



## Select Board Meeting Minutes

Date: August 31, 2020

Time: 7:15 PM

Location: Conducted by Remote Participation

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

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

### 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.

## **PROCLAMATIONS**

### 2. Hunger Action Day

Mr. Hurd read the proclamation regarding Hunger Action Day in Arlington. Ms. Doane would like to thank the Board recognizing hunger in Arlington. Ms. Doane stated that she understands hunger has always been a problem in Arlington but now even more so with the pandemic. We can all work together as a community to ensure that no child, family or senior goes hungry in Arlington. The Board is in favor and thanked Ms. Doane for bringing this before them. Ms. Doane stated that if people are looking to make donations they can do so at Arlington Eats and Food Link on Tuesdays between 1 –

4p.m. at Saint John's Church, 74 Pleasant Street. Information regarding Arlington Eats is on their website [www.arlingtoneats.org](http://www.arlingtoneats.org) or Facebook which is updated regularly with their current needs.

Mr. Curro moved to adopt the proclamation.

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

Mrs. Mahon: yes

Mr. DeCoursey: yes

Mr. Diggins: yes

Mr. Curro: yes

Mr. Hurd: yes

SO VOTED (5-0)

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### 3. Minutes of Meetings: August 17, 2020

4. Appointment of New Election Workers: (1) Lisa Blankespoor, 11 Webcowet Road, D, Pct. 9; (2) Chris Broomell, 65 Park Street #1, U, Pct. 8; (3) Jennifer Goebel, 89 Sunset Road, D, Pct. 13; (4) Emily Hoffman, 79 Park Street, U, Pct. 10; (5) Diane Kaplan, 65 Park Street #1, U, Pct. 10; (6) Rebecca Kittredge, 46 Teel Street #2, U, Pct. 3; (7) Sharie McNeill, 9 Walnut Court, D, Pct. 12; (8) Vanessa Rhinesmith, 60 Brooks Avenue, D, Pct.4; (9) Karen Roche, 43 Beverly Road, D, Pct. 11; (10) Elisabeth Sartori, 3309 Symmes Circle, U, Pct. 16; (11) Wendy M. Seltzer, 176 Pleasant Street, D, Pct. 4

Mr. DeCoursey moved approval.

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

Mrs. Mahon: yes

Mr. DeCoursey: yes

Mr. Diggins: yes

Mr. Curro: yes

Mr. Hurd: yes

SO VOTED (5-0)

### **APPOINTMENTS**

#### 5. Transportation Advisory Committee (to fill unexpired terms)

Thouis Jones (term to expire 12/31/2020)

Shoji Takahashi (term to expire 12/31/2022)

Mr. Takahashi stated that he has been involved with the safe routes to school program and has been a bicycle commuter for over a decade and would like to be involved more in the Town. Mr. Takahashi would like to be able to provide feedback to the Town using his expertise. The Board thanked Mr. Takahashi for his willingness to serve the community.

Mr. Diggins moved approval of Mr. Takahashi.

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

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

SO VOTED (5-0)

Mr. DeCoursey stated that the Board was in receipt of Mr. Jones' meeting package as well as a recommendation from TAC. Mr. DeCoursey moved approval of Mr. Jones in his absence.

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

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

SO VOTED (5-0)

### **OPEN FORUM**

No participants appeared before the Board.

### **TRAFFIC RULES & ORDERS / OTHER BUSINESS**

#### 6. Discussion and Approval: Bluebikes Station Locations

Jennifer Raitt, Director of Planning and Community Development

Daniel Amstutz, Senior Transportation Planner

Mr. Chapdelaine stated that the Board approved 4 station locations at their last meeting and there were 2 potential locations that needed further investigation. After doing a little more work the Planning Department has finalized the following two locations for these station locations:

Linwood Street at Minuteman Bikeway – eliminates three parking spaces but is close to the Bikeway and Spy Pond Park. This station would need to be removed in the winter and reduces the width of Linwood to 18' at station point.

Thorndike / Magnolia Field at Minuteman Bikeway – will not need MBTA approval because it is located on Town owned property and is placed outside of the main bikeway path. This will require construction of an additional concrete sidewalk section of 6' wide and 33' long to have the dock placed on this. This station will cut off the informal dirt path between the bikeway and the fields.

The Board is in agreement and feels these are a good location for the stations but would like to see more locations moving up towards Arlington Heights in the future. The Board understands that it needs to adhere with Motivated rules for operating and the stations cannot be more than 1/3 mile apart.

Mr. Curro moved approval.

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

Mrs. Mahon: yes

Mr. DeCoursey: yes

Mr. Diggins: yes

Mr. Curro: yes

Mr. Hurd: yes

SO VOTED (5-0)

7. Presentation: Arlington Community Electricity Opt-Up Campaign  
Ken Pruitt, Energy Manager

Mr. Pruitt appeared before the Board to explain their partnership program between the Town of Arlington and Good Energy which is our green electricity aggregation broker and the Arlington Chapter of Mothers out Front to rebrand the community choice electricity program. Mr. Pruitt explained that this is also to create a new more effective and user-friendly website as well as to run an opt-up campaign that they hope will get many more electricity customers in Arlington that will voluntarily add new renewable electricity to their supply.

Patrick Roche, Director of Innovation, Good Energy appeared before the Board to explain what the program consists of. This program is called Municipal Aggregation or sometimes Community Choice Aggregation. Mr. Roche explained that on your electricity bill there are two parts, it has a supply portion which is the sources of electricity where the electricity comes from and then it has the distribution which is the wires and poles that get it to you. In Arlington, Eversource will always handle the wires and poles but you can choose where your electricity comes from and Arlington has chosen to do a Community Choice Aggregation Program. This is where the Town selects a supply source but Eversource still bills everyone and handles the power outages. This program has been active since August of 2017 and was launched under the name Community Choice Aggregation of Arlington CCA.

Mr. Roche explained that there were four main goals of the program and one of the big efforts has been to increase the amount of renewable energy that is used going above and beyond state standards but at the same time to have competitive prices compared to Eversource. Another goal was price stability so the program can contract for longer terms than Eversource can and stable prices and also choice. Mr. Roche explained that the program has multiple options and they differ in the amount of extra renewable energy that they have in them. Mr. Roche spoke about the program accomplishments over the last three years and how this lead to the rebranding of the program. The program was called Arlington Community Choice Aggregation and is looking to name it Arlington Community Electricity. This program is a Town backed program and there are four choices in the Arlington Community Electricity Program Local Green which offers 11% extra renewable energy, Local Greener which offers 50% extra renewable energy, Local Greenest which offers 100% extra renewable energy and Basic which offers no extra renewable energy. Mr. Roche stated that they are also revamping their website that will include a direct link to the [arlingtonma.gov](http://arlingtonma.gov) homepage and are hoping to have the opt-up campaign kickoff in September.

Jill Manga, Arlington Mothers Out Front local Campaign would like to say that the ACE rebranding and website is a huge improvement, it makes the community electricity program easy to understand and answers questions very well. Arlington Mothers Out Front has been working to persuade residents to opt up to 100% renewable electricity through Arlington's CCA Program since its kickoff in 2017. Ms. Manga stated that having the Town initiate and support a new opt-up effort will help convince more residents to opt-up through the ACE program and Mothers Out Front will continue to support this effort.

Mrs. Mahon moved receipt of presentation and approval of the proposed Arlington Community Electricity Opt-up Campaign.

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

Mrs. Mahon: yes

Mr. DeCoursey: yes

Mr. Diggins: yes

Mr. Curro: yes

Mr. Hurd: yes

SO VOTED (5-0)

8. For Approval: Letter of Support to Mass Housing re: 1165R Massachusetts Avenue  
John V. Hurd, Chair  
Douglas W. Heim, Town Counsel

Mr. Hurd stated that we have attached a revised letter based on discussions that have taken place with both proponents along with more information that they have been in receipt of. Mr. Hurd stated that they have changed their letter to a letter of support for this project as well as changed the language.

Attorney O'Connor would like to apologize to the Board in regards to her letters that were sent to the Board as she was trying to be direct and factual but appreciate their letter of support. Ms. O'Connor stated that it is important to the Mirak Family to have a letter of support from the Select Board.

Ms. Mirak stated that she is very grateful for the time that the Board has taken and is extremely happy to have a letter of support and to move forward with this project in Arlington.

The Board is very happy with the letter moving forward and the support and public commentary that they have received in regards to the project. The Board would like to confirm that the date is changed to reflect the date of the vote.

Mr. Diggins moved approval.

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

Mrs. Mahon: yes

Mr. DeCoursey: yes

Mr. Diggins: yes

Mr. Curro: yes

Mr. Hurd:                   yes

SO VOTED (5-0)

9. Update and Discussion: Special Town Meeting (Virtual)

Adam W. Chapdelaine, Town Manager

Mr. Chapdelaine updated the Board that they have met with various staff members from the Town of Lexington and the amount of volunteer and staff effort it would deem to have a Town Meeting in Arlington. Mr. Chapdelaine stated that they also met with the members of Lexington that created the program and how the platform would work for us and what would need to happen to have virtual Town Meeting in the fall. Mr. Chapdelaine stated that there is a lot of work that needs to be done but feels good about it and their ability to make this happen. Mr. Chapdelaine shared that though Lexington did this in the spring, they did not conduct their full town meeting and their Virtual Town Meeting was very similar to our Town Meeting.

Mr. Diggins stated that he is enthusiastic about this program but stated that the hard part will be training. Mr. Diggins is concerned that the timeline has the training starting a little later than he would have liked. Mr. Diggins stated that it is very important that Town Meeting members take the responsibility for training. Mr. Diggins stated that he is happy to coordinate training with the Town Meeting which he feels will mesh nicely with the precinct meetings.

Mr. Chapdelaine is still thinking the second week of November for the first session of Town Meeting but they will determine an exact date moving forward. Mr. DeCoursey questioned if the Moderator has to ask the Select Board to run the meeting remotely or do we announce the warrant is open first. Mr. Heim stated that the correct process would be to have the Board call a Special Town Meeting and then have the Moderator make the determination in consultation with public health officials to come back to the Select Board and state that it needs to be conducted virtually. Mr. Heim stated that we needed to be mindful of Chapter 48 Section 5 which states that the Planning Board is going to need notice each hearing on zoning articles 14 days before that hearing happens.

Mr. Chapdelaine stated that after the Select Board selects a date he will work with the correct Boards and commissions to make sure they have their reports ready in time and are able to line up their hearings accordingly. The Board is very happy that this will be able to move forward and the discussion with Lexington was productive. The Board stated that they will need to take a vote at their next meeting for a final date for Virtual Town Meeting.

10. Discussion: Future Select Board Meetings

The Board tabled this until the next Select Board Meeting until they vote the date for Special Town Meeting.

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. Curro: yes  
Mr. Hurd: yes

SO VOTED (5-0)

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Diggins wanted to mention that the father of a good friend, Edward Braga passed away on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Diggins stated that his friend does a lot of research with police departments on gang research and body cameras. Mr. Diggins stated that one of his good friends is Paul Krepelka who is Marie's son. Mr. Diggins stated that when these things happen you take every opportunity you have to let people that you care about know that you love them. Marie keeps this town together one way or another and would like her to know that he is thinking about her and hoping she feels better and loves her very much.

Mr. DeCoursey stated that tomorrow is Election Day and would like to thank all of the offices that helped the Clerk's Office put this together and would like to remind citizens to be safe during Election Day.

Mr. Chapdelaine added that he is very appreciative of Ms. O'Connor and Mr. Heim for their hard work in putting together the 1165R Mass Ave letter. Mr. Chapdelaine also would like the Board to know that the Town has received another green communities grant in the amount of \$100,000 for interior LED light upgrades at two of the schools in Town.

Mrs. Mahon moved to adjourn @ 9:14 p.m.  
A roll call vote was taken on the motion by Mr. Heim.

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

SO VOTED (5-0)

Next Scheduled Meeting of Select Board, Monday, September 14, 2020

A true record attest

Ashley Maher  
Administrative Assistant

8/31/2020

Agenda Item	Document Used
1	Executive Order on Remote Participation
2	Hunger Action Day Proclamation

3	Draft 8.13.2020 Minutes
4	Election Worker Master Records Reference
5	Reference from TAC Chair, H. Muise T. Jones Reference S. Takahashi Reference
6	Bluebikes Station Locations Memo Reference
7	Updated Energy Presentation
8	Select Board Letter Letter from M. O'Connor Department of Planning and Community Development Comments Arlington Redevelopment Board Comments Arlington Conservation Commission Comments Letter from C. Rowe Letter from S. Revilak
9	
10	November – December Calendar