarely receives questions or comments on the One-Day liquor licenses, but he suggested that large events, such as tier 1 events at World's End, events that require a large police or fire presence or those with 200+ guests, be reviewed,

discussed, and approved by the Select Board. The Board also discussed the idea of public awareness of the events. Chair Klein felt that the implementation of an Administrative approval by the Town Administrator would improve efficiency for the applicants and the Board members. It was suggested that the Town Administrator's Office could publicly post a list of approved licenses on the Town website. There was some additional discussion regarding requests for licenses for events that have had past issues, those events that are denied by the Town Administrator and the possibility of appealing to the Select Board. It was determined that the Town Administrator would have the discretion to deny an application or to submit it to the Select Board for any reason.

**Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion that the Select Board, pursuant to Section 2(c) of Chapter 263 of the Acts of 2016, hereby delegates to and authorizes the Town Administrator to act on its behalf to review and approve Special (One Day) liquor licenses consistent with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 138, Section 14, provided, however, all applications submitted for events that exceed a projected 200 attendees and for tier 1 events under the World's End Traffic and Parking Management Plan, dated February 6, 2017, or any event that requires a fire detail shall remain subject to Select Board approval. Mr. Ramsey seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Bill Ramsey: yes**

**Joe Fisher: yes**

**Liz Klein: yes**

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

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to appoint Liz Klein to the Master Plan Implementation Committee. Mr. Fisher seconded.

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Bill Ramsey: yes**

**Joe Fisher: yes**

**Liz Klein: yes**

**Public Comment**

There were no comments from the public.

**Town Administrator/Select Board Reports**

Tom Mayo announced that the Town will host a groundbreaking ceremony on Wednesday, June 14 at 3:00 pm for the new Public Safety Facility at 335 Lincoln Street. Construction is expected to last 20 months.

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

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Bill Ramsey: yes**

**Joe Fisher: yes**

**Liz Klein: yes**

**The meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM.**

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