

Select Board

June 27, 2023

Present:

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

Call to order: 6:00 PM

Acting Chair Fisher 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 Acting Chair, Mr. Joseph Fisher, and Mr. Bill Ramsey. Chair Liz Klein was unable to attend.

Executive Session

Declaration by Chair: Acting Chair, Mr. Fisher said, “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. Ramsey 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. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Recess to Executive Session: 6:03 pm.

Return to Open Session: 6:20 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to approve the minutes dated June 13, 2023. Ms. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes
Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to approve the minutes dated June 27, 2023. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:
Bill Ramsey: yes
Joe Fisher: yes

Appointment of trustee under the Will of Martin Wilder

Kevin Burke, Attorney for the Wilder Charitable Trust, was present. He explained some of the history of the will of Martin Wilder and the Wilder Memorial Hall. The will of Martin Wilder specified that the Select Board shall appoint new members to the Wilder Charitable Trust. Attorney Burke requested that the Board approve Sarah Carolan as a trustee so that she can be added to the corporation, as outlined in the will of Martin Wilder. Additionally, Attorney Burke asked the Board to ratify the current members, Jane Davis and Michael Shilhan. Sarah Carolan, 712 Main Street, was pleased to be appointed to the Wilder Educational and Charitable Trust.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion that the Select Board for the Town of Hingham hereby appoints Sarah Carolan of 712 Main Street, Hingham, MA as Trustee under the Will of Martin Wilder (Suffolk County Probate Court Docket No. 39022) by authority conferred under said Will of Martin Wilder. Mr. Fisher seconded.

The Select Board for the Town of Hingham hereby ratifies and confirms that the following individuals are the present and duly appointed Trustees under said Will of Martin Wilder:

Jane Davis of 51 South Pleasant Street, Hingham, MA
Michael Shilhan of 124 Leavitt Street, Hingham, MA
Sarah Carolan of 712 Main Street, Hingham, MA

Roll Call Vote:
Bill Ramsey: yes
Joe Fisher: yes

Mr. Ramsey commented on the great reputation of the school and commended former Trust member, Alec McMillon, for his service to the Wilder School and as a trustee to the Wilder Memorial Charitable Trust.

End of Year Transfers
Reserve Fund Transfers

Ms. Sue Nickerson, Town Accountant, and Aksana Holmes, Assistant Town Accountant, were present. Ms. Nickerson recommended the following Reserve Fund Transfers:

- A transfer from the Reserve Fund to Fire Department/Salaries-Overtime in the amount of \$450,000
- A transfer from the Reserve Fund to Fire Department /Expenses in the amount of \$50,000
- A transfer from the Reserve Fund to Town Meeting/Salaries/Equipment Rental/Leasing in the amount of \$142,053
- A transfer from the Reserve Fund to Legal Expenses in the amount of \$280,936
- A transfer from the Reserve Fund to Workers Comp in the amount of \$322,000
- A transfer from the Reserve Fund to Unemployment in the amount of \$652,200
- A transfer from the Reserve Fund to Medicare in the amount of \$42,000
- A transfer from the Reserve Fund to Property and Liability Insurance in the amount of \$7,500
- A transfer from the Reserve Fund to Town Clerk/Consultant Services in the amount of \$6,644

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to recommend Reserve Fund transfers as presented. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Inter-Department Transfers

Ms. Nickerson recommended the following Inter-Department Transfers:

- A transfer from DPW Salaries to the Transfer Station in the amount of \$140,000
- A transfer from Veterans Salaries to GAR Hall Expenses in the amount of \$8,000

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion that to approve the Inter-Department Transfers as presented. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Intra-Department Transfers

Ms. Nickerson recommended the following Intra-Department Transfers:

- A transfer from Treasurer-Collector Salaries to Expenses in the amount of \$9,500
- A transfer from Recreation Department Salaries to Expenses in the amount of \$17,000
- A transfer from Conservation Salaries to Expenses in the amount of \$25,000
- A transfer from Assessors Expenses to Revaluation in the amount of \$1,540
- A transfer from Sewer MWRA & Hull to Capital in the amount of \$384,010
- A transfer from Sewer Expenses to Architecture and Engineering in the amount of \$39,000
- A transfer from IT Salaries to Capital in the amount of \$8,879
- A transfer from Town Clerk Salaries to Expenses in the amount of \$3,300
- A transfer from Elections Expenses to Salaries in the amount of \$4,714

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to approve the Intra-Department Transfers as presented. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Agreement with the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant

Mr. Art Robert presented. Ms. Brianna Bennett, HMLP Sustainability Coordinator, and Thomas Morahan, HMLP Director, were also present. This is the latest in a series of revocable non-exclusive licenses to allow the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant (HMLP) to install electric vehicle charging stations around Town. This license commits three parking spaces at Town Hall to two charging stations and one space for ADA accessibility.

Brianna Bennett, Sustainability Coordinator for HMLP, said that these charging stations would add public accessibility to electrical charging stations in Hingham. They would be positioned near the Burr Road entrance out of the way of snow plows. There was some discussion on parking implications due to the installation of the chargers. Mr. Ramsey asked if there have been any issues with the current charging stations around town. Brianna Bennett said that they have not had any problems or issues with the stations that have already been installed. Some statistics on their usage since last October 2022 were presented. HMLP chose the manufacturer they have used because their equipment has been very successful in Canada's cold weather. Mr. Fisher asked if there have been any issues with people parking in in the charging parking spaces when they should not have been. There have been a few issues, but HMLP plans to change the signage to make it clear that there is no parking in these spots unless a car is actively charging.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to authorize the Chair to sign the Agreement with the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant to install, operate, and maintain one electric vehicle charging station with two charging ports at 210 Central Street. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Appointments

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to reappoint Pamela Bates, John Falvey, and Brigid Ryan to the Affordable Housing Trust for a two-year term ending June 30, 2025. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to reappoint Joseph Ruccio to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to reappoint Lauren Galvin, Michael Mercurio, Mario Romania, and David Ulrich as Associate Members of the Zoning Board of Appeals for a one-year term ending June 30, 2024. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to reappoint Claudia Eaton, Michael Cioffi, and Katie Puzzo to the Bare Cove Park Committee for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to reappoint to reappoint Carolyn Aliski, Carole Waite, and Henry Buckley to the Beautification Commission for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to reappoint Stephanie Gertz to the Commission on Disabilities for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to reappoint Thomas Roby, Robert Mosher, and Henry Hidell to the Conservation Commission for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to reappoint Lucinda King-Frode, Sara Smithson, Ethel Franks, and Jean Silverio to the Council on Aging for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to reappoint George Kay and Sue Sullivan to the Country Club Management Committee for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to reappoint Ellen Stone to the Cultural Council for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to reappoint Robert Beal as a GAR Hall Trustee for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to reappoint Marco Boer, Tricia Van Buskirk, and Paul Gannon to the Harbor Development Committee for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to reappoint Carol Pyles and Robert Stansell to the Historic Districts Commission for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to reappoint Elizabeth Dings to the Historical Commission for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to reappoint Ardith Weiworka to the Human Rights Commission for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to reappoint Sarah Carolan, Martha Ryan, Jason Ryan, Michael Shilhan, and Shawn Wegener to the Memorial Bell Tower Committee for a one-year term ending June 30, 2024. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to reappoint Judith Nims as a Registrar for the Town of Hingham for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to reappoint Michael Studley and Philip Shute to the Shade Tree Committee for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to reappoint Sam Mullen to the Weir River Water System Citizen's Advisory Board for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Fisher seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Town Administrator/Select Board Reports

Mr. Mayo said that he has recently approved the following Special One-Day Licenses:

- On Thursday, June 29, 2023 from 6:00 - 9:00 pm Widomaker Brewing will be holding an event at Weir River Farm.
- On Saturday, July 1, 2023 from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm Weston Nurseries will be holding a 100th Anniversary Event at their location on Main Street.

Going forward, the public will have access to pending and approved One-Day liquor licenses on the Town Administrator’s page on the Hingham website (<https://www.hingham-ma.gov/1042/One-Day-Liquor-Licenses>).

Mr. Ramsey congratulated Hingham resident Matty Beniers who was recently voted at NHL Rookie of the Year.

Mr. Ramsey reported that he attended the Advisory Committee’s End of Year Party on Saturday and recognized the efforts of all of the outgoing members, especially Chair George Danis, who has spent six years on the committee.

Mr. Ramsey said that he recently attended a promotion ceremony for Lt. David Petitti, who was just appointed as Deputy Police Chief. Lt. Petitti has been on the Hingham Police Department for over 30 years. Also in attendance were the Town Administrators and Lt. Petitti’s family.

Mr. Ramsey encouraged residents to come out and attend Hingham’s Fourth of July festivities. No fireworks are planned for this year.

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

Roll Call Vote:

Bill Ramsey: yes

Joe Fisher: yes

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.

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