



SELECT BOARD
Meeting Minutes
March 31, 2022

APPROVED:

PRESENT: Wes Fowlks, Chair; John Markiewicz, Member; Les Fox, Member; Jennifer Campbell, Member and Diana Lipari, Member

ALSO PRESENT: Carter Terenzini, Interim Town Administrator; Rajon Hudson, Assistant Town Administrator; and Kirby Dolak, BXBTV

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.

OPEN SESSION

At 8:30 AM, Chair Fowlks called Select Board meeting to order, via ZOOM pursuant to the procedures noted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Fowlks read the announcements.

MINUTES

None at this time.

INTRODUCTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

a. Introductions of New Staff

None at this time.

CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

Keith Lyons stated that he is resigning from the Personnel Board, effective immediately. He has completed his own research on budget items of concern and is sickened by the fact that the Fin Com has voted to increase and support the Police Department budget. He believes, at a minimum, the Police Department budget should be flat or depleted. He does not feel safe living in Boxborough, as there are people still working on the Police Department that should not be. The Town should be working to fix this issue immediately. It is deplorable that the Town is not correctly this issue and continuing to push ahead.

TOWN MEETING

a. Discussion/Action RE: Town Meeting

i. Review and vote Warrant Articles and designate unwritten recommendations

Chair Fowlks noted that the Fin Com met on Tuesday and voted to approve the budget, proposed at \$24,595,314.

Member Markiewicz noted that the Fin Com is likely going to request all departments to reduce their budgets by approximately \$10,000.

Member Markiewicz moved to recommend the Town Operating Budget. Seconded by Member Lipari.

Discussion:

Member Campbell stated that she will not vote to recommend this budget because she has not been able to yet view it. She is frustrated with the process thus far. She believes that the Town Accountant needs to review the budget before the Board decides.

Chair Fowlks stated that the Board can defer its recommendation to Town Meeting.

Member Lipari stated that the Board has not even received a copy of the budget yet, and thus, she cannot vote to recommend it.

Member Markiewicz withdrew his previous motion.

Member Markiewicz stated that this concern is that there are a number of warrant articles for assets. There is a \$55,000 asset acquisition in the Police Department budget proposed and he would prefer it be placed on a warrant article. Chair Fowlks suggested that this be presented as information on the floor of Town Meeting.

Member Markiewicz moved to recommend the First Year of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Seconded by Member Campbell.
Approved: 5-0 by Roll Call Fox “aye,” Markiewicz “aye,” Campbell “aye,” Lipari “aye,” and Fowlks “aye.”

The Board discussed the order of the warrant.

Member Markiewicz moved to recommend the Steele Farm – Ice House Article. Seconded by Member Campbell.
Approved: 5-0 by Roll Call Fox “aye,” Markiewicz “aye,” Campbell “aye,” Lipari “aye,” and Fowlks “aye.”

Member Campbell exited the meeting.

Member Markiewicz moved to defer ordering of the warrant to Board members, with the exception of voting first on the budget, followed by the Fin Com article, then the Sargent Road article, followed by the other non-budgetary items. Seconded by Member Lipari.

Approved: 4-0 by Roll Call Fox “aye,” Markiewicz “aye,” Lipari “aye,” and Fowlks “aye.”

OLD BUSINESS – *this was not addressed at this time.*

SELECT BOARD & TOWN ADMINISTRATOR ’S OFFICE REPORTS/UPDATES – *this was not addressed at this time.*

ADJOURN

At 8:56 AM, Member Lipari moved to adjourn. Seconded by Member Markiewicz.

Approved: 4-0 by Roll Call Fox “aye,” Markiewicz “aye,” Lipari “aye,” and Fowlks “aye.”