

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

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING  
VIA TELECONFERENCE  
JULY 7, 2021, 6:30 P.M.**

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

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

**TOWN OF DEDHAM STAFF:**

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Leon Goodwin | Town Manager, City of Dedham           |
| Nancy Baker  | Assistant Town Manager, City 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, Ms. Sullivan, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2. OPEN DISCUSSION**

Mr. Bob LoPorte provided his address. He asked for an update on how the flooding on Train Street was being addressed. The town manager, Mr. Goodwin, will provide additional information regarding this later in the meeting.

Mr. Brian Keaney provided his address, noting that he requests updates on the minutes every six months. He asked for town reports. These are years behind, so he asked for information on when this would be addressed. Ms. Sullivan noted that this would be addressed at the next meeting.

Ms. Mary Gilbert provided her address and noted an issue with a gas line being hit. She requested information regarding the work they were doing. Ms. Sullivan noted that this would be addressed in the town manager's report.

Mr. Joe Dineen provided his address and expressed concern regarding the speed limit of Dedham Avenue. He requested signage and enforcement of the speed limit as it is negatively impacting his quality of life.

**3. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Goodwin provided an MBTA update. Drainage has been an issue, and there should be a solution and update in the next few weeks. The train schedule has been reviewed, and it does not appear to be an issue. Mr. Goodwin noted that he could follow up with the resident if requested.

The bridge will be addressed via a legislation meeting with the Select Board that will review the designs. This should occur in August. Dr. Teehan asked if there was a specific discussion regarding the bridge height and community engagement. There can be a significant impact on the community when heights are changed. Mr. Goodwin noted that the bridge would be a similar height. There is the expectation that when the design is complete, it will be reviewed by the Select Board, and the floor will be open for discussion with the community.

The plastic bag ban was delayed due to COVID-19. It will be implemented on July 22, 2021.

The double pole list is still being updated. There will be a more formal update in the Fall.

The town hall will be painted in the next few weeks. In addition, there are a few other cosmetic aspects that will be addressed.

Mr. Goodwin noted that the town received money through the American Rescue Plan ACT (ARPA). The county commissioner voted today to accept the 130 million in funds. This will be distributed to towns, such as Dedham. Dedham will need to apply for funds on a project basis.

Mr. MacDonald voiced concern that the county does not have the infrastructure to distribute the money. He requested a meeting with the county in August to plan how the money should be distributed. The money is for citizens, not for the county. A consultant may need to be hired for fund distribution. Dr. Teehan noted concern about budgeting for COVID-19 losses and applying for funding. Mr. Goodwin noted that the money should be accessible for various projects and in different capacities.

Mr. Goodwin noted that significant work had been done on the minutes. There are minutes from 2017 to 2020 on the website. Minutes from January to July 2021 have been sent off and should be available in August. Mr. Goodwin and his staff are working to keep this updated going forward.

Meter parking is active on High Street. In addition, the Lieutenant General is tentatively visiting Dedham to show successful outside dining.

Town reports are being addressed from 2017-2020. Mr. Goodwin hopes there will be a publishable version soon. Like the minutes, the team will work to keep things updated.

Regarding the gas line breach, no service was interrupted, and it was managed quickly.

#### **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A motion was made by Mr. MacDonald to accept the \$1,000 gift from DJWC to COA for the fitness center. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coughlin. A roll call vote was taken:**

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| <b>Dennis Teehan</b>      | <b>Yes</b> |
| <b>Dimitria Sulliyon</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.**

A motion was made by Mr. MacDonald to approve the minutes from May 17, 2021. 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 Mr. MacDonald for the ride for food on October 3, 2021. 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 Mr. MacDonald to resolve the New England walk on September 26, 2021. 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 Mr. MacDonald to approve the request from MBACC for signs and banners for open studios from October 23, 2021, to October 24, 2021. 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.

## 5. PUBLIC HEARING

A motion was made by Mr. MacDonald to resolve to discuss an item that was not on the agenda, as per Ms. Baker. 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.

Ms. Baker recognized individuals from the India Association of Greater Boston, recognizing the 75th anniversary of India's independence. They requested permission to celebrate on August 12, 2021, which will raise a flag.

A motion was made by Ms. MacDonald to approve the request from the India Association of Greater Boston to raise a flag in honor of independence on August 12, 2021. The motion was seconded by Mr. 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.

**Request from Eversource for Manholes on Ruscraft Road:** Ms. Shauna Kyle and Mr. Rick Schifone noted the plan to install 3877 feet of conduit duct bank and six manholes along Ruscraft Road. This request is due to the work that is currently being done. It will allow for further expansion in the future.

A motion was made by Mr. MacDonald to close the public hearing regarding the request from Eversource for manholes on Ruscraft Road. 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.

A motion was made by Mr. MacDonald to approve the request from Eversource to install manholes on Ruscraft Road. 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.**

**6. DISCUSSION AND VOTE**

**Wiggin Avenue:** Mr. Mammone noted that this is in the process of being switched from a private to a public way. The concept and design have been completed. During this process, individuals frequently lose part of their front yards and other changes. The concept and design allow property owners to know what will happen in advance.

**A motion was made by Mr. MacDonald to approve the conceptual overlay map for Wiggins Avenue. 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.**

**Anthony Lane:** Mr. Mammone noted that the Anthony Lane request regards the order of taking. There is an easement that runs through this area. There was an inflow where the storm drain was entering the sewer line. The developer was supposed to create two lines for storm and sewer. It is estimated that over 100,000 gallons per day of stormwater going into the sewage line. This is clean water that is being treated like sewage, which is costing the town. An easement needs to be drafted for infrastructure to repair this. Ms. Sullivan asked if there was recourse with the original developer. Mr. Mammone did not know if that would be possible.

**A motion was made by Mr. Coughlin to approve the order of taking for sewer and storm drainage. The motion was seconded by Mr. 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.**

**Colburn Street:** Mr. Mammone presented a letter requesting traffic calming measures on Colburn Street. It is likely that with calming measures, it will increase speed and traffic on neighboring streets. Mr. Mammone recommended the installation of three-speed humps on Colburn Street, two-speed cushions on Curve Street, and two-speed cushions on Maverick Street. The speed cushions instead of speed humps are due to emergency response access. Approximately \$46,000 in materials is needed. This will be installed as a temporary test and then assessed after six months, likely July to December 2022. During the temporary test, there will be a loss of some street parking. Some of it will be recouped when the infrastructure is installed permanently. Hopefully, the speed reduction will reduce sideswiping of parked cars.

**A motion was made by Ms. MacDonald to approve the request for traffic calming efforts on Colburn Street. The motion was seconded by Mr. 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.**

**Speeding on High and Bussey Streets:** Mr. Goodwin noted that a group of residents from the P3 Committee requested a traffic study of High Street and Bussey Street. Due to the width of the street, there are higher speeds. Drivers do not observe the crosswalks. It is a densely populated area.

Ms. Anna Kijas provided her address. As a resident on High Street, she requested a decrease in the speed limit. There was a study done before 2017. She noted that in this study, there were various suggestions to reduce unsafe conditions in this area. Ms. Sullivan stated that the Board would get back to Ms. Kijas regarding the study.

Mr. Carey Reid provided his address. It is challenging to convince Boards that East Dedham could be more than a place for a strip mall. Mr. Mammone provided more insight into changing speed limits. The state has many requirements in applications to change speed limits.

Mr. Mammone noted that in 2023 there would be a reconstruction of sidewalks, addition of sidewalks, accessible ramps added into transit, more crosswalks added. It should help slow traffic down along Bussey Street. Drivers will drive as fast as they feel safe to do.

**A motion was made by Mr. MacDonald to approve the support of a study, supported by the engineering department of High Street and Bussey Street. 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.**

**Code of Conduct:** Dr. Teehan suggested that Boards appointed by the Select Board sign the same code of conduct as the Select Board. He noted that this is a goodwill gesture but is likely not enforceable. Legal is still investigating this. When the Select Board signed, there was a presentation regarding this. Ms. MacDonald suggested that a condensed version of this be presented to the Boards.

**A motion was made by Mr. MacDonald to request all Boards, Committees, and Commissions appointed by the Select Board consider adopting the Code of Conduct that the Select Board adopted and approved on October 22, 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.**

**Human Rights Commission Appointments:** Ms. Sullivan noted that the candidates that came forward were excellent and qualified. She encouraged anyone who was not appointed to please step forward for other positions.

**A motion was made by Ms. MacDonald to place all names for nomination. The motion was seconded by Mr. 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.**

It was noted that the four incumbent members were Mr. Borsellino, Mr. Kelly, Ms. Wax LaFont, and Ms. Adams. The new applications were from Ms. Chait, Mr. Kaufman, and Ms. Gallant.

Each Board member presented their selection:

Mr. Coughlin: Mr. Borsellino, Mr. Kelly, Ms. Adams, and Mr. Kaufman  
Dr. Teehan: Mr. Borsellino, Mr. Kelly, Ms. Wax-LeFount, and Mr. Kaufman  
Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Kaufman, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Borsellion, Ms. Chait  
Ms. MacDonald: Mr. Kelly, Mr. Borsellino, Ms. Wax-LeFount, Ms. Adams  
Ms. Sullivan: Mr. Borsellino, Mr. Kelly, Ms. Adams, Mr. Kaufman

In conclusion, Mr. Borsellino, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Kaufman, and Ms. Adams were appointed to the Human Rights Commission. These appointments expire on June 30, 2024.

The Board discussed the School Committee representative to the Human Rights Commission. The School Committee asked for the approval of the Select Board for Mr. Victor Herbert to be the School Committee representative to the Human Rights Commission.

**A motion was made by Mr. MacDonald to approve Mr. Herbert as the School Committee representative to the Human Rights Commission. 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.**

**Blue Bunny Bookstore Sidewalk Display Permit:** Ms. Sullivan noted that this was a discussion and not a vote. Mr. Peter Reynolds provided his address, noting he is the owner of Blue Bunny Bookstore and the building. Mr. Reynold provided a history of the store. There is a blue bunny outside the store, acting as a landmark for ten years. The bunny has been temporarily removed, pending the Board's permission to have it as a display outside the store. The sidewalks were increased to provide for programming and public gathering, making the bunny less obtrusive to foot traffic. The bunny is a tool to help businesses. It is not a tool isolated to the Blue Bunny Bookstore but also Dedham. Mr. Reynold thanked the Board for their careful consideration.

Ms. MacDonald asked if the bunny on the sidewalk complies with ADA regulations. Mr. Goodwin confirmed that there is a clear path, and it complies with ADA regulations. Mr. Reynolds noted that the bunny is not as wide as a park bench or a trash can. Mr. MacDonald asked about dates for the bunny and how it would impact snow removal. Mr. Reynolds noted that the permit does not require dates. The bunny is brought inside for snow removal dates but is left out a night. It has only been stolen once and was returned.

Dr. Teehan contemplated if all businesses did this and the ramifications of that. Mr. Reynolds noted that he is a big supporter of public art, such as the bunny, and an economic tool. If all businesses wanted to do this, they could be evaluated for various factors for the permit. Mr. Reynolds noted that he is considering different accessibility elements for the building. Ms. Sullivan pointed out that this would be addressed on the August agenda.

**Select Board Committee and Appointments:** Ms. Sullivan noted that:

- Mr. Coughlin would remain on the School Board Rehab Committee;
- Bob LoPorto would remain on the Open Space and Recreation Committee;
- Mr. Coughlin would remain on the Committee to Review Town Boundaries for the 2020 census;
- Ms. MacDonald would remain on the Master Plan Committee;
- Ms. Sullivan would remain on the Transportation Advisory Committee;
- Dr. Teehan would remain on the Dedham Square Committee;
- Ms. MacDonald was appointed to the Dedham Coalition for Alcoholic and Drug Awareness, as the Liaison to Dedham Pride and the COVID-19 Relief Fund;
- Mr. MacDonald was appointed to Financial Policies, the Mitigation Funds Advisory and the Manor Playground Committee;
- Ms. Sullivan was appointed to the COVID-19 Relief Fund, the Electronic Voting Committee Study and the Manor Playground Committee;
- Mr. Coughlin was appointed to the Norfolk County Advisory Board

**A motion was made by Mr. MacDonald to approve Mr. Coughlin as the representative for the Select Board on the Norfolk County Advisory Board. 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.**



7. **PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING UPDATE**

Mr. Goodwin noted that the public safety building is behind three days due to weather and other design changes related to property lines. The project is under budget by about \$500,000. The webcam is still set up on the site, and children continually visit the site to see updates.

8. **OLD AND NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. MacDonald thanked residents for their work in the power outage. He noted that the national night out is being planned for August 2 or 3, 2021. There will be many community events.

Ms. MacDonald reminded everyone that there would be concerts every Wednesday outdoors.

Dr. Teehan reminded the Board that he would like a committee for the waste transfer station.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. MacDonald to move the meeting into Executive Session. 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.

**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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Director  
*Approved 11/18/21*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Director  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date