



Select Board Meeting Minutes

Date: February 8, 2021

Time: 7:15 PM

Location: Conducted by Remote Participation

Present: Mr. Hurd, Chair, Mrs. Mahon, Mr. DeCoursey, Mr. Diggins

Also Present: Mr. Chapdelaine, Mr. Heim, Ms. Maher

Absent: Mr. Curro, Vice Chair

1. Executive Order on Remote Participation

Mr. Hurd opened the meeting by explaining that due to the current State of Emergency, to lower the risk of the spread of COVID-19, the Town has been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such the Governor's orders suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a public and accessible location. Public bodies may meet entirely remotely as long as the public can access the meeting. The meeting reference materials and how to access the remote meeting are posted on the Town's website. The Chair asked participants that would like to speak, to use their full name rather than a nickname.

Mr. Hurd wanted to go over some business ground rules for effective and clear conduct of the meeting and to ensure accurate meeting minutes:

The Chair will introduce each speaker on the agenda, after they conclude their remarks; Mr. Hurd will ask each member of the Board for their remarks or a motion. Please wait until your name is called. Please remember to mute your phone or computer when you are not speaking and to speak clearly. For any response, please wait until the Chair yields to you and state your name before speaking. Anyone wishing to speak to someone must do so through the Chair.

Mr. Hurd stated that Mr. Curro would not be joining the meeting and has submitted a letter of resignation to the Select Board, which will be effective Friday, February 12th.

2. COVID-19 Update

Adam Chapdelaine, Town Manager

Christine Bongiorno, Director of Health and Human Services

Mr. Chapdelaine briefly introduced this agenda item stating that it is still very important to maintain restrictions that have been in place for a long time now to keep people from transmitting the virus. Mr. Chapdelaine explained that they are also transitioning into a time where we're rolling out more and more vaccinations to protect people from the

virus. Mr. Chapdelaine explained that he, Mrs. Bongiorno, and a number of Town staff meet daily to check in on the status of our response to the pandemic. Mr. Chapdelaine would like to compliment Mrs. Bongiorno for doing an exceptional job well done, and continues to be a tremendous leader for this Town on this front and on many fronts.

Mrs. Bongiorno gave a brief overview of the COVID-19 Pandemic starting from the beginning of February 2020 to the present day. Mrs. Bongiorno stated that currently, we are faced with the opportunity to begin vaccinating our communities. Mrs. Bongiorno explained the different stages of the vaccine rollout and stated that Arlington began receiving vaccine to distribute within our community around the first responder category within phase one. We rolled out 600 vaccinations to first responders in our neighboring communities and here in Arlington. Arlington has partnered with Lexington, Belmont, and Watertown to roll out vaccines to first responders we also included other healthcare workers, such as nurses that may have been missed. We then shifted gears and began vaccinating the other groups within phase one as vaccines became available. Mrs. Bongiorno stated that the program started for us in the second week of January, we're now in the second week of February and starting second doses. Mr. Chapdelaine added that collectively between him, Mrs. Bongiorno and other municipalities we continue to advocate at the state level for expanding the role of municipalities in vaccinating its residents.

The Board thanked Mrs. Bongiorno for the update and thanked her and her staff for the amount of time and effort that has gone into helping educate and vaccinate the citizens over the course of the year.

3. Facilities Department Update & Introduction of New Facilities Director

Adam Chapdelaine, Town Manager

Jim Feeney, Deputy Town Manager, Operations

Greg Walters, Facilities Director

Mr. Feeney stated that it was wonderful to be a part of the Department during such uncertain times. Mr. Feeney explained that the Facilities Department has done work brought upon by COVID including increased disinfection, repairing and overhauling ventilation equipment. Upgrading HEPA filters procuring and distributing air cleaners and plastic burners, among other things, the Facilities Department had and continues to have a critical role in keeping our building occupants safe and at ease. Mr. Feeney would like to acknowledge all the hard work the men and the women of the facilities department have done to get the schools ready for re occupancy and for keeping them operating. They have also provided assistance to various other departments throughout the various stages of the pandemic. Now, including working alongside DPW to provide safe elections staging and unprecedented outdoor town meeting to supporting COVID testing sites and vaccination delivery at Arlington High School. Mr. Walters, Facilities Director stated that he is very excited to be on board in Arlington and gave a brief

background. Mr. Walters stated that there are many things coming up for the department and is happy to be a part of it.

The Board thanked Mr. Feeney for his work in the Department during this unprecedented time and would like to welcome aboard Mr. Walters in his new role. The Board stated that they are looking forward to all of the things Mr. Walters will bring to the department with his impressive background in the field.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Reappointments (term to expire 1/31/2024)
 - Board of Youth Services
 - Joan Axelrod
 - Commission on Arts and Culture
 - Stephanie Marlin-Curiel
 - Disability Commission
 - Kerrie Fallon
 - LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission
 - Brooks Harrelson

5. For Approval: Arlington Reads Together Banners
Anna Litten, Assistant Director, Robbins Library

Mrs. Mahon moved approval.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion by Mr. Heim.

Mrs. Mahon: yes
Mr. DeCoursey: yes
Mr. Diggins: yes
Mr. Hurd: yes

SO VOTED (4-0)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

6. 7:30 p.m. RCN Cable Television License Transfer to Stonepeak Associates IV, LLC
Douglas W. Heim, Town Counsel

Mr. Heim stated that by the basic nature of this is only limited to the transfer of this license from one parent company which holds RCN to a new parent company which holds RCN. Mr. Heim stated that the Board has received some information about the applicant that is under the law allowed to be kept confidential because it's preliminary. Mr. Heim explained that things like that are financial in nature, and if the Board has any questions or the public has any questions they should ask the applicant.

Mr. Steele, Vice President and regulatory counsel for RCN stated that they are before the Board to talk about the change of ownership in 2010 RCN was bought by an investment company. The investment company hired a management run the company in 2016 and 2017, they, the company were sold to another investment company, and the management team was asked to stay on. Mr. Steele explained that now in 2021, we have yet another investment company looking to buy their interest in the company. Mr. Steele explained that nothing is going to change from the Boards perspective. However, it is required to have this hearing and seek the Board's approval.

Mr. Nielsen, spoke on behalf of Stone Peak, who is the transferee in this transaction. Mr. Nielsen stated that this is an indirect change of control and the owner of RCN will remain same and RCN will remain a business in the same way it is a business today. Mr. Nielsen explained the application and that the ultimate control goes to Michael Doral, Co-Founder of Stone Peak.

The Board thanked the applicants for their presentation and followed up with some questions. Mr. Heim stated that the applicant is looking for a vote of endorsement

Mrs. Mahon moved approval of the resolution for the consolidated application for consented transfer control of Section 214.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion by Mr. Heim.

Mrs. Mahon: yes
Mr. DeCoursey: yes
Mr. Diggins: yes
Mr. Hurd: yes

SO VOTED (4-0)

APPOINTMENTS

7. Arlington Committee on Tourism and Economic Development

Christopher D'Angelo

James Byrnes

Michelle Deakin

(terms to expire 12/31/2022)

Mr. D'Angelo appeared before the Board and stated that he and his wife are new to the Town of Arlington and he was looking for ways to give back to the community. Mr. D'Angelo stated that in his past role he was working on Capitol Hill and had the opportunity to do a lot of work with the District of Columbia, working in different economic development issues there. Mr. D'Angelo stated that he feels with that background it was a great way to serve the community.

Mr. Byrnes appeared before the Board and stated that he is an Arlington Resident and by day he is an attorney for QuickBooks a small business software. Mr. Byrnes stated that he finds it very enjoyable helping out small businesses, which is why he would like

to serve on this committee. Mr. Byrnes explained that he is excited to share the kind of work he does during the day back into the community.

Ms. Deakin appeared before the Board and stated that she is really excited for the opportunity to serve on this committee to try to get the word out about why other people should spend time here, and money here. Ms. Deakin explained that she is a writer by trade and public relations professional and is currently the communications director for the Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation, which provides civil legal aid for low income people in Massachusetts Ms. Deakin explained that she does a lot of work with websites and social media and thought, I can help Arlington with that I'd be very happy to spend my time doing that.

The Board thanked the applicants for their willingness to serve on this committee and stepping up into this role. The Board stated that they look forward to interacting with them over the years.

Mrs. Mahon moved approval.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion by Mr. Heim.

Mrs. Mahon: yes
Mr. DeCoursey: yes
Mr. Diggins: yes
Mr. Hurd: yes

SO VOTED (4-0)

OPEN FORUM

Beth Melofchik, Russell Street, stated that many of her constituents have lost work and or have reduced income due to COVID. Ms. Melofchik stated that they have heard or read about the recent finance committee meeting and the projected potential override of 13 to \$15 million in 2023 or 2024. Ms. Melofchik questioned whether any budget cuts are being considered and asked whether a portion of the Town Manager's income is being paid by Metropolitan Area Planning Council Metropolitan mayor's coalition.

TRAFFIC RULES & ORDERS / OTHER BUSINESS

8. Discussion: Future Select Board Meetings

The Board voted the following Select Board dates:

March 8, 2021
March 22, 2021
April 5, 2021
April 12, 2021
April 26, 2021

9. Chief Information Officer Search Process

Adam Chapdelaine, Town Manager

Mr. Chapdelaine provided the Board with an update on what the Town is contemplating in terms of searching for a new department head. Mr. Chapdelaine stated that David Good has recently retired as the town's Chief Technology Officer; David gave well over a decade of really tremendous service to the Town, and will be sorely missed. Mr. Chapdelaine explained that they are looking to change the title to Chief Information Officer, as opposed to Chief Technology Officer. Mr. Chapdelaine shared the memo before the Board explaining that they are looking to cast a wide net, both from a technology expertise point of view as well as a diversity point of view in terms of attracting candidates. They will go through a multi-step process that is inclusive of IT experts within the community because this is a position that is shared with the schools, much like facilities, the school administration will included in this process. Mr. Chapdelaine explained that they hope to go through recruitment where we solicit applicants; a screening process, a multi stage interview and panel process, and hopefully have selected candidates sometime by the end of April. Overall, we would like to have someone likely able to start just around the end of the school year just as the transition to the summer is beginning.

The Board thanked Mr. Chapdelaine for his memo and timeline.

Mr. DeCoursey moved receipt of memorandum.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion by Mr. Heim.

Mrs. Mahon: yes

Mr. DeCoursey: yes

Mr. Diggins: yes

Mr. Hurd: yes

SO VOTED (4-0)

10. Discussion and Vote: Town Manager's Contract Renewal

John V. Hurd, Select Board Chair

Mr. Hurd explained that the Town Manager's contract is set to expire on February 11, 2022 by which we would have to notify the Town Manager of our intent to not renew his contract. If the Board does not notify certain provisions would kick in. Mr. Heim stated that the Manager's contract has a built in non-renewal notice timeframe. Mr. Heim explained that if the Board intends to not renew the Town Manager they must give notice, or the manager is entitled to certain amount of severance under this contract. If the Board does intend to renew the manager you can say we intend to renew the manager tonight, and we'll set forth a schedule for discussion of violations and contracts over the course of the upcoming weeks.

The Board finds it an appropriate time for them to start thinking about discussing renewal with the manager. The Board also stated that they are behind on the evaluation process and should move forward with those before the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Heim

stated that no motions are necessary on this particular item tonight if the Board is intending to renew the Manager's contract.

Mr. DeCoursey moved to intend to renew the manager and have discussions with him following the evaluations.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion by Mr. Heim.

Mrs. Mahon: yes
Mr. DeCoursey: yes
Mr. Diggins: yes
Mr. Hurd: yes

SO VOTED (4-0)

11. Discussion and Approval: Second Supplemental Comment Letter to ZBA re
Thorndike Place 40B Application
Douglas W. Heim, Town Counsel

Mr. Heim stated that from what he understands to be the Board's position that, there have been some incremental changes proposed by the applicant but it doesn't change the picture from the Board's perspective on why this project doesn't make sense. Mr. Heim stated that he is happy to receive feedback and make any necessary changes before sending the letter.

The Board would like to continue to respect the ZBA's role and stated that they are the ones that are deciding the comprehensive permit application. These are comments for their consideration but would like to reiterate their opposition to the size and scope of this project and send this along to the ZBA. The Board would like to work into the letter that they encourage the ZBA as part of the deliberations to make a site visit as part of their overall determination as they feel it is helpful in terms of looking at the site and what limitations there are both environmentally and traffic. Mr. Hurd stated that he will connect with attorney Heim to make the final edits, institute some of the suggestions, and get this out to the ZBA

Mr. DeCoursey moved approval of the letter subject to final edits.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion by Mr. Heim.

Mrs. Mahon: yes
Mr. DeCoursey: yes
Mr. Diggins: yes
Mr. Hurd: yes

SO VOTED (4-0)

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

12. Correspondence from Town Counsel
Douglas W. Heim, Town Counsel

Mr. Heim stated that this correspondence can be removed from the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Chapdelaine would like to express a very sincere thank you to the DPW and all the staff who have worked hard over the past couple of weeks with the snow we've received. Mr. Chapdelaine stated that they continue to do a great job and they're very deserving of our thanks and appreciation.

Mr. Diggins would like to acknowledge that Mr. Pooler responded and reported to him regarding a question that he had during the quarterly budget update on blue bikes and they are in fact on budget. Mr. Diggins would like to note that it is Black History Month and it means a lot to him that he is part of a very warm and welcoming community. Mr. Diggins would like to thank Mr. Curro for his work on the Select Board and stated that he is such a warm and loving and wonderful person.

Mr. DeCoursey stated that the link created by Olivia Adams an Arlington resident for Arlington Residents to find more information regarding the vaccines is on the Town's website where it will tell citizens what is available for vaccines in the state. Mr. DeCoursey would also like to thank Mr. Curro for his years of service on the Board. Mr. DeCoursey noted that he served on the school committee for four years and of course on the Select board for nine years and he gave valuable service to the Town. Mr. DeCoursey stated that Mr. Curro was a real resource for him over the years and really enjoyed working with him. Mr. DeCoursey would like to wish Mr. Curro all the best and thank him for everything that he has done both as a colleague and as a leader in this community.

Mr. Hurd thanked Mr. Curro for his years of service to the Town, both as a Select Board member, School Committee Member and beyond. Mr. Hurd stated that he has always looked to him as a resource, and someone to bounce advice off of. Mr. Hurd stated that he always gave him his honest opinion and appreciates all the work that he's done for the Town. Mr. Hurd stated that they need to fill his seat within 30 days under the Town Manager Act and that there's no specific requirement that they must go through. Mr. Hurd stated that at their next meeting the Board will take nominations and vote. If anyone is interested in serving to reach out to the Select Board Office.

Mrs. Mahon questioned if all of the committee member have been appointed to the Police Civilian Review Board. Mr. Hurd explained that the Board has appointed Mrs. Krepelka as their designee for the sole purpose of facilitating the first meeting. Mr. Heim stated that he will work with the Manager and Ms. Roman on an inventory of where we are and who's made all their appointments so we know how close we are because there were so many different appointing authorities, and not one centralized one.

Mr. Diggins moved to adjourn at 9:55p.m.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion by Mr. Heim.

Mrs. Mahon: yes
Mr. DeCoursey: yes
Mr. Diggins: yes
Mr. Hurd: yes

SO VOTED (4-0)

Next Scheduled Meeting of Select Board February 22, 2021

A true record attest

Ashley Maher
Administrative Assistant

2/8/2021

| Agenda Item | Document Used |
|-------------|---|
| 1 | Executive Order on Remote Participation |
| 2 | |
| 3 | G. Walters Resume |
| 4 | TM Reappointment Reference |
| 5 | Banner Request Banner Schedule |
| 6 | RCN Transfer Letter and Proclamation |
| 7 | ATED Appointment Reference |
| 8 | March – April Calendar |
| 9 | CIO Recruitment Process |
| 10 | Memo to SB Re TM Contract Renewal |
| 11 | Letter to ZBA Re Thorndike Place |