

November 2, 2020

**Board of Selectmen
November 2, 2020
Town Hall**

Present:

Mary Blanchard, Chair
Mary Dowling, Vice Chair
Selectman Michael Suprenant
Selectman Chase Kaitbenski
Selectman Ian Dunnigan

AMENDED

Staff:

Jeff Bridges, Town Administrator
Alex McConnon, Administrative Assistant

Chair Blanchard called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

The Selectmen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Blanchard read the following statement: Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting law, G.L. c. 30A Section 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Sturbridge Board of Selectmen will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation can be found on the Town's website at <https://www.sturbridge.gov/town-administrator/pages/how-access-virtual-meeting>. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen and or watch the meeting either online via the Town's on demand video broadcast, on cable television on channel 191, or dial into the meeting at 774-304-1455, enter 1428# for the meeting number and 12345 for the access code. (This phone number is only active for the public during public meetings). No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post of the Town's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

Chair Blanchard read the Agenda.

Moment of Silence

The Selectmen held a moment of silence in honor of all those affected from COVID-19.

Public Service Announcements

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The Selectmen encouraged all residents to go out and vote to support their constitutional right. They also thanked the volunteers for all of their hard work during the election.

Vice Chair Dowling reminded everyone that there is still time to register or support the Home Of The Brave Virtual 5K on Saturday, November 14, 2020. Chair Blanchard announced that the winter parking ban goes into effect November 15, 2020 through April 1, 2021.

Department Reports

Water/Sewer

Mr. Shane Moody represented the Water and Sewer Department saying that he submitted the August and September operation reports. Per Mr. Moody, with the August reports, he submitted all of the lead and copper testing results that was done on the schools. Mr. Moody said they have started winterizing the fire hydrants, which they will be doing over the next couple of weeks. Per Mr. Moody, they have one fire hydrant that is out of service that will be replaced.

Mr. Moody said that the department did the tie-ins for the new pipes at the new Fiske Hill pump station. Per Mr. Moody, they also finished the Well 4 Study on Hamant Brook to determine if the well was affecting the stream. Mr. Moody said in speaking to the engineer, it does look like there is no impact on that stream, so they are hoping they will be able to get the stream limit removed to have that source available in the summer months when they need water the most. Mr. Moody said that they also did the seasonal shutdowns for the E1's and finished the hydrant flushing last week.

Chair Blanchard asked Mr. Moody which hydrant was out of service and Mr. Moody said it was the one on Fairview Park Road, which will not be easy to change out as it is right in the middle of a drainage ditch, but they will probably get to it early next week. Selectman Suprenant asked if the well is under the influence of the brook and if that is why there is an issue there. Mr. Moody said that when the well was put in service, Fish and Wildlife had concerns that in the summer months, it would draw water from the well, impacting the stream and wildlife. Per Mr. Moody, there has been a stream gage limit since they started operating it that they are trying to have removed. Selectman Suprenant asked if that one well is limited by the stream limit and Mr. Moody confirmed saying they are trying to get the stream limit removed.

Selectman Suprenant said that he noticed in August, 99% of the septage came from out of town and 94% came out of town in September. Selectman Suprenant noticed that the Sturbridge rate was the lowest around and that Sturbridge has been taking a lot of septage. Mr. Moody said he called and checked with other towns and everyone is charging the same as Sturbridge at 6 cents per gallon for out-of-town except for Webster, which charges 10 cents. Mr. Moody said that right now, they are charging what everyone else is but they can raise it up if the Board wants to. Selectman Suprenant said he did not know how the town could process it at 6 cents per gallon and did not know how it helped Sturbridge economically saying that by the time they take it in and process and pay for disposal of the sludge, it did not seem like it was anything to the town's benefit. Vice Chair Dowling agreed with Selectman Suprenant asking if the town has ever increased their rate or if they just started at 6% years ago and left it at that. Mr. Moody said at one time, they were charging the same rate in-town and out-of-town at 5 cents but eventually raised the out-of-town at

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6 cents. Vice Chair Dowling said that she would entertain the town raising it up to 8 cents since the town is at 99% right now and does not foresee the haulers going elsewhere. Vice Chair Dowling asked if the town is making any money on it when they are taking 99% from out-of-town and asked how much Webster takes at 10 cents. Mr. Moody said some towns do not take out-of-town septage, which is a decision that needs to be made by the Board. Vice Chair Dowling said it was not the Board's decision but rather just started happening and then the Board gave its O.K., saying that this is a policy decision that should have been made. Vice Chair Dowling said that she would be interested to know if Webster gets anything at 10 cents because she is inclined to increase Sturbridge's rate as well. Mr. Moody said he would charge whatever Board of Selectmen says to charge and take whatever they say to take. Chair Blanchard asked Mr. Moody to get a report together on the money that Sturbridge does take in from out-of-town septage for further review. Vice Chair Dowling also requested that the report include the expense for testing and screening even in terms of the time required. Vice Chair Dowling asked that the report also include the man-hours and the effort that was expended as part of the analysis. Mr. Moody confirmed that he would put a report together for further review.

Fire Department

Chief Grasso submitted his reports for August, September, and October. Chief Grasso said that the Fire Department had one structure fire on Shepard Road in the middle of September that is still under investigation from the state Fire Marshal. There was also a vehicle fire last week in the yard of a residence off Glenridge Road, which the Fire Marshal is investigating. The individual who lives in the house was arrested by the Ludlow Police Department for setting two vehicles on fire, multiple home invasions, and assault on a Police Officer. Chief Grasso said he is waiting for the report from the state police but it will more than likely be labeled as an incendiary fire. Vice Chair Dowling thanked the Chief and the Fire Department and read the letters of appreciation sent to the Fire Department from a resident and the Southbridge Fire Department for assisting them.

Chief Grasso said they are increasing their amount of training with the neighboring communities and that an important part of their job is having the time to train and work together to provide the service that they do. Per Chief Grasso, they received \$15,000 grant from the Last Call Foundation. Chief Grasso said their goal with the money is to purchase ballistic vests and helmets for their personnel, should they need to respond to an active shooter incident or any other incident where the police may be making a tactical entry and need their support from a medical side. Chief Grasso thanked the Last Call Foundation for the award and hopes the items will be purchased in the next few weeks to be distributed.

Chief Grasso said because of COVID-19, the Fire Department was not able to do the Horribles Parade this year, so instead they held a virtual Halloween contest over the weekend and to refer to their Facebook page to see the winners. Chief Grasso said the 2020 Santa Run schedule has been published and that they are doing things slightly differently this year because of social distancing. Chief Grasso also asked that because of daylight savings, everyone should check their smoke detectors and change their batteries, if needed.

Vice Chair Dowling suggested on getting something posted in the Sturbridge Villager for the Santa Run to share with people since so many activities are limited this year.

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Consideration and possible action on the acceptance of the resignation of Luke Quattrocelli as an on call Firefighter from the Sturbridge Fire Department.

Chief Grasso said that Mr. Quattrocelli realized that his personal commitments outweighed his ability to offer service to the town so he submitted an email and letter resignation. Chief Grasso respectfully requested that the Board accept his resignation with regrets.

Motion: Accept the resignation of Luke Quattrocelli as an on call Firefighter from the Sturbridge Fire Department with regrets. By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Selectman Kaitbenski

Roll Call Vote:

Chair Blanchard: YES, Vice Chair Dowling: YES, Selectman Suprenant: YES, Selectman Kaitbenski: YES, Selectman Dunnigan: YES

Vote: 5-0

Consideration and possible action on the resignation of Awtumn Courville as a Firefighter / EMT from the Sturbridge Fire Department.

Chief Grasso said that Ms. Courville has been with the department for a few years and became EMT while she worked here. Per Chief Grasso, Ms. Courville recently became a Paramedic, took a full-time position as a Paramedic, and is planning to enter Nursing School. Chief Grasso said because of this, Ms. Courville feels she does not have the time to dedicate to the department, as she should.

Motion: Accept resignation of Awtumn Courville as a Firefighter / EMT from the Sturbridge Fire Department with regrets. By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Selectman Kaitbenski

Roll Call Vote:

Chair Blanchard: YES, Vice Chair Dowling: YES, Selectman Suprenant: YES, Selectman Kaitbenski: YES, Selectman Dunnigan: YES

Vote: 5-0

Consideration and possible action on the confirmation of appointment of David Hoyt as a Part-Time (on call) Firefighter / EMT-B with the Sturbridge Fire Department.

Per Chief Grasso, Mr. Hoyt is a Spencer resident who works full-time for the Spencer Fire Department. Chief Grasso said that Mr. Hoyt was a call member of Sturbridge Fire Department for about two years and has become an EMT but Spencer does not provide EMS services. Chief Grasso respectfully requested that the Board of Selectmen appoint Mr. Hoyt as an EMT-B with a starting pay of \$18.76 cents per hour, which is consistent with the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement currently in place.

Motion: To accept the confirmation of appointment of David Hoyt as a Part-Time (on call) Firefighter / EMT-B with the Sturbridge Fire Department. By: Selectman Kaitbenski

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

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Roll Call Vote:

Chair Blanchard: YES, Vice Chair Dowling: YES, Selectman Suprenant: YES, Selectman Kaitbenski: YES, Selectman Dunnigan: YES

Vote: 5-0

Consideration and possible action on the confirmation of appointment of Jason Edson as a Part-Time (on call) Firefighter / EMT-B with the Sturbridge Fire Department.

Chief Grasso said that Mr. Edson is a Leicester resident who works full-time for Allegiance Fire and Rescue as a Diesel Technician and a call firefighter for the Town of Leicester. He is a nationally registered EMT and holds many certifications in Dive and Dive Rescue. Chief Grasso said that Mr. Edson is certified in Fire 1 and Fire 2 and that he is looking forward to having both Mr. Hoyt and Mr. Edson in the Department. Per Chief Grasso, Mr. Edson's starting pay will be \$18.76 per hour which consistent with the collective bargaining agreement.

Motion: To confirm the appointment of Jason Edson as a Part-Time (on call) Firefighter / EMT-B with the Sturbridge Fire Department effective November 3, 2020 at a rate of \$18.76 per hour. By: Selectman Suprenant

2nd: Selectman Kaitbenski

Roll Call Vote:

Chair Blanchard: YES, Vice Chair Dowling: YES, Selectman Suprenant: YES, Selectman Kaitbenski: YES, Selectman Dunnigan: YES

Vote: 5-0

Consideration and possible action on the appointment of Meghan Cassavant as a full-time Dispatcher with the Sturbridge Police Department.

Chief Dessert said that Ms. Cassavant is coming from Baystate Medical in Springfield where she worked as a Security Officer and has worked at the Palmer Hospital prior to that. Ms. Cassavant has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice, as well as customer service skills that she is bringing with her. Ms. Cassavant said that she is looking forward to being a part of the Town of Sturbridge.

Motion: To accept the appointment of Meghan Cassavant as a full-time Dispatcher with the Sturbridge Police Department. By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Selectman Kaitbenski

Roll Call Vote:

Chair Blanchard: YES, Vice Chair Dowling: YES, Selectman Suprenant: YES, Selectman Kaitbenski: YES, Selectman Dunnigan: YES

Vote: 5-0

Consideration and possible action on the request for sewer service for 90 Charlton Road to serve RLS Logistics.

Mr. Bridges said that RLS Logistics is another cold storage facility looking to occupy the location at 90 Charlton Road, a location that is not on the sewer reserve list and as such, they need to come

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and ask the Board of Selectmen for service. Mr. Shane Moody of the Water and Sewer Department and Butch Jackson, DPW Director recommend approval of the service. Per Mr. Bridges, the sewer will service the office portion of the building not the cold storage portion of the building. Mr. Bryan Hedge and Mr. Logan Stuller represented RLS Logistics. Mr. Stuller said they are requesting service at for a facility at 90 Charlton Road for a cold storage facility with an office portion as well in which the sewer will service the actual storage portion of the warehouse will all be freezer temperatures, which will not require any sewer demand from that aspect. Per Mr. Stuller, the demand and flow will be domestic from the office portion.

Motion: To approve the request for sewer service for 90 Charlton Road to serve RLS Logistics. By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Selectman Suprenant

Roll Call Vote:

Chair Blanchard: YES, Vice Chair Dowling: YES, Selectman Suprenant: YES, Selectman Kaitbenski: YES, Selectman Dunnigan: YES

Vote: 5-0

Town Administrator

Mr. Bridges listed the items in his report including 508 International, Last Chance Grant, and the latest draft of the Equestrian Park Zoning Bylaw, which is still being worked on. Vice Chair Dowling asked Mr. Bridges if the draft bylaw for the racetrack was in its final form, reading the text "...To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaws Chapter Two Definitions..." saying that it was in the definitions section. Mr. Bridges said that it is the most recent version of definition. Vice Chair Dowling asked about the equestrian center definition saying that the text says "...including horse race tracks with both live and simulcast racing with wagering and any in-person and online sports betting and any other wagering/betting now or hereafter allowed and regulated under the various laws of the Commonwealth, including without limitation Massachusetts General Laws, Chapters 128A..." Vice Chair Dowling said she wondered why part of that definition includes any other wagering betting now or hereafter allowed and regulated under the laws because that opens it up to a lot more wagering and betting other than just online and in-person sports betting. Mr. Bridges said it is still a draft. Per Mr. Bridges, this definition is specific in that it excludes any table gaming and slots but if the language needs to be narrowed, then it can be.

Mr. Bridges asked the Board of Selectmen if there was any additional information that they would like from staff at the next meeting regarding 508 International. Vice Chair Dowling said she understood that there was another field visit on September 16, 2020 with all of the interested parties and saw no recent evidence of motorized use of the trails. Vice Chair Dowling said she did not see if any cease and desist order was issued from Sturbridge's Zoning Enforcement Officer, Nelson Burlingame for using those trails for motorized vehicles. Vice Chair Dowling said that she knows that he sent something out in September saying that it needs a site assessment and said that back in 2017, there was a cease and desist order from a Charlton Enforcement Officer. Vice Chair Dowling asked if anything was issued to the 508 International property owners on paper other than what was just given in September. Mr. Bridges said there was not anything else issued in writing but when this happened last year, Mr. Bridges and Jean

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Bubon, the town Planner, had a conversation with the operator and his attorney and they agreed at that meeting that they would not use the trails for motorized vehicles. Per Mr. Bridges, because of that, the need for cease and desist did not seem necessary since they already agreed to stop. Per Mr. Bridges, the follow-up letter from their attorney recognized that using these trails for motorized uses was not permitted and they just abandoned that use in Sturbridge.

Vice Chair Dowling said it seems like there is a disagreement factually between the Zoning Enforcement Officer, the Town Planner, and their Attorney on one hand and the Conservation Commission on the other as to when the motorized vehicles stopped. Per Vice Chair Dowling, Conservation said in their September 3, 2020 letter referring to the August 25, 2020 field visit, where they saw tracks consistent with motorized vehicles saying at that point it was not honored because they did a field visit and in August and September, it did not stop. Mr. Bridges said that they saw every trail that was in Sturbridge that day and the Chair of the Conservation Commission and the Conservation Agent was with them when they walked trail and it was clear that the trails had not been used for motorized vehicles anywhere that season, for the trails were overgrown and the vegetation was well established. Mr. Bridges said the earlier site visit was on a different portion of property and that the Conservation Agent did not get access to parcels they walked, which was in Sturbridge. Vice Chair Dowling said that attachment 2, signed by the Conservation Chair says "At the August 25, 2020 site visit, the SCC only viewed portions of the properties. Vehicular use including tire ruts were observed." Mr. Bridges said they saw tire ruts but they were overgrown with grass and said that they would have to get Mr. Edward Goodwin, the Conservation Commission Chair, to say exactly what he saw and if the September 16, 2020 site visit answered his questions or concerns. Mr. Bridges said that from his understanding, Mr. Goodwin was there and saw what everyone else saw.

Vice Chair Dowling said that for 205A Podunk Pike (which is Sturbridge land that was acquired in 1994 for non-payment of taxes) there is trail shown on this parcel expending from the Jennings parcel. Vice Chair Dowling said that to the best of her knowledge, that trail was not put in by the trails committee and asked if they were making a trail on Sturbridge land. Mr. Bridges said this is the dilemma with this parcel boundary and the actual boundaries between these two towns, which are mapped boundaries and assessor databases but not surveyed lines. Per Mr. Bridges, the trail line was developed by a GPS locator, the property boundary was something off the Assessors map, which is plus or minus a certain degree of accuracy. Per Mr. Bridges, unless the town surveys the property line and the trail, they would not know exactly if that trail is on Sturbridge property. Mr. Bridges and the Conservation Commission told the Jennings folks and they cannot knowingly use the land that is owned by Sturbridge for their use. Mr. Bridges told the Board that they either have to move that trail, survey the lines, or abandon it. Mr. Bridges said that he does not know if that location of the trail is on town property or not without a survey of the boundary line. Vice Chair Dowling stated that she supports surveying the land to ascertain the boundaries and to put no trespassing signs up once surveyed.

Mr. Bridges said the Recreation Commission is favoring 70 Cedar Street for the dog park location but they want to make sure that the field plans can accommodate both the field and the dog park. Per Mr. Bridges, they are waiting the outcome of the field study to make a final decision.

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Mr. Bridges informed the Board that numerous towns have been inundated with fraudulent unemployment claims. Mr. Bridges stated that towns with hundreds of employees have gotten hundreds of fraudulent claims and that the Town of Sturbridge has received over two dozen. Per Mr. Bridges, there was a data breach of people's individual databases (whether it is a retailer, credit card, or something else), all of these towns have been inundated with these unemployment claims, and the Town of Sturbridge is addressing it along with everyone else.

Mr. Bridges also said that Andrea Mensen, the previous Administrative Assistant has finished her last day of service last Friday, October 30, 2020.

Discussion Items

Discussion: Right of First Refusal Letter for 44 Allen Road

Mr. Bridges said there is a letter from the Hillmans for a portion of the property at 44 Allen Road, owned by John Holdcraft. Per Mr. Bridges, it has been distributed to all of the Boards and Commissions, per town policy. Mr. Bridges said that the Planning Board has taken action in recommending that the town not purchase the property, it is a quarter acre. Mr. Bridges explained that the town Attorney said it was incomplete and needs the owners address, contact information on letter, and a letter from the owner saying that the purchase of sale agreement is complete. Mr. Bridges requested that the Board hold action on this until they hear back from the Conservation Commission and the other Boards. Mr. Bridges stated that Mr. Hillman is working on getting those additional items and that Conservation meets on November 17, 2020 so the Board of Selectmen will not get a response until their first meeting in December. Selectman Suprenant said it would still be in the time limits of the policy at that time.

Discussion: Route 20 Corridor Project – Notice of Eligibility for Funding

Per Mr. Bridges, DOT will pick up the engineering of the Route 20 Corridor Project, Phase 1 project and pay for all of the engineering with no cost from the town. Mr. Bridges said they will ask the town to engage the public and have comment/feedback sessions that are required for a project like this but as of today, DOT will move forward on their own without any cost for the town. Selectman Kaitbenski said was great news and thanked Mr. Bridges. Mr. Bridges said there is a municipality's acknowledgement of project eligibility notification that the town needs to sign and send back. Mr. Bridges explained that Mr. Frost, the District Project Manager, said to respond back saying "...after discussion with MassDOT District 3, they indicated that MassDOT would hire a design consultant to design the intersection of state highway Route 20 with Route 131..." with the signed attachment if the Board of Selectmen so chooses. Selectman Suprenant said it sounded like a fine response if the State will pick up the design, saying that the acknowledgement should indicate that. Vice Chair Dowling agreed with Selectman Suprenant. Selectman Suprenant asked if they voted for the Chair to sign the acknowledgement at the last meeting and Mr. Bridges said no but if they want to take action they could. Selectman Suprenant said they should take action by using the wording that Mr. Frost suggested.

Motion: To request the Chair of the Board of Selectmen to sign the letter using the exact wording that the District Project Manager suggested. By: Selectman Suprenant

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2nd: Selectman Kaitbenski

Chair Blanchard: YES, Vice Chair Dowling: YES, Selectman Suprenant: YES, Selectman Kaitbenski: YES, Selectman Dunnigan: YES

Vote: 5-0

Old Business

Chair Blanchard asked if Mr. Bridges checked with Jean Bubon on the extension timeline on the outdoor dining and Mr. Bridges said he sent an email he hopes to get an answer tomorrow. Chair Blanchard asked if they wanted to make a motion if it does expire. Mr. Bridges said that as long as their internal occupancy was not to a point where it effected the parking with internal and external occupancy, then they would let it go. Mr. Bridges said that if they do need some action item, they could prepare it for the agenda on November 16, 2020.

Vice Chair Dowling thanked Mr. Bridges and the search committee for formulating the interview questions for the candidates for the Police Chief search. Vice Chair Dowling said that when she was watching the interviews, one of the residents who is on the committee asked a question about what the process was going to be in terms of making a recommendation. Vice Chair Dowling asked Mr. Bridges if the decision will be by motion and by majority vote and asked when the Board of Selectmen can expect the search committee to put forward their candidate.

Mr. Bridges said they will schedule another meeting, ask the committee individually who they think would be the best fit, and take that information to make an appointment. Mr. Bridges will ask if they concur and after they settle on the candidate, they will do background check and finalize with the Board of Selectmen by appointment. Mr. Bridges said that the Charter is vague, but they have done two rounds. Per Mr. Bridges, the first round was a preliminary assessment based on the resumes and the second round was an assessment based upon the interviews. Vice Chair Dowling asked what would happen if the four-committee members leaned one way on a finalist and Mr. Bridges leaned another way and Mr. Bridges said he is not anticipating that, for if the Committee members all agree and recommended a candidate as a group then Mr. Bridges will would take their advice into consideration.

COVID-19 Update

Mr. Bridges said that Sturbridge is in a yellow community with a rotating six COVID-19 cases at a time, according to the Health Agent.

Mr. Bridges said that the upstairs of the Town Hall was used for early voting and the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk worked through it with plexiglass in place for the voters and coworkers cleaning machines after each use, which worked out well.

Per Mr. Bridges, the town had to report and seek reimbursement for the expenditures of funds between what was spent so far. Mr. Bridges said that a broad and conservative estimate through December 30, 2020, is about \$340,000 that the town is seeking. Per Mr. Bridges, more than half of it has not been spent yet but rather just an estimate to get them through the year because the

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state wanted the town to estimate what it could spend. Mr. Bridges said they may spend some of the money on cleaning out the ductwork at Burgess Elementary and doing additional cleaning at the Fire Station. Mr. Bridges said with the cleaning people at the library, the town had to move those cleaning services to Town Hall and the Senior Center because Town Hall lost a custodian due to non-COVID issues.

Mr. Bridges said that the hotel rooms that the town had booked for any first responders that needed to quarantine ended in July 2020. Vice Chair Dowling asked Mr. Bridges to confirm how much money the town was given and Mr. Bridges said that they were given \$849,000 total and that the schools got their own charity. Vice Chair Dowling suggested that if the town has extra money, to offer testing at the schools (even on a voluntary basis). Vice Chair Dowling said that maybe more testing could move kids out of the hybrid form of schooling and asked if Mr. Bridges and the Board of Selectmen if they would want to have a meeting with the school committees and the Board of Health. Mr. Bridges said they would have to find agency to undertake it and to do the test at the school as well as seeing if it is physically possible to have a group test at school. Chair Blanchard said they would have to make contact with school too. Vice Chair Dowling asked if the Chair of the Board of Health could be copied on this idea in addition to the Health Agent.

Codification Items for review

Mr. Bridges said that most of the items in the codification are administrative, changing syntax, and revising language due to citation changes, saying there is no substantive changes in the text, bylaw, or charter that are taking place and it is more just an update and clean up. Selectman Kaitbenski wanted input from Board of Selectmen on the earth removal section and asked if there should be something stricter to prohibit what happened on New Boston Road saying that when the situation arose, the Board was not able to intervene and asked the Board if they wanted something in case a future situation arose. Mr. Bridges said he is planning to rewrite the earth removal code to narrow what is being done on the site and said that eventually it will be incorporated into the code. Mr. Bridges agreed and said they would have to put it together first and that it is a function of the building code and the town bylaw to see where those two mesh. Selectman Kaitbenski said that he has done work in other towns and if someone is removing excess of 5,000 cubic yards, they need to seek special permitting after that.

**Motion: To accept the Codification Items and update the earth removal code to prevent excessive earth removal without an earth removal license. By: Selectman Kaitbenski
2nd: Vice Chair Dowling**

Chair Blanchard: YES, Vice Chair Dowling: YES, Selectman Suprenant: YES, Selectman Kaitbenski: YES, Selectman Dunnigan: YES

5-0

New Business

NONE

Correspondence

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Selectman Suprenant read the correspondence.

Vice Chair Dowling received separate correspondence from a resident about the proposed equestrian center and her concerns.

Mr. Bridges mentioned October 22, 2020 non-point source competitive grant program Quamqon lake letter to the Board of Selectmen.

Approval of Minutes

October 19, 2020.

**Motion: To approve the minutes of October 19, 2020 as written. By: Selectman Suprenant
2nd: Selectman Kaitbenski**

Roll Call Vote:

**Vice Chair Dowling: YES, Selectman Dunnigan: YES, Selectman Suprenant: YES, Chair
Blanchard: YES, Selectman Kaitbenski: YES**

Vote: 5-0

Citizen's forum

NONE

Executive Session

Selectman Suprenant read the Executive Session Agenda item that read: "To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property, if the chair declares that an open session may have detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body, the Town of Sturbridge."

Chair Blanchard so-declared and asked Selectman Suprenant to add that the Board of Selectmen will not reconvene.

**Motion: To go into Executive Session. The Board of Selectmen will not reconvene open
session. By: Selectman Suprenant**

2nd: Selectman Kaitbenski

Roll Call Vote:

**Vice Chair Dowling: YES, Selectman Dunnigan: YES, Selectman Kaitbenski: YES,
Selectman Suprenant: YES, Chair Blanchard: YES**

Vote: 5-0

The Board of Selectmen adjourned at 8:00 p.m. and went into Executive Session.

Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn at 8:00 p.m. By: Selectman Kaitbenski

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

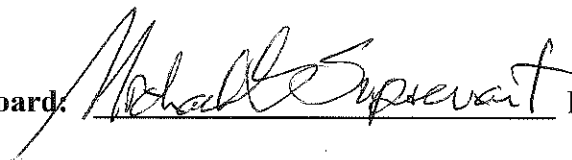
Roll Call Vote:

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**Vice Chair Dowling: YES, Selectman Dunnigan: YES, Selectman Kaitbenski: YES,
Selectman Suprenant: YES, Chair Blanchard: YES
Vote: 5-0**

Adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Alex McConnon

Clerk of the Board:  **Date signed:** 11-19-2020