

**Wellfleet Selectboard  
Virtual Meeting ~ Zoom  
Wednesday February 23, 2022; 6:30PM  
Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:** Ryan Curley, Chair; Michael DeVasto, Vice Chair; Janet Reinhart, Helen Miranda Wilson, John Wolf

**Others Present:** Charlie Sumner, Town Administrator; Rebekah Eldridge, Executive Assistant; Chief Michael Hurley, Police Chief; Chief Rich Pauley, Fire Chief; Nancy Civetta, Shellfish Constable; Jennifer Wertkin, Library Director; Charter (CHAD) Williams, Wellfleet Grant Owner; Randy Williams, Wellfleet Grant Owner; Nemanja Krsmanovic, Wellfleet Grant Owner; Jason Weisman, Wellfleet Grant Owner; Berta Bruinooge, Wellfleet Grant Owner; Elisabeth Salen, Wellfleet Grant Owner; Bradford Morse, Wellfleet Grant Owner; Suzanne Thomas, Community Service Director; Joe Aberdale, Chair of the Marina Advisory Committee; Thomas Siggia, Chair of the Dredging Task Force

Chair Curley Called the meeting to order at 6:31pm

**I. *Announcements, Open Session and Public Comments***

**Note:** Public comments must be brief. The Board will not deliberate or vote on any matter raised solely during Announcements & Public Comments.

Chair Curley asked if there were any announcements?

Reinhart read a letter that was sent by Suzanne Thomas regarding the help the police department has offered as liaisons to the Adult Community Center explaining the police officer's help has been so appreciated and their help has exceeded expectations. Thomas informed the board and public of new games that are being offered at the center, Corn Hole and many different board games. She also informed the board that the friends of the center have donated to the center to clean the air.

Chair Curley stated they received a letter from the EPA which discussed the release of the radioactive water into the bay.

**II. *Licenses***

Chair Curley explained that he went back and looked over the previous meetings and the licenses were not in packets prior.

**A. *Common Victualer***

Endless Coast ~ 2068 State Highway, Wellfleet MA 02667

Wellfleet Drive In-Flea Market~ 51 US-6, Wellfleet MA 02667

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Reinhart Seconded; and it was voted to approve the Common Victualer Licenses.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

**B. *Weekday Entertainment***

Wellfleet Drive-In Flea Market ~ 51 US-6, Wellfleet, MA 02667

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Reinhart Seconded; and it was voted to approve the Weekday Entertainment License.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

**C. *Class II***

L & R Auto ~ 185 Briar Lane, Wellfleet MA 02667

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Reinhart Seconded; and it was voted to approve the Class II license.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

**III. *Public Hearings***

- A.** License #792 ~ Chair Curley announced that this hearing has been continued to March 8, 2022, as both the applicant and the town are still working on investigating the Grant.

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Wilson Seconded; and it was voted to move the hearing for License #742 be continued until March 8, 2022.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

**Board Member DeVasto Recused himself from all shellfish items.**

- B.** Application dated 12/27/2021 for the transfer of shellfish grant license #85-1-A consisting of two acres on Indian Neck from Randy Williams (Wellfleet, MA) and Charter Williams (Wellfleet, MA) to Randy Williams, Charter Williams and Nemanja Krsmanovic (Wellfleet, MA).

**Chair Curley opened the public hearing for grant license #85-1-A**

Chair Curley explained what this request involved and stated he didn't see any issues. He asked the board if they had any issues. Wilson asked some logistics of the grant and questioned if he was domiciled in Wellfleet. Civetta spoke to this and stated that he is domiciled mostly in Wellfleet.

Chad Williams spoke to the board stating that he does spend more than 183 days in Wellfleet and other time in New York but follows Massachusetts law and is a registered voter in the town of Wellfleet.

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Wilson Seconded; and it was voted to approve the application dated 12/27/2021 for the transfer of shellfish grant license consisting of 2 acres on Indian Neck from Randy Williams and Charter Williams to Randy Williams, Charter Williams, and Nemanja Krsmanovic.**

**Roll Call Vote: 4-0**

**Chair Curley Closed the hearing for grant license #85-1-A**

- C.** Application dated 1/10/2022 for the transfer of shellfish grant license # 14-1 consisting of 1.75 acres in Loagy Bay from Jason Weisman (Wellfleet, MA), Berta Bruinooge (Wellfleet, MA) and Elisabeth Salen (Wellfleet, MA) to Jason Weisman and Elisabeth Salen.

The Board moved on to the grant license #14-1

**Chair Curley opened the hearing for Grant License #14-1**

There were no questions or comments for this application

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Wilson Seconded; and it was voted to approve application dated 1/10/2022 for the transfer of shellfish grant license #14-1 consisting of 1.75 acres in Loagy Bay from Jason Weisman,**

**Berta Bruinooge, and Elisabeth Salen to Jason Weisman and Elisabeth Salen.**

**Roll Call Vote: 4-0**

**Chair Curley Closed the hearing for Grant License #14-1**

- D.** Application received 1/10/2022 for the renewal of shellfish grant license # 14-1 consisting of 1.75 acres in Loagy Bay for ten years from Jason Weisman (Wellfleet, MA) and Elisabeth Salen (Wellfleet, MA).

**Chair Curley Opened the hearing for the renewal of grant license #852-B**

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Wolf Seconded; and it was voted to approve the renewal of grant license #14-1 consisting of 1.75 acres in Loagy Bay for ten years from Jason Weisman and Elisabeth Salen.**

**Roll Call Vote 4-0**

- E.** Application dated 1/26/2022 for a grant extension (to be numbered #852-C) to shellfish grant license #852-B consisting of approximately two-thirds of an acre on Field Point from Brad Morse (Wellfleet, MA).

**Chair Curley Opened the shellfish hearing for a grant extension to Bradford Morse.**

Chair Curley began stating that he had some concerns with this extension application. Civetta made a small presentation explaining where the grant was and stated she went to the grant with the Harbor Master to go over the boundaries. She approves this extension.

There was a great amount of debate regarding this grant and where it is located. She explained the Morse didn't realize his grant was beyond his original boundaries and therefore is coming before the board to ask for the extension. Chair Curley shared his screen with the grant locations. He went over the past 11 years of mapping and gave his concern for why this shouldn't be granted, and he feels it would be establishing a new line. He stated he feels it goes out very close to Black Fish Creek.

The board discussed this; Chair Curley questioned Civetta's accuracy of information stating it wasn't appropriate.

Aberdale spoke to the board stating he was asked to express the concern for the over 500 boaters in the area they are discussing. He continued expressing the concern for boater safety. Siggia spoke to the board expressing his approval that the harbormaster and the shellfish constable are working together now which looks out for both shellfishermen and boaters, he stated he is a boater and feels these buoys are in line and having them inspected are helpful to everyone using the area.

Morse spoke to the board explaining that this is something he needs to be able to continue supporting his family and make a living. He gave examples of sand movement and the reasons he is asking for this. There was a lot of debate with this extension. There were a few shellfisherman that spoke in favor of this extension. Chair Hurley stated that he would like to send this over the Shellfish Advisory Board for them to review and discuss. Siggia stated that they would discuss it at their next meeting if the board needed them to. Boating was

discussed in this area and problems if there were any. Morse continued discussing his issues with the board not allowing this extension.

**Reinhart Moved to extend this grant license; there was no second for this motion.**

Civetta stated that there will be meetings to discuss the issues of beach renourishment.

She also informed the board that the MEPA review will only be done if everything is done including Morse's extension which is why this is an important matter and asked for the board's vote.

**Board Member Reinhart Moved; Board Member Wolf Seconded; and it was voted to approve grant extension application dated 1/26/2022 for the extension to be numbered #852-C to shellfish grant license #852-B consisting of approximately two-thirds of an acre on Field Point to Brad Morse.**

**Roll Call Vote: 4-0**

**Chair Curley Closed the public hearing for grant license #852-B**

#### **IV. Covid-19 Updates & Recommendations**

##### **A. Town Buildings**

Chair Curley spoke to the board about reopening the town offices that are currently operating on a reduced schedule. There was no opposition.

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Wilson Seconded; and it was voted to open all town offices to their regularly scheduled business hours.**

##### **B. Mask Mandate**

Chair Curley Moved on to the mask mandate that the Selectboard currently has in place.

Eldridge informed the board that The Board of Health voted to lift the mask mandate for town businesses and town offices. Chair Curley stated that this was specifically for town buildings.

**Moved; and Board Member Seconded; it was voted to lift the mask mandate for town buildings and having an advisory in effect for individuals who are unvaccinated.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

##### **C. Any other Covid updates or recommendations**

Chair Curley discussed hybrid meetings and meetings going back to in person in April. The board discussed the benefits of zoom meetings. Chair Curley explained that legislation has extended the ability for zoom meetings until August, he stated that he would still like to go to in person meetings in April. A quorum is needed in person for a meeting to take place. There was much discussion on hybrid, in person and zoom meetings.

**Board Member Wilson Moved, Board Member DeVasto Seconded; and it was not voted to continue to meet virtually through zoom until the date allowed by the state.**

**Roll Call Vote: 4-1**

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Reinhart Seconded; and it was voted to begin Hybrid meetings in sometime in April based on when the rooms are retrofitted to allow hybrid participation.**

**Roll Call Vote: 4-1 (Wilson voted no)**

Sumner spoke to the board regarding town counsel who represents Eastham, Wellfleet, and Brewster. Brewster has asked for a legal opinion regarding the mask issue in the Nauset Public School System. Sumner stated KP Law will share that opinion with the board.

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Reinhart Seconded; and it was voted that Wellfleet Selectboard consents to KP Law representing the town of Wellfleet non withstanding the firm also serving as counsel to the towns of Eastham and Brewster relative to Nauset Public School System in regard to Covid-19 and masking and policies of rules and regulation thereto.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

**V. *Financial Forecast***

Sumner gave an update on the forecast showing the board that this was the third draft that he will continue to update for every meeting. He pointed out to the board that the elementary school, Nauset High School and Cape Cod Tech School budgets have decreased because enrollment is low which is upsetting for the community but good for the issues with the finances that Wellfleet is having. He continued going over the forecast. His goal is to try and minimize the impact on the town for the annual town meeting.

**VI. *Plastic Beverage Bottle Ban Warrant Article***

Chair Curley explained he would like to pull this article as drafted explaining his reasons. One being that it would include milk jugs and other non-practical bottles and jugs.

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member DeVasto Seconded; and it was voted to rescind the insertion of the Plastic Beverage Bottle Warrant Article.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

**VII. *Budgets***

**A. Library**

Wertkin presented her budget to the board stating she tried to keep the budget as flat as possible except for the union positions that require a raise to those employees. She explained some services needed to go up out of necessity.

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member DeVasto Seconded; and it was voted to approve the FY 2023 Library Operating Budget as presented**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

**B. Fire Department**

Chief Pauley presented his budget to the board explaining his was an increase of over \$231,895 which includes two firefighter positions that were allotted in the previous annual town meeting. He gave explanations on the rise in the budget and what the increase was being used for. There was no discussion on the fire department's budget. A resident asked the chief about the \$300,000 allocated for overtime and questioned if it would be easier to hire another firefighter rather than paying the overtime. Chief Pauley explained the overtime numbers have gone down because they have been able to hire new positions.

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Wilson Seconded; and it was voted to approve FY 2023 Fire Department Operating Budget as Presented.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

**C. Police Department**

Chief Hurley presented his budget to the board. He stated that his calls for service had increased over 500 calls and an increase of 911 transfers from the previous year. He stated the off season and shoulder season is becoming very busy. He explained there is nothing outstanding in the budget other than the request for two extra police positions. The seasonal officer program was discussed and it was discussed to hire one or two seasonal traffic officers to help deal with only traffic concerns. Chief Hurley explained he would like that but with the experiences of last season there was not only an increase in the summer population but there was some "hot" issues that occurred that a nonsworn in officer would be able to handle. Chief Hurley gave an example of an incident where there was an escalation at a parking lot where not only police had to be involved but Fire had to step in as well. Chair Curley asked if Chief Hurley would be willing to look into a parking officer. Chief Pauley spoke to the board about addressing paid parking at the Marina. He stated that it would bring in a great deal of revenue to the town.

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Reinhart Seconded; and it was voted to approve the Police Department's FY 2023 Operating Budget as presented.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

**D. Shellfish Department**

**Board Member DeVasto recused himself from this agenda item.**

Civetta presented her budget to the board. She explained her budget and the small increases that she had. She explained to the board her need for a part time office position. The seasonal positions were discussed, and benefits were brought up concerning the number of hours the seasonal position works. Chair Curley explained he would like the additional position to be added as a separate warrant article. They discussed this with Civetta and she explained she would look into this and get them some information.

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Reinhart Seconded; and it was voted to approve FY2023 Shellfish Department Conservation Propagation Budget as presented.**

**Roll Call: 4-0**

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Reinhart Seconded; and it was voted to have the additional position as the seasonal deputy shellfish Constable drafted as an additional warrant article**

**Roll Call Vote: 4-0**

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Reinhart Seconded; and it was voted to approve the Shellfish Department's Request for additional FY 2023**

**Budget as drafted.**

**Roll Call Vote: 4-0**

#### **VIII. 2022 Annual Town Meeting Warrant**

Chair Curley stated he is only going over the articles of the departments that are in front of him at this meeting.

He began with the library's capital request of new computers and software for the library. Wertkin explained that the computers at the library were so outdated they are no longer able to be serviced.

##### **ARTICLE #4 ~ Capital Budget Articles**

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Wilson Seconded, and it was voted to insert the library departments capital request for computer and software upgrade project.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

Chair Curley explained to the board that they will insert these and then recommend them as a whole. The board moved on to the Shellfish Capital Budget request. She explained they are asking for the shellfish and beach office repairs

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Reinhart Seconded, and it was voted to insert the Shellfish and beach office building repair project.**

Chair Curley asked if there were any questions regarding the replacement of the shellfish truck. There were none.

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Wilson Seconded; and it was voted to insert the replacement of the Shellfish Department Pickup Truck**

**Roll Call Vote: 4-0-1 (DeVasto Abstained)**

Chair Curley moved on to the Police Department, explaining that they have heard this presentation at a previous meeting. Bullet Proof Vest replacements

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Reinhart Seconded; and it was voted to insert the Police Department's Capital Request into the FY2022 Annual Warrant.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

The Fire Department's Capital Budget request we next. Chief Pauley spoke to the board discussing the mobile data items would be covered by the ambulance receipts.

**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Reinhart Seconded; and it was voted to insert the Fire Department's Capital Budgets Request into the FY 2022 Annual Warrant.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

##### **Article #17: Fire Engine Replacement**

Sumner stated they could vote to insert and then try to figure out an alternative funding plan.



**Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Reinhart Seconded; and it was voted to insert the Fire Engine Replacement into the FY 2022 Annual Warrant.  
Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

**IX. *Selectboard Reports***

DeVasto spoke to the board and asked Sumner if there were any department heads that have had some conversations with Sumner regarding their capital budgets to see if there would be any that could be cut or held until the financial issues could be resolved.

Wilson spoke to the board regarding the ADU article stating that Victor Staley made some amendments changing some words in the document. It will be coming to the board again with those amendments.

**X. *Town Administrator/Assistant Town Administrator Reports***

Sumner spoke to the board about the ongoing water rate meetings with the town's consultant and the water commissioners to update the water rates for the town. He explained that there were second interviews for the town accountant and is excited with the two finalists he has. He explained that the Town Administrator search committee will be going into executive session to begin conducting interviews.

**XI. *Topics for Future Discussion***

Reinhart expressed that she would like committees and departments to start formalizing requests for the Arbor Funds and discuss with surrounding towns to work together, she gave an example of housing, as to where they want to see the money going.

Wolf stated he would like to get started on a meaning full conversation to being charging for parking at the marina.

Wilson stated the board needed to figure out the schedule for sending the ADU article o the Planning Board.

**XII. *Correspondence and Vacancy Reports***

**XIII. *Minutes***

**A. February 8, 2022, ~ Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Wolf Seconded; and it was voted to approve the minutes as drafted by the executive assistant**

**XIV. *Adjournment***

**Board Member DeVasto Moved; Chair Curley Seconded; and it was voted to adjourn the meeting**

**Roll call Vote: 5-0**

**Meeting Adjourned 9:15pm**



***Public Documents:***

- ***Common Victualer Licenses***
- ***Weekday Entertainment Licenses***
- ***Call II Licenses***
- ***Shellfish public hearing notification with documents supporting each hearing***
- ***Financial Forecast***
- ***Library Budget***
- ***Police Department Budget***
- ***Fire Department Budget***
- ***Shellfish Department Budget***
- ***Draft 2022 Annual Town Meeting Warrant***
- ***Town Administrator and Assistant Town Administrator's Report***
- ***Correspondence Reports***
- ***Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2022***