

**Board of Selectmen  
October 17, 2022  
Veterans Memorial Hall, Sturbridge Town Hall  
308 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566**

**Present:**

Chase Kaitbenski, Vice Chair  
Selectman Mary Dowling, Clerk  
Selectman Jamie Goodwin  
Selectman Ian Dunnigan

**Absent**

Mary Blanchard, Chair

**Staff:**

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

**Executive Session:** Per M.G.L. c.30A, Sec. 21(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel; (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares

**Motion: To go into executive session and then go reconvene in open session**

**By: Selectman Dowling**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Vice Chair Kaitbenski**

**Vote: Selectman Dowling – Yes, Selectman Dunnigan – Yes, Selectman Goodwin – Yes,  
Vice Chair Kaitbenski - Yes**

**Vice Chair Kaitbenski called meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.**

**The Selectmen led the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Vice Chair Kaitbenski read the agenda.**

**Moment of Silence observed**

**Public Service Announcements - None**

**Town Administrator Update**

- Working with KP Law to address the legislative changes to the Community Host Agreements for Marijuana Facilities.

**Department Report – Fire Department**

Chief Grasso, gave a detailed description of his department report. A copy of which is on file in the Town Administrators office.

**Department Report – DPW**

Heather Blakeley, DPW Director gave a detailed description of her department report. A copy of which is on file in the Town Administrators office.

Selectman Dowling wanted to know the time-line for the sidewalk on Cedar Street.

Ms. Blakeley stated it would be at least two years. She will be able to give a better time line once she meets with the State.

- Water and Sewer billing has been delayed the bills should go out at the end of October 2022.

**Action Items:**

- A. Consideration and possible action to approve the tentative agreement with Sturbridge DPW Local 888 SEIU-AFL-CIO.

The Town Administrator gave a description of the tentative agreement with the Sturbridge Department of Public Works.

**Motion: To approve the tentative agreement with Sturbridge DPW Local 888 SEIU-AFL-CIO.**

**By: Selectman Goodwin**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Selectman Dowling**

**Vote: 4-0-0 (Chair Blanchard Absent)**

- B. Consideration and possible action on the appointment of Gina-Marie Kajano to the Joshua Hyde Public Library Board of Trustee's to fill the remainder of the term.

**Motion: To approve the appointment of Gina-Marie Kajano to the Joshua Hyde Public Library Board of Trustee's to fill the remainder of the term.**

**By: Selectman Goodwin**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Selectman Dowling**

**Vote: 4-0-0 (Chair Blanchard Absent)**

- C. Consideration and possible action on the appointment of Lily Dyer to the Joshua Hyde Public Library Board of Trustee's to fill the remainder of the term.

**Motion: To approve the appointment of Lily Dyer to the Joshua Hyde Public Library Board of Trustee's to fill the remainder of the term.**

**By: Selectman Goodwin**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Selectman Dowling**

**Vote: 4-0-0 (Chair Blanchard Absent)**

- D. Consideration and possible action on approving the Trails Committee to design and build the Fiske Hill Trail Parking Lot and perimeter loop trail to Trek loop standard and update on Riverwalk project.

Brandon Goodwin, Chairman Trails Committee, gave a description of what the Trails Committee's role is in the Town and their objective. Mr. Goodwin, presented a power point presentation for the Fiske Hill Property a copy of which is on file in the Town Administrators Office.

**Motion: To approve the Trails Committee to design and build the Fiske Hill Trail Parking Lot as presented and perimeter loop trail to Trek loop standard and to open decision on easement through OFS property.**

**By: Selectman Dowling**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Vice Chair Kaitbenski**

**Vote: 4-0-0 (Chair Blanchard Absent)**

- E. Consideration and possible action on the appointment of Noel Lamonthe as back-up Electrical Inspector.

**Motion: To approve the appointment of Noel Lamonthe as back-up Electrical Inspector.**

**By: Selectman Goodwin**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Selectman Dowling**

**Vote: 4-0-0 (Chair Blanchard Absent)**

- F. Consideration and possible action on surplus for various equipment.

Town Administrator advised the Board that this is various equipment that is either ready for auction or disposal if it is not fit for auction.

**Motion: To approve appropriate action on surplus equipment as seen fit by the Town Administrator.**

**By: Selectman Goodwin**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Selectman Dowling**

**Vote: 4-0-0 (Chair Blanchard Absent)**

- G. Consideration and possible action on surplus on equipment from Department of Public Works.

**Motion: To approve appropriate action of Department of Public Works surplus equipment as seen fit by the Town Administrator.**

**By: Selectman Goodwin**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Selectman Dowling**

**Vote: 4-0-0 (Chair Blanchard Absent)**

H. Consideration and possible action on signing the Warrant for 2022 State Election.

**Motion: To approve the signing the Warrant for 2022 State Election.**

**By: Selectman Dowling**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Selectman Goodwin**

**Vote: 4-0-0 (Chair Blanchard Absent)**

I. Consideration and possible action to sign the Proclamation for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale.

- Vice Chair Kaitbenski, read the proclamation

**Motion: To sign the Proclamation for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale.**

**By: Selectman Goodwin**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Selectman Dowling**

**Vote: 4-0-0 (Chair Blanchard Absent)**

### Old Business

### New Business

### Correspondence

- Memo from Conservation
- Letter from Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Cable

### Approval of Minutes – September 19, 2022

**Motion: To approve as written**

**By: Selectman Goodwin**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Vice Chair Kaitbenski**

**Vote: 4-0-0 (Chair Blanchard Absent)**

### Adjourn:

**Motion: To Adjourn**

**By: Selectman Goodwin**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Vice Chair Kaitbenski**

**Vote: 4-0-0 (Chair Blanchard Absent)**

**The meeting adjourned at 7:37p.m.**

**Minutes prepared by: Michelle Garman**

**Clerk of the Board:** Mary Dwyer

**Date signed:** Aug 7 '23