



LANCASTER BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting Minutes
Of April 16, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Stanley B. Starr, Jr. called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen to Order at 6:00 P.M. in the Nashaway Meeting Room, located in the Prescott Building, 701 Main Street, Lancaster, Massachusetts. Present were Selectmen Walter F. Sendrowski, Mark A. Grasso, Jr., Town Administrator Orlando Pacheco and Executive Assistant Kathleen Rocco.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

6:00 P.M. Opportunity for public to address their concerns, make comment and offer suggestions on operations or programs, except personnel matters. Complaints or criticism directed at staff, volunteers, or other officials shall not be permitted.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Review and take action on Regular Meeting Minutes of April 1, 2019.

Selectman Grasso moved to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 1, 2019. Selectman Sendrowski Seconded. Walter F. Sendrowski vote Aye, Mark A. Grasso, Jr. vote Aye and Stanley B. Starr, Jr. vote Aye. [3-0-0]

IV. SCHEDULED APPEARANCES & PUBLIC HEARINGS

6:10 P.M. Continuation of Keith Kopley dba Kalon Farms, request for change and alteration of Farmer's Pouring License from Wine to Wine and Beer.

Selectman Sendrowski opened the Public Hearing. Selectman Grasso Seconded. Walter F. Sendrowski vote Aye, Mark A. Grasso, Jr. vote Aye and Stanley B. Starr, Jr. vote Aye. [3-0-0]

Discussion: It was noted that Mr. Kopley was out of town and not able to attend. Town Administrator Pacheco explained that he has been in contact with Mr. Kopley regarding the Pouring License as well as in contact with Town Counsel for clarification.

Selectman Sendrowski closed the Public Hearing at 6:20pm. Selectman Grasso Seconded. Walter F. Sendrowski vote Aye, Mark A. Grasso, Jr. vote Aye and Stanley B. Starr, Jr. vote Aye. [3-0-0]

Selectman Sendrowski moved to approve the Farmer's Pouring License for Wine and Beer. Seconded. Walter F. Sendrowski vote Aye, Mark A. Grasso, Jr. vote Aye and Stanley B. Starr, Jr. vote Aye. [3-0-0]

6:15 P.M. Joint meeting with Finance Committee – re: FY2020 Budget

Present: Jay Riley, Chair
David DiTullio, Vice Chair
D. Susan Thompson, Member
Emily J. Kerrigan, Member
Cheryl Gariepy, Finance Director

Finance Chair Jay Riley reported to the Board of Selectmen that there is a \$300,000 deficit for the second year in a row. He noted that the total education budget in both Nashoba Regional and Minuteman Vocational was more than \$700,000, which is 66% of the of the total budget. Other increased expenses were 8% increase in health insurance for town employees and 17% increase in the retirement benefits.

Mr. Riley further discussed the use of *free cash* stating that most of the free cash was used for capital expenses as well as balancing the budget. Concern was raised on there are no new receipts are coming in. Chairman Starr noted that the North Lancaster development is moving slower than expected.

Finance Committee recommendation for a Proposition 2 ½ override for next fiscal year. Mr. Riley pointed out that without the override, there will be cuts and closures to town departments, services and activities. Further, the Town will not be able to pay for capital needs.

Finance Director Cheryl Gariepy stressed that it will take a full year to educate the residents regarding the need for an override, both Selectmen and Finance Committee agreed.

V. BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS REPORTS - NONE

VI. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

1) *Devens Household Hazardous Waste Update*

FY19 usage and revenues are continuing to be steady for the District. Year to date usage is up over last year and disposal fee revenue is up 23%. The FY20 Assessments have been level funded for member municipalities. To date Lancaster has had 55 participants combining for 811 gallons of material to be disposed.

2) *Free Cash Certification*

The Dept. of Revenue has certified Free Cash for the Town, Solar Field, and Water Enterprise. The certified amounts are:

General Fund	\$2,339,532
Solar Farm	\$364,246
Water	\$2,282,245

3) *New EV*

The Town has picked up the new Electric Vehicle (Nissan Leaf) for municipal use. The vehicle replaces the electric Ford Focus. The vehicle was purchased with Green Communities money and the proceeds from the sale of the old vehicle. The new battery range will allow for additional use from all departments.

4) *Gazebo*

The Gazebo is scheduled to be moved on May 7th. In advance of the move a new base will need to be placed on site. Selectman Grasso stated that Board made it very clear that the Gazebo will stay on the Town Green, noting that the Citizens' Petition Article regarding the Gazebo is nonbinding.

5) *LCC Transformers*

National Grid will be removing transformers in the LCC that are no longer in use. We are also working with NGRID to improve the pole feed off the parking lot on Harvard Rd. The work will be completed and paid for by NGRID.

VII. ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET, AND POLICY
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1. Move to take action on the Annual Town Election Warrant.

Selectman Grasso moved to approve the Annual Town Election Warrant. Selectman Sendrowski Seconded. Walter F. Sendrowski vote Aye, Mark A. Grasso, Jr. vote Aye and Stanley B. Starr, Jr. vote Aye. [3-0-0]

2. Move to take action on the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Selectman Sendrowski moved to accept the Town Meeting Warrants as presented. Selectmen Grasso Seconded. Walter F. Sendrowski vote Aye, Mark A. Grasso, Jr. vote Aye and Stanley B. Starr, Jr. vote Aye. [3-0-0]

3. Animal Control Update

Town Administrator Pacheco updated the Selectmen on the Animal Control Officer and the agreement with the Town. Mr. Pacheco noted that the current DPW Union contract had eliminated a section regarding picking up dead animals along the roads. He further noted that the past Town Administrator negotiated with the Animal Control Officer her duties regarding the dead animals and how they are to be removed off the roads.

Mr. Pacheco stated that there needs to be a better scenario on how the Animal Control Officer is deployed and her response time.

The Selectman asked Mr. Pacheco to engage the Animal Commission to come before the Board to discuss further.

4. Route 70/117 Intersection Project(s)

Town Administrator Pacheco informed the Board of Selectmen that the Route 70/117 Project will need to be pushed out one year, due to the culverts. He explained there will need to be a design plan for the culverts, which will need to be enlarged. He did point out that MassDot will pay for the larger culverts.

VIII. APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

Appointments:

Commission on Disability

Selectman Sendrowski moved to appoint Building Commissioner Tony Zahariadis to the Commission on Disability. Selectman Grasso Seconded. Walter F. Sendrowski vote Aye, Mark A. Grasso, Jr. vote Aye and Stanley B. Starr, Jr. vote Aye. [3-0-0]

Memorial Day Committee

Selectman Sendrowski moved to appoint Alphonse Russo, 140 Old County Road, term to expire 6/30/2020 to the Memorial Day Committee. Selectman Grasso Seconded. Walter F. Sendrowski vote Aye, Mark A. Grasso, Jr. vote Aye and Stanley B. Starr, Jr. vote Aye. [3-0-0]

Resignation:

Council on Aging

Selectman Grasso moved to accept the resignation from Elsie Lively, effective immediately. Selectmen Sendrowski Seconded. Walter F. Sendrowski vote Aye, Mark A. Grasso, Jr. vote Aye and Stanley B. Starr, Jr. vote Aye. [3-0-0]

IX. LICENSES AND PERMITS - NONE

X. NEW BUSINESS *

**This item is included to acknowledge that there may be matters not reasonable anticipated by the Chair.*

XI. COMMUNICATIONS


- . Board of Selectmen's meeting will be held on Monday, May 6, 2019 in the MRLB Auditorium at 6:00 p.m.
- . Special & Annual Town Meeting will be held on Monday, May 6, 2018 in the MRLB Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business, on Motion by Selectman Grasso, seconded by Selectman Sendrowski, it was unanimously voted the Board of Selectmen adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Kathleen Rocco
Executive Assistant


Walter F. Sendrowski, Clerk
Approved and accepted: 5.6.19