



SELECT BOARD  
Meeting Minutes  
February 12, 2021  
3:30 PM

Approved: March 29, 2021

**PRESENT:** Wes Fowlks, Chair; John Markiewicz, Clerk; Maria Neyland, Member; Les Fox, Member and Bob Stemple, Member

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ryan Ferrara, Town Administrator; Rajon Hudson, Assistant Town Administrator and Cheryl Mahoney, Department Assistant

Along with: Becky Neville and Carol Driscoll

At: 3:32 PM, Chair Fowlks called the Select Board meeting to Order via a Zoom event, in Open Session.

**Discussion of the February 10th Swanson Road Fire**

Fowlks stated that no one was hurt and all the pets were rescued. Stemple discussed his participation, as a Per Diem Firefighter, in the rescue and firefighting efforts in the event. Out of the 24 households, 13 members are staying at the Boxboro Regency. The Hotel is offering meals and rooms at a reduced rate. All residents have been displaced by this incident.

Stemple stated that the Regency called Boxborough Dispatch during fire, offering their support. The staff has been amazing. Neyland stated that the Regency's staff have really stepped up in support for the families affected by the fire. There was discussion as to ways for the Town to express its appreciation for all the Regency has done

Ferrara explains that there is an on-going police presence at the site and they have been providing direction to the people impacted from the fire. The Salvation Army has been very active along with the local support provided by the Acton/Boxborough United Way and the Boxborough United Church of Christ. Both the ABUW and Boxborough UCC are collecting funds for the 24 displaced families. Town officials are participating with these groups in a support conference today at 5 PM. Rev. Cindy Worthington-Berry has been actively involved with getting the impacted families connected with recovery and support services.

Our public safety-first responders were super stars in keeping everyone safe. Town staff continues to work to address the resident's needs.

We were able to escort some of the families in to their units for a few minutes today. The Fire Dept. also went in and attempted to recover some personal items from the more damaged units. This section has been deemed unsafe and this portion of the structure will be taken down.

There was no sprinkler system in the building and there are some larger questions/concerns in regards to this property as well.

Wes reviewed some of the measures that have been taken address the various needs. He stated that a team of volunteers are working to create a centralized response to optimize our responses.

The Town's support of the UCC has allowed them to quickly commit funds to these relief efforts. There is currently very little rental inventory available for these families. There are 3 families with children; 2 of the families have children in the AB School District. The AB School District have confirmed that these students will continue in the AB District through at least the end of this school year.

Neville reported that former resident, David Richardson passed away from COVID-19.

### **Convening of Executive Session**

At 2:48 PM, Chair Fowlks moved 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, to conduct strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining negotiations (All CBUs), 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 Bob Stemple. Approved 5-0 by Roll Call: Bob Stemple "aye", John Markiewicz "aye", Les Fox "aye", Maria Neyland "aye", and Wes Fowlks "aye".

Exhibit

Agenda



# TOWN OF BOXBOROUGH NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Revised

2/11/2021

**SELECT BOARD**  
**Meeting Agenda**  
**Friday, February 12, 2021**  
**3:30 PM**  
**Conducted via a ZOOM Event**

| Item # | Estimated Start Time | Action<br>Vote/ Accept<br>& 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. 3:30 PM Call to Order via ZOOM pursuant to the procedures noted above.
2. Discussion of the February 10th Swanson Road Fire
3. 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 with respect to collective bargaining (CBUs), 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.

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**2021:** 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

**Boxborough Leadership Forum (BLF):** 2/16/21

## Join Public Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83758404843?pwd=NE5DSnQ2TkNFbHhOGhoYm9HOHVVQT09>

Meeting ID: 837 5840 4843

Passcode: 087456

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

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+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83758404843>