



SELECT BOARD
Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2021

APPROVED: February 22, 2021

PRESENT: Wes Fowlks, Chair; John Markiewicz, Clerk; Les Fox, Member; Maria Neyland, Member and Bob Stemple, Member
ALSO PRESENT: Ryan Ferrara, Town Administrator, Rajon Hudson, Assistant Town Administrator; Police Chief Warren Ryder; Evelyn Issah Abayaah, ABRSC Member; Kyra Cook, ABRSC (Acton) and Cheryl Mahoney Department Assistant

At 4:04 PM Chair Fowlks called the meeting to order noting that this meeting is being conducted via Remote Participation, pursuant to the Current Executive Order.

The documents discussed herein have been included with the file copy of the agenda packet for the above referenced date, and are hereby incorporated by reference.

GENERAL BUSINESS

DISCUSSIONS RELATIVE TO RECENT HATE INCIDENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Hate crimes directed at members of Acton-Boxborough School Committee - Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committee members Evelyn Issah Abayaah (Boxborough), Kyra Cook (Acton) and Police Chief Warren Ryder were present for this discussion. Chair Fowlks spoke to the recent hate crime incidents that targeted the ABRSC meetings, specifically at Ms. Issah Abayaah and Ms. Cook and the subsequent criminal investigation. Chair Fowlks spoke to the Boxborough Select Board's support of Ms. Issah Abayaah and Ms. Cook and the Acton Boxborough Regional School District's efforts to seek and support racial equity in our community. Chair Fowlks shared a website that provides education and support for community responses to hate activities www.niot.org. There should be a concerted effort in both communities and the School District to educate as to and to address racial inequity. ABRSD Supt. Light is actively work to develop steps to engage in these efforts. We, as a community, need to have a louder voice and act across the District and our communities. We need to do better. Chief Ryder provided his input. It was noted that the Boxborough Select Board had issued a statement of support after the initial incident. There was discussion of the efforts in Boxborough to speak to racial inequity and the additional means to demonstrate support. Issah Abayaah advised that she has received overwhelming community support and appreciated Chief Ryder's outreach and his commitment to support her and the Town's racial equity efforts. Acton's Police Chief Burroughs has also reached out to her. These disruptions will not stop the role of democracy in our community and our Country. She is looking forward to getting back to the work of the District. She spoke to her personal journey; growing up in Ghana and moving into our community. She thanked the Select Board for holding this conversation. Ms. Cook also spoke to her background and personal journey. They noted they are honored to be making history with their service to our communities.

MINUTES

Member Markiewicz moved to accept the Executive Session minutes of November 2, 2020, December 18, 2020 and January 4, 2021, as written. Seconded by Member Stemple **Approved: 5-0 by** Roll Call Markiewicz "aye," Neyland "aye," Stemple "aye," Fox "aye," and Fowlks "aye."

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At: 4:35 PM, Chair Fowlks moved to adjourn to conduct an Executive Session via a separate ZOOM event, and not to reconvene in Open Session after completion of the Executive Session, to conduct strategy sessions concerning negotiations with nonunion personnel (Town Administrator), per C30A §21 (a) subsection 3, further noting that to discuss in open session may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Board. Seconded by Member Stemple **Approved: 5-0 by** Roll Call Markiewicz "aye," Neyland "aye," Stemple "aye," Fox "aye," and Fowlks "aye."

Exhibits

Agenda

Website www.niot.org



TOWN OF BOXBOROUGH NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Revised

1/8/2021

SELECT BOARD
Meeting Agenda
Friday, January 8, 2021
4:00 PM
Conducted via a ZOOM Event

Item #	Estimated Start Time	Action Vote/ Accept & POF
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This meeting is being conducted via Remote Participation, pursuant to the Current Executive Order. See the end of this Agenda for remote participation instructions for the Regular Session portion of this meeting

1. 4:00 PM Call to Order via ZOOM pursuant to the procedures noted above.

Select Board meetings have a number of topics and issues that must be discussed and deliberated by the Board. We ask that residents hold their comments until the Board has had the opportunity to get their questions answered. Due to time constraints, the Board may not be able to accommodate comments from all residents on all topics. Please wait to be recognized by the Chair before addressing the Board. We ask that participants be respectful and civil. We thank you for your understanding.

2. General Business

Action Items

Discussions relative to recent Hate incidents in our Community

Hate crimes directed at members of Acton-Boxborough School Committee

3. Minutes

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| a. | November 2, 2020 - Executive Session | ACCEPT & POF |
| b. | December 18, 2020 - Executive Session | ACCEPT & POF |
| c. | January 4, 2021 - Executive Session | ACCEPT & POF |

4. Executive Session - Vote to adjourn to conduct an Executive Session via a separate ZOOM event, the Select Board will not be reconvening in Open Session after completion of the Executive Session:

Vote to adjourn to conduct an Executive Session via a separate ZOOM event, and not to reconvene in Open Session after completion of the Executive Session:

VOTE:

To conduct strategy sessions concerning negotiations with nonunion personnel (Town Administrator), per C30A §21 (a) subsection 3.

Note: *The Chair shall note that to discuss in open session may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Board.*

2021: 1/25; 2/8; 2/22; 3/1; 3/15; 3/29; 4/12; 4/26; [5/17-TBD]; 5/24; 6/7; 6/21; 7/12; 7/26

FY 22 Operating Budget Saturday: 1/9/2021

FY 22 Capital Budget Saturday: 2/6/2021

Boxborough Leadership Forum (BLF): 1/19/21

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81312282052?pwd=WnpFdzdXbWtUeGNxT0VUSEVd052Zz09>

Meeting ID: 813 1228 2052

Passcode: 419620

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,81312282052# US (New York)

+13017158592,,81312282052# US (Washington D.C)

Dial by your location

1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/krWTV2E4H>