

**Board of Selectmen
August 15, 2022
Veterans Memorial Hall, Sturbridge Town Hall
308 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566**

Present:

Mary Blanchard, Chair
Selectman Mary Dowling, Clerk
Selectman Jamie Goodwin
Selectman Ian Dunnigan

Absent

Chase Kaitbenski, Vice Chair

Staff:

Robin A. Grimm, Ph.D., Town Administrator
Michelle Garman, Executive Assistant

Chair Blanchard called meeting to order at 6:30p.m.

The Selectmen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Blanchard read the agenda.

Moment of Silence

For all those affected by Covid-19 the people of Ukraine and people affected by the wildfires.

Sue Brogan, Sturbridge and Patriot Place Co-Coordinator; Lodging Coordinator for the Pan Mass Challenge wanted to thank all of the 6,500.00 participants of the pan mass challenge, the public safety officials, Robin Grimm, Town Administrator and Old Sturbridge Village.

Public Service Announcements

Early voting will take place at the Town Clerks Office:
Beginning Saturday August 27th 9AM-5PM
Monday August 29-Friday September 2nd Regular Office Hours

Public Hearing

Allocating the local property tax levy amount the classes of real property and personal property for FY2023. The Board of Assessors unanimously supported the recommendations from Ann Murphy, Principal Assessor.

Ann Murphy, Principal Assessor gave a detailed breakdown of the PowerPoint presentation for the Town of Sturbridge Fiscal Year 2023 Classification Hearing. Ms. Murphy explained to the Board of Selectmen that they would be voting of four items this evening.

A copy of the Ms. Murphy's presentation is on file in the Town Administrators Office and available upon request.

Selection of a CIP Fator

Motion: To adopt a single tax rate

By: Selectman Goodwin

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 4-0-0 (Vice Chair Kaitbenski absent)

Open Space Discount

Motion: To not adopt the Open Space Discount

By: Selectman Goodwin

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 4-0-0 (Vice Chair Kaitbenski absent)

Residential Exemption

Motion: To not adopt the Residential Exemption

By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Selectman Goodwin

Vote: 4-0-0 (Vice Chair Kaitbenski absent)

Small Commercial Exemption

Motion: To not adopt the Small Commercial Exemption

By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Selectman Goodwin

Vote: 4-0-0 (Vice Chair Kaitbenski absent)

Department Report: Building Department

Heather Blakeley, Director DPW gave a detailed over review of her Department Report. A copy of which is on file with the Town Administrators Office.

Work has stopped on RT 20 there is a financial disagreement between the contractor and the state.

Robin Grimm, Town Administrator will follow-up with the Commonwealth again regarding the work stoppage.

Selectman Dowling stated she has received complaints about potholes at the end of Lake Road. Heather Blakeley, DPW Director will have the Department look at the road and fill in any potholes.

Selectman Dowling on route 20 the crosswalk is completely gone. If a resident gets hurt, the state needs to address that sidewalk.

Heather Blakeley, DPW Director will put the Department of Transportation on notice that the crosswalk is not safe.

Town Administrator Update

Robin Grimm, Town Administrator wanted to clarify why National Grid pulled the pole hearing for Paradise Lane. The hearing was pulled because the road is a private road.

Rapscallion project Jean Bubon, Planning Department met with the new general manager and they are aiming for September 13, 2022 planning board meeting.

Correspondence received on Friday regarding the farmers market. Attorneys have reached out to Robin Grimm, Town Administrator and there will have to be an executive session to discuss.

Action Items:

- A. Consideration and possible action to authorize the Chair of the Board of Selectmen to execute a letter allowing the Lafayette sign to be placed on the Town Common.

Motion: To allow the Chair to execute the letter allowing the Lafayette sign to be placed on the Town Common

By: Selectmen Goodwin

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 4-0-0 (Vice Chair Kaitbenski absent)

- B. Consideration and possible action on a one day liquor license for John Samek/Hardwick Vineyard & Winery, LLC for Sturbridge Harvest Festival on October 15, 2022 from 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. and October 16, 2022 from 11:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. for beer and wine.

Motion: To approve one day liquor license for John Samek/Hardwick Vineyard & Winery, LLC for Sturbridge Harvest Festival on October 15, 2022 from 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. and October 16, 2022 from 11:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. for beer and wine.

By: Selectmen Goodwin

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 3-0-1 (Selectmen Dowling Abstained) (Vice Chair Kaitbenski absent)

- C. Consideration and possible action on a one day liquor license for Michael Placella/Tutti Quanti for wine and food pairing on September 15, 2022, October 20, 2022, November 17, 2022 and December 15, 2022 at 538 Main Street, Sturbridge from 6:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.

Motion: To approve one day liquor license for Michael Placella/Tutti Quanti for wine and food pairing on September 15, 2022, October 20, 2022, November 17, 2022 and December 15, 2022 at 538 Main Street, Sturbridge from 6:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.

By: Selectmen Dunnigan

2nd: Chair Blanchard

Vote: 4-0-0 (Vice Chair Kaitbenski absent)

- D. Consideration and possible action on the contract for paving with Mass Broken Stone Company the sum of up to \$330,000.00, at the rate per the bid documents work to be completed on or before June 30, 2023.

Motion: To approve the contract for paving with Mass Broken Stone Company the sum of up to \$330,000.00, at the rate per the bid documents work to be completed on or before June 30, 2023.

By: Selectmen Goodwin

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 4-0-0 (Vice Chair Kaitbenski absent)

- E. Consideration and possible action on the contract for Brush Grinding at Sturbridge Landfill with Wicklow Wood Recycling, LLC the agreement is effecting August 18, 2022 and expires on November 30, 2022 for the sum of \$12,688.00.

F.

Motion: To approve the contract for Brush Grinding at Sturbridge Landfill with Wicklow Wood Recycling, LLC the agreement is effecting August 18, 2022 and expires on November 30, 2022 for the sum of \$12,688.00.

By: Selectmen Dunnigan

2nd: Chair Blanchard

Vote: 4-0-0 (Vice Chair Kaitbenski absent)

- G. Consideration and possible action on contract with Tighe & Bond, Inc. on the Cemetery Mapping at North Cemetery in the amount of \$9,500.00.

Motion: To approve the contract with Tighe & Bond, Inc. on the Cemetery Mapping at North Cemetery in the amount of \$9,500.00.

By: Selectmen Goodwin

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 4-0-0 (Vice Chair Kaitbenski absent)

- H. Consideration and possible action on the contract with CHA for 501 Main Street, Parking Lot Design in the amount of 14,000.00.

Motion: To approve the contract with CHA for 501 Main Street, Parking Lot Design in the amount of 14,000.00.

By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Selectman Goodwin

Vote: 4-0-0 (Vice Chair Kaitbenski absent)

- I. Consideration and possible action on the contract with Leeds Group, Inc. d/b/a Leeds Salt in the amount of \$94.70 per ton with a minimum amount of 225 tons and a maximum amount of 375 tons.

Motion: To approve the contract with Leeds Group, Inc. d/b/a Leeds Salt in the amount of \$94.70 per ton with a minimum amount of 225 tons and a maximum amount of 375 tons.

By: Selectmen Goodwin

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 4-0-0 (Vice Chair Kaitbenski absent)

- J. Consideration and possible action to allow the Chair to execute the Limited Application Waiver Request Town Support letter to the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Pesticide Bureau.

Motion: To approve the Chair to execute the Limited Application Waiver Request Town Support letter to the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Pesticide Bureau.

By: Selectmen Goodwin

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 4-0-0 (Vice Chair Kaitbenski absent)

- K. Consideration and possible action to move to adopt the Order of Taking in the form submitted to complete the layout of a portion of Hillside Drive as accepted by the vote on June 6, 2022 Town of Sturbridge Annual Town Meeting under Article 30. No damages are awarded for this taking.

Motion: To approve to move to adopt the Order of Taking in the form submitted to complete the layout of a portion of Hillside Drive as accepted by the vote on June 6, 2022 Town of Sturbridge Annual Town Meeting under Article 30. No damages are awarded for this taking.

By: Selectmen Goodwin

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

Vote: 4-0-0 (Vice Chair Kaitbenski absent)

Old Business:

Chair Blanchard asked if we heard back from the Woo Sox

Robin Grimm, Town Administrator is working on scheduling a time with them.

New Business

Correspondence

Citizen's Forum

Adjourn:

Motion: To Adjourn


By: Selectman Goodwin

2nd: Chair Blanchard

Vote: 4-0-0 (Vice Chair Kaitbenski absent)

The meeting adjourned at 7:44p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Michelle Garman

Clerk of the Board: 

Date signed: 