**SELECTBOARD MEETING DRAFT**

November 3, 2021

Attending the meeting in person; Merrily Lovell, Phil Pouech, Maggie Gordon, Joy Dubin Grossman, Todd Odit, Eric Spivak, Rob Frost, Kendall Frost,

Attending the meeting remotely; Mike Loner, Dennis Place, Scooter MacMillan, Mitch Cypes, Robert Hedden, Michelle Sudol, Patrice, Andrea Morgante

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Additions or Deletions

Todd noted he added the Planning Grant item to the agenda earlier today.

Public Comment

None

Selectboard Forum

Phil mentioned at the last meeting Mike mentioning vehicle noise problems. He said he is willing to discuss this with Todd and Chief Cambridge to find out what the complaints are.

Phil went to Andrea’s bridge to see the plaque and said it looks very nice.

Approve Minutes of 10/20/21

Phil moved to approve the minutes of 10/20/21 as amended. Seconded by Maggie and approved with 5 yes votes.

Mojo Update and Request for Removal of Orders – Michelle Sudol

Michelle attended remotely to answer the remaining questions the Board had.

Merrily asked about use of the muzzle and shock collar in the training.

Michelle said they worked with the muzzle on and use of a shock collar on the first visit with the trainer and without either on following training sessions.

Phil thanked Michelle for her hard work and added he hoped the instructor would give an official opinion that Mojo could go on the trails without the muzzle and shock collar. Michelle said the trainer will not take on that liability and he did not feel it was necessary to write another letter.

Maggie asked if her sons feel comfortable walking him and does she feel comfortable with her sons doing so? Michelle said she is the only one walking him on trails. Maggie asked if she is continuing with the training. Michelle said she takes Mojo to the agility course every week and has been checking back in with the trainer.

Merrily moved the Selectboard remove the restrictions places on Mojo as Michelle has fulfilled all the requests made by the Board. Seconded by Maggie. Phil noted he will vote yes but is nervous because of past instances. He said it sounds like Michelle understands how serious this is.

Motion voted and approved with 5 yes votes.

Consider Approving FY 22 Resolution of Bylaw Modernization

South Boutin Road Improvement Request – Robert and Anne Frost

Dennis recused himself as this project is also before the DRB.

Todd said he met with Rob Frost and the engineers to discuss how the concern of the stormwater infrastructure within the Town right-of-way. The engineers came up with a way to relocate the stormwater that would not be within the Town right-of-way. Todd said it has also been confirmed the road is a Class 4 road.

Phil moved the Board approve the Frost development to a Class 4 road as shown in the drawing and upgrade as per State requirements. Seconded by Maggie. Phil amended the motion to include the upgrade to the road would not allow for stormwater infrastructure in the Town right-of-way. Maggie agreed with the amendment. Motion voted and approved with 4 yes votes and Dennis abstaining.

Kendall Frost asked if the process of building a driveway and locating utilities will also need Selectboard approval. Merrily said that go before the DRB.

The question of the road name was raised and they were advised Mitch Cypes the 911 coordinator will work with them on that.

Consider Warning Special Election on Whether to Adopt Ballot Voting

Todd said there if the Board decides to go with a vote, they will be asking two questions; 1) to adopt all budgets by ballot and 2) whether or not to vote on public questions by ballot.

Mike said he is in favor of taking this opportunity to put it before the voters.

Maggie said she feels it should be put before the voters too.

Phil said he did not feel good about it as he did not want to rush a decision. He now thinks to vote on the issue is important.

Eric Spivak said traditionally we have had questions on the ballot such as the ambulance question and to adopt a Town Manager form of government. Todd said bond votes have to be by ballot according to law. The Town Manager and ambulance question were on the ballot by Selectboard choice. Eric asked if anyone has reached out to the legislature to find out if there will be an allowance made again for 2022. Why go through the vote if there is a chance there will be an exemption on again? Merrily said Missy has contacted Bill Lippert but does not know if she got a response. Joy said last year the legislature made that decision in October last year.

Eric said we should not loose sight of the importance of discussion and ability to make changes to the budget from the floor.

Phil agreed with Eric and added with each you gain or lose. With a ballot you likely have more voters and with the meeting you have more input.

Maggie agreed with Eric’s comment and said the value is having the Selectboard and department heads and Town staff being held responsible and accountable for the budget. Maggie said it is her understanding if the Board does not hold this special election and we have Town Meeting to make the change to Australian ballot will have to voted on at Town Meeting. Todd said that is correct. Maggie added you then have the people who go to Town Meeting and like the idea of Town Meeting needing to make the change to a ballot vote.

Dennis said the people in Town can come to the budget meetings and he feels it is more beneficial to the Town for people to attend the meetings where the budget is being worked on.

Phil moved the Board warn a special election on whether to adopt ballot voting with an informational meeting on Tuesday, November 30 and the actual Australian ballot to be held on Tuesday, December 7. Seconded by Mike and approved with 5 yes votes.

Andrea said the most important message is that we, as citizens, have the responsibility to participate in this process whether by showing up at Town Meeting or voting by Australian ballot. We, as citizens and tax payers, set the tone of our community and what happens here by this vote of what we choose to include in the budget.

Phil amended his motion to include for this special warning, to warn both having Australian ballot for the budget vote and for public questions. Amendment accepted by Mike.

Motion voted and approved with 5 yes votes.

Consider Approval of Revolving Loan Fund Agreement RF1-229-3.1

Todd explained this is a result of the request to increase the loan amount due to the increased sludge removal costs.

Phil moved to approve loan RF1-229-3.1 in the amount of $2,745,200.00 and authorize the chair and treasurer to sign the agreement. Seconded by Maggie and approved with 5 yes votes.

Town Manager Update

Todd will be meeting with department heads to go over their budgets.

Phil asked for an update on the landfill. Joy said the water test results are good on the Cardinal residence on Observatory Rd. The POET system has been installed in the Turner residence the water from that will be tested. The post closure plan has been filed.

The Board will meet next Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. to begin budget work and to review the Town Manager assessment form.

Consider Approving Warrants

Phil moved to approve the warrants, including payroll, as submitted by the Town Treasurer and signed by Merrily and Maggie. Seconded by Maggie and approved with 5 yes votes.

Adjourn

Phil moved to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Seconded by Maggie and approved with 5 yes votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Spadaccini, clerk of the Board