

**Board of Selectmen
January 17, 2023
Town Hall
Veteran's Memorial Hall, Town Hall
308 Main Street, Sturbridge**

Present:

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

Absent:

Mary Blanchard, Chair

Staff:

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

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

The Selectmen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Chair Kaitbenski read the agenda.

Moment of Silence for all those suffering from personal issues, Covid-19, and people suffering in Ukraine.

Public Service Announcements

- Town of Sturbridge 2023 Nomination Papers Available at the Town Clerk's Office
- All Board and Committee Members must complete the 2023 Conflict of Interest Acknowledgements and Online Training.
- All Board and Committee Members must be sworn in before their first meeting in order to participate and vote.

Town Administrator Report

- Surplus Auction held through Municibid. The Town sold thirty-eight (38) items for a total of \$23,743.00. There are five (5) items left with no bidders, those items will be scrap or trash.
- Municipal aggregation. The Town has looked into this with our Energy Consultant. The Town will have to prepare a plan that then has to go to the State, which then makes the Town an Energy Broker. The challenge is this is an opt-out

plan, the Town would essentially be telling every resident this is the way it is, and that if they do not want it the resident would have to opt-out which does not make the Town Administrator feel comfortable doing.

- ARPA Funding – Design for 60 Cedar Street, Recreation does not have a plan to expand that portion. The beach and the building are not handicap accessible. The Town Administrator is asking the Board of Selectmen to accept the ARPA approved funding in the amount of \$7,500.00 to be used for the design of handicap accessibility.

Motion: To designate \$7,500.00 of ARPA money to the design of the handicap accessibility plan as described here tonight.

By: Selectman Goodwin

2nd: Selectman Dowling

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

Department Report- Police

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

Department Report- Building

Nelson Burlingame, Building Inspector, gave a detailed description of his department report, a copy of which is on file in the Town Administrators Office.

Action Items:

- A. Consideration and possible action on a sewer abatement for Joanne and William Bliss for property located at 27 Audubon Way, Sturbridge.

Motion: To grant William and JoAnne Bliss a sewer abatement for the property located at 27 Audubon Way, Sturbridge for the period of July 2, 2022 to July 4, 2022 to reflect the lack of use of sewer as related the hose breaking in the backyard

By: Selectman Goodwin

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

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

- B. Consideration and possible action on the confirmation and appointment of Florencia Sangermano to the Open Space Committee for a term to expire July 25, 2025.

Motion: To appointment Florencia Sangermano to the Open Space Committee for a term to expire July 25, 2025.

By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Selectman Goodwin

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

- C. Consideration and possible action on the position change for David Lamontagne from Foreman to Senior Heavy Equipment Operator at Step 4 of the Union contract with an hourly rate of \$31.7961, effective January 23, 2023.

Motion: To approve the position change for David Lamontagne from Foreman to Senior Heavy Equipment Operator at Step 4 of the Union contract with an hourly rate of \$31.7961, effective January 23, 2023.

By: Selectman Goodwin

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

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

- D. Consideration and possible action on the appointment of Wendy MacGregor as the Assistant Treasurer/Collector in the Finance Department at an hourly rate of \$28.26, effective January 30, 2023.

Motion: To approve the appointment of Wendy MacGregor as the Assistant Treasurer/Collector in the Finance Department at an hourly rate of \$28.26, effective January 30, 2023.

By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Selectman Goodwin

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

- E. Consideration and possible action on the appointment of Marjorie Vesovski as the Payroll and Benefits Coordinator in the Finance Department at an hourly rate \$27.15, effective February 8, 2023.

Motion: To approve the appointment of Marjorie Vesovski as the Payroll and Benefits Coordinator in the Finance Department at an hourly rate \$27.15, effective February 8, 2023.

By: Selectman Goodwin

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

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

- F. Consideration and possible action on changes to the current Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of Sturbridge and Teamsters Local #170 (Firefighters) to change the Lieutenant of Fire Inspections work week from 48 hours a week to 40 hours a week and decreasing her time-off from 12 hours to 8 hours.

Motion: To approve changes to the current Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of Sturbridge and Teamsters Local #170 (Firefighters) to change the Lieutenant of Fire Inspections work week from 48 hours a week to 40 hours a week and decreasing her time-off from 12 hours to 8 hours.

By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Selectman Goodwin

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

- G. Consideration and possible action on the appointment of JoAnn Kaas as a Part-Time Office Assistant to the Sturbridge Senior Center at an hourly rate of \$18.44.

Motion: To approve the appointment of JoAnn Kaas as a Part-Time Office Assistant to the Sturbridge Senior Center at an hourly rate of \$18.44.

By: Selectman Goodwin

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

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

- H. Consideration and possible action on the selection of a Board of Selectmen representative and alternate for the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission for Fiscal Year 2023.

Motion: Move to re-appoint Jamie Goodwin as the Board of Selectmen representative for the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission for Fiscal Year 2023.

By: Selectman Dowling

2nd: Vice Chair Kaitbenski

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

Motion: Move to re-appoint Mary Dowling as the Board of Selectmen alternative representative for the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission for Fiscal Year 2023.

By: Selectman Goodwin

2nd: Vice Chair Kaitbenski

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

- I. Consideration and possible action for the Board to vote on the proposed revision to the Floodplain District Bylaw and pass back to the Planning Board to begin the Public Hearing process.

Motion: Move to send the proposed revision to the Floodplain District Bylaw and pass back to the Planning Board to begin the Public Hearing process.

By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Selectman Goodwin

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

Old Business:

New Business

Selectman Dunnigan will not be running for a seat on the Board of Selectmen. Anyone interested in being on the Board of Selectmen should see the Town Clerk for papers.

Correspondence

Approval of Minutes: October 3, 2022

Motion: To approve the meeting minutes of October 3, 2022

By: Selectman Dunnigan

2nd: Selectman Goodwin

Vote: 3-0-1 Selectman Dowling abstained (Chair Blanchard Absent)

Approval of Minutes: December 19, 2022

Motion: To approve the meeting minutes of December 19, 2022

By: Selectman Goodwin

2nd: Vice Chair Kaitbenski

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

Citizen's Forum

Adjourn:

Motion: To adjourn

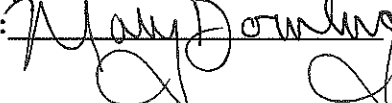
By: Selectman Goodwin

2nd: Selectman Dunnigan

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:00p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Michelle Garman

Clerk of the Board: 

Date signed: Feb 6 '23