

**TOWN OF DEDHAM  
450 WASHINGTON STREET  
DEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS**

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING  
VIA TELECONFERENCE  
NOVEMBER 19, 2020, 7:00 P.M.**

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Dennis Teehan	Chair
Dimitria Sullivan	Vice Chair
James A. MacDonald	Member
Sarah MacDonald	Member
Kevin R. Coughlin	Member

**GUESTS:**

Robert Blaney	Director, Youth Commission, Town of Dedham
Leon Goodwin	Town Manager, Town of Dedham
Nancy Baker	Assistant Town Manager, Town of Dedham

Minutes prepared by Mary-Margaret Scrimger of Minutes Solutions inc. via an audio recording.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Board recited the pledge of allegiance. Chair of the Select Board, Dr. Teehan, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. OPEN DISCUSSION**

Mr. Brian Keaney followed up on the annual town reports, which were said to be done for the fall town meeting. Mr. Goodwin noted that the staff are working hard to do this. He believes the majority will be done but cannot promise the full document. Mr. Keaney asked for the summary report from the library investigation. Mr. Goodwin noted that the Board received it yesterday. He will ensure Mr. Keaney receives it soon.

The town is in the thick of the pandemic and it will not end by Thanksgiving or Christmas. Due to this, the Dedham Youth Committee is creating programming. Mr. Robert Blaney noted that the holiday gift giving program will continue, providing support to approximately 400 kids. There has been a mobile Santa this season that has visited 45 houses in the town. These houses donated a gift card for a child in need. This program will be scheduled for second date due to the success. There will be a Christmas parade on December 6, 2020.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items were on the consent agenda: approval of tree and wreath sale by the Dedham community house, and approval of drain layers by Welch Corp.

A motion was made by Ms. MacDonald to approve the tree and wreath sale by the Dedham community house. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coughlin. A roll call vote was taken:

Dennis Teehan	Yes
Dimitria Sullivan	Yes
James A. MacDonald	Yes
Sarah MacDonald	Yes
Kevin R. Coughlin	Yes

Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

A motion was made by Ms. MacDonald to approve the drain layers by Welch Corp. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coughlin. A roll call vote was taken:

Dennis Teehan	Yes
Dimitria Sullivan	Yes
James A. MacDonald	Yes
Sarah MacDonald	Yes
Kevin R. Coughlin	Yes

Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

#### 4. DISCUSSION AND VOTE

**Conservation Commission Candidate Statements:** There have been advertisements for the Conservation Commission openings. There are three candidate applications: Mr. Erik DeAvila, Mr. Nathan Gauthier, and Mr. Timothy Puopolo. There is one position available.

Mr. DeAvila: Mr. DeAvila is the owner of DeAvila Tree & Landscaping and is a Dedham resident. He wants to be more involved with the town. He has 30 years of tree experience. He does not have experience on committees in the past. Ms. MacDonald asked if his work has brought him in contact with the Conservation Commission. He noted that he has.

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Gauthier has held the position of alternate on the Conservation Commission for two years. His background is in sustainability contracting within Dedham. He is a sustainability contractor for a pharmaceutical company and a Board member for the Charles River Conservatory. His undergrad is in wetland conservation and he is on the master plan committee.

Mr. Puopolo: Mr. Puopolo is a Dedham resident with a career in conservation. He is a dedicated public servant. His current position involves road salt limits, watershed limits, duties of an animal control officer, dam inspection etc. He works with various townships within his role. He has knowledge in local ecology, and he believes is a complement to the current Committee.

The Board will make the appointment at the next meeting.

**Request for DVAC:** Mr. Goodwin noted that 5% of any cable bill goes to DVAC. As a result of the *Modernization Act*, transferring money from the town to DVAC can only be done twice a year at a town meeting. This causes liquidity issues for DVAC. Ms. Marie-Louise Kehoe of DVAC

noted that the DVAC studio is state of the art. She requested that cheques from vendors be sent directly to DVAC rather than to the town. This will reduce liquidity issues.

Mr. Goodwin has not consulted legal counsel yet. Ensuring this is acceptable by accounting standards needs to be done before a decision is made. This will be investigated for a future meeting. Ms. Lisa from DVAC noted that there are significant delays. There has not been a payment since the first quarter.

*ACTION — Mr. Goodwin will investigate accounting standards regarding cheques going to DVAC.*

**Human Rights Commission:** Mr. Joseph Borsellino spoke about the Human Rights Commission. This Commission is two years old. The objective was to be willfully accepted by the community. Relationships with the town and not-for-profits have been formed. There is a strong partnership with the school system to bring Dedham to the 20th century on the equity front.

There are natural alliances that have been formed, especially with the police department during this period of racial justice. Highlight topics of what the Human Rights Commission has discussed: gay rights, human trafficking, fair housing, suicide, immigration, voting rights, LatinX American experience, COVID-19 and race, and the post-George Floyd era. They have facilitated relationships between different departments for human rights projects.

Mr. Philjay Solar informed the Board that October is Filipino history month. While there are few Filipino Dedham residents, he wanted to recognize their contributions to the greater good. Mr. Solar has been networking with other Filipino Americans in neighboring towns. He asked for Dedham to recognize Filipino history month. Ms. Lozel Greenwood described the Philippine Nurses Association of New England, which she is the president. This association has connected with other radicalized groups.

Ms. Nancy Baker read the resolution from the Select Board. In summary, October 18, 1587 had the first Filipinos arrive in California. The first Filipino settlement in Louisiana developed in 1763. The Filipino American community is the second largest Asian American group with approximately four million people. From the civil war to Iraq and Afghanistan, Filipino Americans have a long history of serving in the arm forces. There was the request to the citizens of Dedham to recognize the rich contributions of the Filipino Americans to the vibrancy of the community.

The Board encouraged all citizens in the commonwealth to observe Filipino American month.

**A motion was made by Ms. MacDonald to approve the resolution to declare October 2020 as Filipino American month. The motion was seconded by Ms. Sullivan. A roll call vote was taken:**

<b>Dennis Teehan</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Dimitria Sullivan</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>James A. MacDonald</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Sarah MacDonald</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Kevin R. Coughlin</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

Ms. Margaret Adams has been with the movement since the Commission formed. Mr. Borsellino thanked her for her work. Ms. Adams outlined the literacy collaboration between the library and the Human Rights Commission. Mr. Chris Kelly created the TV show, I am Dedham, which is on Dedham TV. The most recent episode featured veterans, including a Filipino veteran. Mr. Robert Blaney described Real Talk, a support group that is specific to issues for people of color.

**Town Planner—Route One Grant:** Mr. Jeremy Rosenberger noted that this is the first step to revising the two-mile corridor between Spring Street, V.F.W. Parkway, down to the marine rotary. This is a collaboration between Dedham and Boston. Senator Rush was able to secure an additional \$100,000 of funding, moving the secured funding to \$250,000. Currently, the project is collecting data. This is a cross municipal collaboration.

**2021 License Renewals:**

**A motion was made by Ms. Sullivan to approve all licenses issued by the Board as the licensing authority for the calendar year of 2021. The motion was seconded by Ms. MacDonald. A roll call vote was taken:**

Dennis Teehan	Yes
Dimitria Sullivan	Yes
James A. MacDonald	Yes
Sarah MacDonald	Yes
Kevin R. Coughlin	Yes

**Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

**Extension of Outdoor Dining:** Outdoor dining was extended until November 30, 2020. Mr. Goodwin noted that the extension was done in collaboration with the public works department. It was noted that snow removal could become an issue. It would be the restaurants responsibility to move tables in the case of significant snow. With the increase in cases, indoor dining is less enticing. Mr. Goodwin recommended an extension until December 31, 2020.

**A motion was made by Mr. MacDonald to extend outdoor dining until December 31, 2020. The motion was seconded by Ms. Sullivan. A roll call vote was taken:**

Dennis Teehan	Yes
Dimitria Sullivan	Yes
James A. MacDonald	Yes
Sarah MacDonald	Yes
Kevin R. Coughlin	Yes

**Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

**Fall Town Hall Meeting Articles:** The articles are as follows:

- Article 1: an appropriation for collective bargaining agreements for \$203,395 to supplement an amount that was approved at the spring town meeting in August.
- Article 2: an indefinite postponement recommendation as there are no unexpended balances of special articles for consideration.

- Article 3: The proposed capital improvement budget for \$523,210, significantly less than the spring town meeting.
- Article 4: unpaid bills of prior years, as three unpaid bills were discovered totaling \$39,508.
- Article 5: series of line item transfers totaling \$659,396.
- Article 6: appropriates money from special purpose stabilization funds to DVAC and monies paid to the town for the Endicott barn fire and an insurance claim at the Aims building during construction. It was requested that these monies be released to the respective departments.
- Articles 7, 8, 9: the general stabilization fund, annual article to reduce the tax rate, and an additional appropriation for the senior and bettering workout program have been requested to be indefinitely deferred.
- Article 10: to demolish the transfer station.
- Article 11: indefinitely postponed purchasing solid waste carts. The Public Works director has requested additional time to create a more comprehensive financial package.
- Article 12: reports of committees for this town meeting to have a brief update from the electronic voting committee. The purchase of the electronic voting system is indefinitely postponed because the committee has not made their recommendation.
- Article 14: the additional appropriate of \$9.89 million for the public safety building.
- Article 15: the proposed appropriation for the Trenton Road playground, which the proponents have requested it be indefinitely postponed until spring.
- Article 16: the appropriation to plant trees along the rail porter that will be indefinitely postponed possibly until the spring town meeting.
- Article 17: the acceptance of legislation to create a Dedham veterans assistance fund.
- Article 18: acceptance of the *Brave Act* to provide additional assistance to veterans
- Article 19: was a proposed increase to the limits to the senior tax work off program which has been requested to postpone until the spring.
- Article 20: a proposal from a Mr. O'Neil that would accept Chapter 59, Section 5c, known as a residential tax exception
- Article 21-26: zoning amendments or proposals from the planning board.
- Article 27: an amendment to the open space and recreation bylaw.
- Article 28: an amendment to the stoneware fee bylaw.
- Article 29: proposes a new bylaw in respect to training for employees in multiple member bodies on various requirements such as the open training law.
- Article 30: proposed legislation for additional liquor licenses.

Dr. Teehan requested that article 10 and 14 be passed on. Ms. Sullivan requested that article 29 be passed on. Ms. MacDonald requested that article 30 be passed on.

**A motion was made by Ms. MacDonald to concur with the Financial Committee on the articles, excluding 10, 14, 29 and 30. The motion was seconded by Mr. MacDonald. A roll call vote was taken:**

<b>Dennis Teehan</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Dimitria Sullivan</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>James A. MacDonald</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Sarah MacDonald</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Kevin R. Coughlin                      Yes**

**Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

Mr. Goodwin outlined the demolition of the tower, article 10. The cell phone tower has permits to be built. There has been a delay because by mid-October there was not enough information to create a demolition budget. This project will likely go out for bids in the spring.

Dr. Teehan noted that article 14 is the Town's only path forward. Other solutions would be needlessly expensive and provide uncertainty. There will be a meeting for questions on November 24, 2020.

The training in article 29 will be like the open law training from KP Law. The Board discussed training for committees. Mr. Goodwin is open to looking at different ways to execute the training. Ms. MacDonald requested a deadline for the training.

It was noted that the guidelines in article 30 for additional liquor licenses could be beneficial. It is unknown how long the licenses will last. Many restaurants will be closing in the future due to the economic downturn. This is a tool for future years to create a healthy economy. A process and framework would need to be put in place.

**A motion was made by Mr. MacDonald to concur with the Financial Committee on 10, 14, 29 and 30. The motion was seconded by Ms. MacDonald. A roll call vote was taken:**

<b>Dennis Teehan</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Dimitria Sullivan</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>James A. MacDonald</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Sarah MacDonald</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Kevin R. Coughlin</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

Ms. MacDonald wanted to stress the unanimous and strong support for the public safety building.

**A motion was made by Ms. MacDonald to instruct Ms. Nancy Baker and Mr. Leon Goodwin to send a letter on behalf of the Select Board in support of article 14 and to send it as soon as possible. The motion was seconded by Mr. MacDonald. A roll call vote was taken:**

<b>Dennis Teehan</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Dimitria Sullivan</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>James A. MacDonald</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Sarah MacDonald</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Kevin R. Coughlin</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

**5.     TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Goodwin noted that there will be a Q&A on November 24, 2020, regarding the public safety building. The outdoor areas for outdoor dining have been expanded, helping local businesses. Mr. Goodwin recently discovered the winter public spaces grant program which allows towns that have experimented with changes to public spaces to make them permanent. This will be brought to the Board on December 3, 2020.

**6. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. MacDonald requested that parking meters be placed back on the agenda. Mr. Goodwin noted that there has been anxiety on the meters going live. They will not be active on December 1, 2020, despite contrary information. There will be significant public notice. Ms. Sullivan requested information be disseminated on the Facebook page.

Ms. MacDonald noted there is state legislation for stretch building code. She requested that this be addressed at a future meeting.

Mr. Coughlin has communicated with General Dynamics and the school system to discuss opportunities. It was a fruitful meeting.

**7. MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**A motion was made by Mr. MacDonald to move into executive session pursuant to MGL chapter 38, section 21-A, exemption 3, to discuss strategy regarding litigation if in an open meeting they have a detrimental effect to the public body, if the Chair so declares. The motion was seconded by Ms. Sullivan. A roll call vote was taken:**

<b>Dennis Teehan</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Dimitria Sullivan</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>James A. MacDonald</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Sarah MacDonald</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Kevin R. Coughlin</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**

Dr. Teehan stated that the meeting would be adjourned following the executive session.

**DISCLAIMER**

The above minutes should be used as a summary of the motions passed and issues discussed at the meeting of the members of the Select Board. This document shall not be considered to be a verbatim copy of every word spoken at the meeting.

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Director

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Director

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Date

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Date

