



Select Board Meeting Minutes

Date: October 25, 2021

Time: 7:15 PM

Location: Conducted by Remote Participation

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

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

1. Open Meeting Law Requirements & Remote Participation Post State of Emergency

Mr. DeCoursey opened the meeting by stating that the Commonwealth passed on June 16, 2021 an act relative to extending certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the state of emergency, which among other things, allows public meetings to be conducted remotely until April of 2022. Tonight's meeting is being conducted via Zoom, is being recorded and is also being simultaneously broadcasted on ACMI. As such, all business will be conducted by roll call vote. Persons wishing to join the meeting by Zoom may find information on how to do so on the Town's website. Persons participating by Zoom are reminded that they may be visible to others and then if you wish to participate, you are asked to provide your full name in the interest of developing a record of the meeting. Further, all participants are advised that people may be listening who do not provide comment, and those persons are not required to identify themselves. Finally, both zoom participants and people watching on ACMI can follow the posted agenda materials, also found on the Town's website using the Novus agenda platform.

2. Honoring Joseph A. Curro, Jr.

Mr. DeCoursey welcomed Mr. Curro who served on the Select Board from 2012-2021. Before serving on the Select Board, Mr. Curro was a member of the School Committee and the Human Rights Commission. Mr. Curro has also been a Town Meeting Member consecutively since 2003. Mr. DeCoursey presented Mr. Curro with a gift to honor him and thank him for his years of service to the Town.

The remaining Board members shared their experiences with Mr. Curro and thanked him for his service to the Town.

3. Year End Financial Report

Sandy Pooler, Deputy Town Manager / Finance Director

Ida Cody, Comptroller

Mr. Pooler appeared before the Board to deliver the end of year financial report. Mr. Pooler explained that on the expense side the Town kept our spending all within the

budget and on the revenue side it has been lower than years past. Mr. Pooler stated that this is due to the COVID-19 Pandemic but overall, it was a balanced budget. Mr. Pooler detailed each line of the budget explaining the discrepancies if any. After some questions from the Board they thanked Mr. Pooler and Ms. Cody for the report.

Mr. Diggins moved receipt.

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

Mr. Hurd: yes

Mr. Diggins: yes

Mr. Helmuth: yes

Mrs. Mahon: yes

Mr. DeCoursey: yes

SO VOTED (5-0)

4. ARPA Funding Presentation

Adam W. Chapdelaine, Town Manager

Mr. Chapdelaine appeared before the Board and reviewed the changes that he has made since the Board last met. Mr. Chapdelaine detailed each change by line and proposed the following vote:

That the Arlington Select Board endorses the following expenditures by category and the implementation of programs recommended within each category per memorandum provided to the Board by relevant Town departments:

Public Health - **\$511,000**

Premium Pay for Town/School Essential Workers - **\$4,000,000**

Behavioral Health Support - **\$300,000**

Crisis Intervention Support - \$150,000

AYCC Subsidy Program - \$150,000

Small Business/Non-Profit Assistance - **\$1,500,000**

Tenant Assistance - **\$1,000,000**

Administration & Oversight - **\$522,893**

And that further, the Arlington Select Board endorses the following allocations by category, with the understanding that further endorsement will be sought following the development and presentation of programmatic details for each of the categories:

Revenue Loss/General Fund - **\$3,000,000**

Equity & Outreach - **\$600,000**

Premium Pay for Private Sector Essential Workers - **\$500,000**

Behavioral Health Support - **\$350,000**

Behavioral Health Reserve - \$350,000

Low Income Broadband Support - **\$269,000**

Providing Food Security - **\$1,075,000**

FoodLink - \$500,000

Arlington EATS - \$225,000

Providing Food Security Reserve - \$350,000

HVAC Improvements - **\$2,250,000**

Investment in Parks & Open Spaces - **\$4,000,000**

Water/Sewer Spending - **\$6,600,000** (\$1,600,000 already endorsed by Board vote in August)

Affordable Housing - **\$7,831,000**

Arlington Housing Authority Capital - \$2,512,000

Arlington Housing Authority Transportation - \$35,000

Arlington Housing Authority Resident Support Services - \$184,000

Affordable Housing Unit Production - \$4,000,000

Deepening Affordability of Units in Pipeline - \$1,100,000

Homelessness - **\$939,000** (\$50,000 already endorsed by Board vote in August)

The Board thanked Mr. Chapdelaine for the work that has been done incorporating the feedback that they had given at previous meetings during the presentation made tonight. The Board spoke in length regarding the proposed changes and vote.

The following members of the public spoke in regard to this agenda item:

Elizabeth Dray, Jason Street

Mr. Helmuth moved approval of the proposed vote.

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

Mr. Hurd: yes

Mr. Diggins: yes

Mr. Helmuth: yes

Mrs. Mahon: yes

Mr. DeCoursey: yes

SO VOTED (5-0)

PROCLAMATIONS

5. Junior High West/Ottoson Middle School Centennial Anniversary

Mr. DeCoursey read the proclamation to the Board stating that Ottoson Middle School was established in 1921 and is celebrating their 100 anniversary with the Town of Arlington.

Mr. Hurd moved approval.

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

Mr. Hurd: yes

Mr. Diggins: yes

Mr. Helmuth: yes

Mrs. Mahon: yes

Mr. DeCoursey: yes

SO VOTED (5-0)

BOARD DISCUSSION

6. Discussion: Removal of Double Poles

Stephen W. DeCoursey, Chair

Mr. DeCoursey asked that this be placed on the agenda as a discussion to explain that the double poles in Arlington are a problem. Mr. DeCoursey explained that the statute in

MGL Chapter 164 Section 34B states “A distribution company or a telephone company engaging in the removal of an existing pole and the installation of a new pole in place thereof shall complete the transfer of wires, all repairs, and the removal of the existing pole from the site within 90 days from the date of installation of the new pole.” Mr. DeCoursey explained that one of the major problems with the statute is there is no compliance or fine associated with this law. Mr. DeCoursey explained that going forward there needs to be some annual progress towards ending double poles in the Town. Mr. DeCoursey shared some pictures of double poles around Town with the Board. The Board thanked Mr. DeCoursey for placing this on the agenda and agree going forward to work with utility companies to resolve this problem.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

7. 8:15p.m. Eversource Petition/Mass Ave and Lockeland Ave
Jacqueline Duffy, Supervisor, Rights and Permits
(all abutters notified)

Ms. Duffy appeared before the Board and stated that they are seeking approval to insert 196 feet of conduit to support power for a new building located at 882-892 Massachusetts Avenue.

Mr. Hurd moved approval subject to the conditions as set forth by the Engineering Department.

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

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

SO VOTED (5-0)

CONSENT AGENDA

8. Request: Permit for Veterans' Day Parade, Thursday, November 11th
Jeffrey A. Chunglo, Director of Veterans' Services
9. Request: Contractor/Drainlayer License
Large View Plumbing & Heating
Levi Pereira
7 Winter Street
Peabody, MA 01960

Mr. Helmuth moved approval.

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

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

Mr. DeCoursey: yes

SO VOTED (5-0)

OPEN FORUM

No members of the public appeared before the Board.

TRAFFIC RULES & ORDERS / OTHER BUSINESS

10. Presentation and Receipt: Police Advisory Board Study Committee Interim Report

Susan Ryan-Vollmar, Co-chair Civilian Police Advisory Board Study Committee

Laura Gitelson, Co-chair Civilian Police Advisory Board Study Committee

Carlos Morales, Member, Civilian Police Advisory Board Study Committee

Ms. Gitelson along with Mr. Morales gave a brief presentation regarding the work that the Police Advisory Board Study Committee has done since it was created by Special Town Meeting in 2020. Mr. Morales has stated that that over the course of the year they have met with multiple experts as well as talented Town staff members to help the committee understand the issues related to our charge from town meeting. Mr. Morales explained in detail the model and oversight of the committee.

The Board thanked Ms. Gitelson and Mr. Morales for their work to date and look forward to hearing from them in the future.

Mrs. Mahon moved receipt.

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

Mr. Hurd: yes

Mr. Diggins: yes

Mr. Helmuth: yes

Mrs. Mahon: yes

Mr. DeCoursey: yes

SO VOTED (5-0)

11. Discussion: Scope of Work for Organizational Economic Development Plan

1. Streamline Economic Development-Related Committees for Organizational Efficiency

2. Create new Outdoor Restaurant and Retail Permit Application Process

3. Revise Policies, Rules, and Regulations of Alcohol Licenses for Restaurants

Ali Carter, Economic Development Coordinator

Ms. Carter appeared before the Board regarding a report as the Town transitions from the pandemic phase of COVID-19 to the more endemic phase of COVID-19. Ms. Carter stated that this is a preliminary conversation and is looking to receive feedback. Ms. Carter explained that these ideas are generated and discussed by the Economic Development Recovery Task Force and all the recommendations contained in the report were unanimously approved by them at their level last meeting. Ms. Carter explained in detail the following three recommendations:

1. Streamline Economic Development-Related Committees for Organizational Efficiency

2. Create new Outdoor Restaurant and Retail Permit Application Process

3. Revise Policies, Rules, and Regulations of Alcohol Licenses for Restaurants

The Board thanked Ms. Carter for the presentation and the work of the Economic Development Recovery Task Force.

Mr. Hurd move receipt of 1 and 3 and move approval of 2.

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

Mr. Hurd: yes

Mr. Diggins: yes

Mr. Helmuth: yes

Mrs. Mahon: yes

Mr. DeCoursey: yes

SO VOTED (5-0)

12. Discussion and Vote: A Letter in Support of Bill S.868/H.1377 (An Act Empowering Cities and Towns to Impose a Fee on Certain Real Estate Transactions to Support Affordable Housing)

Lenard T. Diggins, Select Board Member

Mr. Diggins stated that for the last year he has been working with the real estate transfer fee coalition which consists of many municipalities around the state. Mr. Diggins stated that it would be good for the Board to join other communities in sending a letter to show their solidarity. Mr. DeCoursey added that these two bills create local options for cities and towns to create a real estate tax transfer fee.

The Board thanked Mr. Diggins for bringing this forward and taking the initiative.

Mr. Helmuth moved approval of letter and to authorize the chair to sign on behalf of the Board.

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

Mr. Hurd: yes

Mr. Diggins: yes

Mr. Helmuth: yes

Mrs. Mahon: yes

Mr. DeCoursey: yes

SO VOTED (5-0)

13. Discussion & Approval: BlueBike Station Relocation - Railroad Lot

Daniel Amstutz, Senior Transportation Planner

Mr. Amstutz appeared before the Board and explained that the Town of Arlington has a blue bike program in Arlington where we have six stations total and five of them are on the street which are taking up parking spaces. Mr. Amstutz explained that they are looking for Board approval to relocate two blue bike stations what would provide bikers with year-round accessibility when moved. Mr. Amstutz explained that the Linwood Street station would be moved approximately 20' to a newly-constructed asphalt sidewalk behind the existing sidewalk along Scannell Field. The Railroad Lot station would be moved approximately 50' onto an existing brick sidewalk adjacent to the building at 633-641 Mass Ave.

The Board thanked Mr. Amstutz for his report and presentation

Mr. Helmuth moved approval.

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

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

SO VOTED (5-0)

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

14. Change of Pick Up / Drop Off Location at Stratton School
Sandra Cannon & Steve Angelo
Arlington Public Schools Transportation Department

15. Safety Issues on Elmhurst Road
Pam Wolfson and Alan LaRue, Newcomb Street

Mr. Diggins moved receipt and referral to Town Manager.
A roll call vote was taken on the motion by Mr. Heim.

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

SO VOTED (5-0)

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Chapdelaine stated that the Town is going to be to apply for a grant in relation to water sewer investments, that we will likely get \$48,000 which will help us pay down sewer related debt service. The applications are due Friday, and today we learned that as the water sewer commissioners, the board needs to vote affirmatively and sign on to that application. Mr. Chapdelaine asked if the Board could meet on Friday to approve moving forward with the grant application.

Mr. Diggins stated that the Civic Engagement Group is going to meet virtual on Thursday November 4th at 7:00p.m. to discuss warrant articles.

Mr. Hurd thanked former Fire Chief Jefferson and Rob Dustin for an incredible event on Friday for the six retiring firefighters and wished them luck on their well-deserved retirement.

Mrs. Mahon stated that she would like to meet with the Chair regarding a strategy for Mugar. Mrs. Mahon would also like a report update from the Long-Range Planning Committee.

Mr. DeCoursey would like to echo Mr. Hurds comments regarding the Fire Retirement party explaining that it was great.

Mr. Diggins made a motion to move to Executive Session and adjourn executive session and open session at the same time.

Mrs. Mahon: yes

Mr. DeCoursey: yes

Mr. Diggins: yes

Mr. Hurd: yes

Mr. Helmuth yes

SO VOTED (5-0)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

To conduct a strategy session in preparation for contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, the Town Manager, and/or conduct contract negotiations with same.

Next Scheduled Meeting of Select Board November 8, 2021

A true record attest

Ashley Maher
Office Manager

10/13/2021

Agenda Item	Documents Used
1	Open Meeting Law Requirements Post State of Emergency
2	Executive Order on Remote Participation
3	
4	Fourth Quarter Budget Report
5	Draft Vote ARPA Framework AHA Request for ARPA Funding AHA Request Broadband Housing and Economic Development Memo Proposal for EATS HHS Draft Proposal Food Link Memo Water & Sewer Memo
6	Proclamation
7	Double Pole Reference MGL Ch 164 Section 34B
8	Engineering Memo Eversource Reference
9	Veterans Day Parade Request
10	Large View Plumbing & Heating Reference
11	Interim Report Presentation Slides
12	Report and Recommendation
13	Draft Letter

14	Memo from Planning Department Map
15	Reference
16	Elmhurst Road CR