

December 4, 2017

**Board of Selectmen
Minutes
December 4, 2017**

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OFFICE OF TOWN CLERK
STURBRIDGE, MA

Present: Mary Blanchard, Chairman
Mary Dowling, Clerk
Priscilla Gimas, Vice-Chair
Leon Gaumond, Jr., Town Administrator

Absent: Michael Suprenant
Craig Moran

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. following the Pledge of Allegiance

Motion: To enter Executive Session pursuant to GL c. 30A, s. 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position and the chair so declares. By P. Gimas.

2nd: By M. Dowling.

M. Blanchard so declared.

Roll call vote: M. Blanchard YES, P. Gimas YES, M. Dowling YES

The Selectmen reconvened in open session at 6:55 p.m.

Public Service Announcements

M. Blanchard announced that the Special Events Committee is recommending a Farmer's Market for Sturbridge. Anyone interested in serving on a Steering Committee or to serve as a vendor, please contact Kevin Filchak at 508-347-2500x1411.

Meeting with Library Trustees to fill Vacancy

The Selectmen were joined by 4 members of the Library Trustees to convene a special discussion to fill a vacancy on the Library Board of Trustees. Trustees included Jackie Belisle, Patricia Howard, Steve Mullen, and Elisa Krochmalnyckyj. Only one candidate for the vacancy stepped forward, Rebecca Celuzza. R. Celuzza introduced herself as someone who has lived in the town for 12 years and enjoys the library. The Trustees expressed their support for Ms. Celuzza.

Motion: To appoint Rebecca Celuzza to fill the vacancy on the Library Trustees until the next election. By:

J. Belisle

2nd: By: P. Gimas

Vote: In Favor Passed 7-0 (all members of the Board of Selectmen & Library Trustees)

Fire Chief John Grasso

The Chief introduced his candidate for a vacancy on the Fire Department. He introduced Stephen Joyce who is fully qualified and has completed all phases of the application process. He has experience working for Auburn and private ambulance services.

Motion: To appoint Stephen Joyce as a full-time Firefighter/Paramedic effective December 5, 2017 at Step one of the labor contract. By: P. Gimas

2nd: By: M. Dowling

Vote: In Favor Passed 3-0

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Chief Grasso informed the Board that the former ladder truck was now available to be declared as surplus. L. Gaumond clarified that the Town of Oxford, who sold us the truck originally, was not interested in the truck as previously thought.

Motion: To declare the ladder truck as surplus and to authorize inclusion of the truck in an upcoming surplus auction. By: P. Gimas
2nd: By: M. Dowling

Vote: In Favor Passed 3-0

The Chief presented a draft article for a replacement of the false alarm bylaw for the upcoming Town Meeting. M. Blanchard thought the Draft Bylaw was good however she pointed out a typographical correction to be made.

Motion: To authorize the Town Administrator to include the draft bylaw changes on the Special Town Meeting Warrant, as amended. By: P. Gimas
2nd: By: M. Dowling

Vote: In Favor Passed 3-0

Town Administrator Update

Concurrence on appointment of Colleen King as Administrative Assistant

L. Gaumond introduced his choice for Administrative Assistant in the Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen Office, Colleen King. She has experience working in a Selectmen's office, preparing minutes and currently works in a Regional School District as an Administrative Assistant. P. Gimas asked if she had experience doing minutes for Boards such as Sturbridge. L. Gaumond assured the Board that he inquired as to her experience and Ms. King said she was confident in her abilities to provide minutes to the Board.

Motion: To concur with the appointment of Colleen King as the Administrative Assistant to the Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen effective December 18, 2017 at a rate of pay of \$18.76/hour.
By: P. Gimas
2nd: By: M. Blanchard

Vote: In Favor Passed 3-0

Logging Permit Bylaw Changes

L. Gaumond presented the Board with a draft to the Logging Section of the Bylaws to provide some enforcement capabilities to what the Town requires during our logging hearings. It amends the logging bylaw to add a \$50.00 fine and to amend the non-criminal disposition section to do the same.

Motion: To authorize the Town Administrator to include the draft bylaw changes on the Special Town Meeting Warrant, as amended. By: P. Gimas
2nd: By: M. Dowling

Vote: In Favor Passed 3-0

Goals 2018

L. Gaumond presented the Selectmen with a memo seeking their advice on goals for the upcoming year. He intends to compile the list and present them to the Selectmen at the January 27th retreat.

CPC Letter on Housing Needs

L. Gaumond presented the Selectmen with a letter from the CPC regarding the need to get Selectmen's feedback on how we might utilize our housing monies. M. Dowling suggested the Selectmen discuss this at a meeting in January.

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Contract Extension for UTMC

L. Gaumond presented a request from UTMC for an extension of a contract for an additional year for UTMC who monitors our unemployment cases for the Town. The contract is for \$475/quarter.

Motion: To accept the contract extension from UTMC for an additional year. **By: M. Dowling**
2nd: By: P. Gimas

Vote: All in Favor **Passed 3-0**

Refunding Project

L. Gaumond informed the Board that the Town had a very successful bond sale on November 29th. The town bonded the amount for the Tennis and Basketball Courts Project (\$306,000) and refunded callable outstanding bonds from a 2009 and 2011 bond issue. The projects that were refunded were a portion of the Burgess Elementary School Project, the Town Hall Project, a portion of the WWTP Project and the Rt. 131 Waterline Project. The town received six bids with the low bidder being Fifth Third Securities, Inc. with a TIC (True Interest Cost) of 2.369425%. The advanced refunding resulted in a savings to the Town of \$455,677 over fourteen years. Additionally, as part of this sale the town's bond rating was affirmed by Standard and Poor's at AA+/Stable.

L. Gaumond read the item to be voted by the Board of Selectmen.

Voted: That in order to reduce interest costs, the Treasurer is authorized to issue refunding bonds, at one time or from time to time, pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 21A of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, to refund all of the Town's (i) \$5,843,000 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2009 Bonds dated August 1, 2009 maturing on and after August 1, 2020 (the "2009 Refunded Bonds"), and (ii) \$15,704,000 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2011 Bonds dated February 15, 2011 maturing on and after November 15, 2022 (the "2011 Refunded Bonds") and that the proceeds of any refunding bonds issued pursuant to this vote shall be used to pay the principal, redemption premium, if any, and interest on the 2009 Refunded Bonds and the 2011 Refunded Bonds, and costs of issuance of the refunding bonds.

Further Voted: that the sale of the \$7,806,000 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2017 Bonds of the Town dated December 8, 2017 (the "Bonds"), to Fifth Third Securities, Inc., at the price of \$8,608,302.05 and accrued interest is hereby approved and confirmed. The Bonds shall be payable on November 15 of the years and in the principal amounts and bear interest at the respective rates, as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
2018	\$26,000	4.00%	2025	\$835,000	4.00%
2019	20,000	4.00	2026	835,000	4.00
2020	265,000	4.00	2027	835,000	4.00
2021	265,000	4.00	2028	835,000	4.00
2022	835,000	4.00	2029	780,000	3.00
2023	830,000	4.00	2030	580,000	3.00
2024	835,000	4.00	2032	30,000	3.00

Further Voted: that the Bonds maturing on November 15, 2032 (a "Term Bond") shall be subject to mandatory redemption or mature as follows:

Term Bond due November 15, 2032

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2031	\$15,000
2032*	15,000 *Final Maturity

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Further Voted: that in connection with the marketing and sale of the Bonds, the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Sale and Preliminary Official Statement dated November 20, 2017 and a final Official Statement dated November 29, 2017 (the "Official Statement"), each in such form as may be approved by the Town Treasurer, be and hereby are ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted.

Further Voted: that the Bonds shall be subject to redemption, at the option of the Town, upon such terms and conditions as are set forth in the Official Statement.

Further Voted: to authorize the execution and delivery of a Refunding Escrow Agreement to be dated December 8, 2017, between the Town and U.S. Bank National Association, as Refunding Escrow Agent.

Further Voted: that the Town Treasurer and the Board of Selectmen be, and hereby are, authorized to execute and deliver a continuing disclosure undertaking in compliance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 in such form as may be approved by bond counsel to the Town, which undertaking shall be incorporated by reference in the Bonds for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds from time to time.

Further Voted: that we authorize and direct the Treasurer to establish post issuance federal tax compliance procedures in such form as the Treasurer and bond counsel deem sufficient, or if such procedures are currently in place, to review and update said procedures, in order to monitor and maintain the tax-exempt status of the Bonds.

Further Voted: that each member of the Board of Selectmen, the Town Clerk and the Town Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing votes.

Motion: To move the vote as read by the Town Administrator regarding the Bond Issuance as prepared by
Bond Counsel. By: P. Gimas
2nd: By: M. Dowling

Vote: All in Favor **Passed 3-0**

L. Gaumond informed the Board of the positive comments about the Town in the refunding process and M. Blanchard commended the Town Administration and Finance Department for the good work in this area.

IOD Claim for Officer Page and Sgt. Paine

L. Gaumond asked the Selectmen to approve the IOD claim for Officer Page & Sgt. Paine

Motion: To approve the IOD claim for Officer Page & Sgt. Paine of the Police Department. By: P. Gimas
2nd: By: M. Dowling

Vote: All in Favor **Passed 3-0**

Correspondence

M. Dowling read the correspondence list.

Approval of Minutes

Due to a lack of a quorum needed for the approval, the minutes could not be accepted. P. Gimas mentioned that she has a number of problems with the minutes of July 17, 2017. L. Gaumond asked to have those comments sent to him in order to edit the minutes.

Old Business

P. Gimas raised concerns about the wayfinding signs. She is concerned that the directional sign is not clear where it should be pointing to and it is hard to see at nighttime. She finds them hard to see and understand. L. Gaumond pointed out that the sign is one of a family of signs and there are more to be installed. He would inquire as to whether or not they could be lit.

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M. Blanchard reminded the Town that the next Selectmen's meeting will be next week on December 11th and it will be the last meeting of the year.

New Business

M. Dowling asked to have the betterment discussion on the next agenda.

P. Gimás asked to have the January meetings confirmed for the Selectmen. The schedule indicates the meetings will be January 2nd and January 16th due to federal holidays.

Citizen's Forum

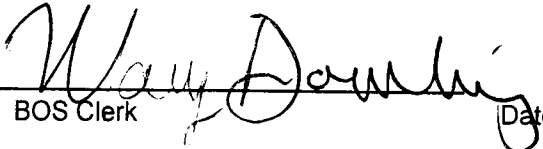
There were no comments from the public.

Motion: To adjourn. By: P. Gimás
2nd: By: M. Dowling

Vote: All in Favor Passed 3-0

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Leon A. Gaumond Jr. Town Administrator


BOS Clerk Date Jan 2 '18