

***Wellfleet Selectboard
Hybrid Meeting ~ Zoom/715 Old King's Highway
Tuesday February 20, 2024; 6pm
Meeting Minutes***

Members Present: Barbara Carboni, Chair; John Wolf, Vice Chair; Michael DeVasto (Virtual); Ryan Curley, Tim Sayre (Virtual).

Others Present: Tom Guerino, Interim Town Administrator; Rebekah Eldridge, Executive Assistant; Rich Pauley, Fire Chief; Joe Cappello, Deputy Fire Chief; Kevin LaRocco, Police Chief; Jay Norton, DPW Director; Jean Leidenfrost; DPW Administrative Assistant; Nancy Civetta, Shellfish Constable; Rich Bienvenue, Finance Consultant; Sheila Lyons, resident and president of the community forum; Wayne Clough, resident; Wes Stinson, Environmental Partners; Brad Morse, resident; Jude Ahern, resident; K.C. Myers, resident; Gregory Mischel, Mass DOT; Chris Merl, resident; Daine Brunt, resident.

Chair Carboni Called the meeting to order at 6:04pm

I. *Announcements and Public Comments*

Note: **Public comments are limited to no more than three minutes per speaker, and a speaker will be allowed to speak only once.** The Board will not deliberate or cote on any matter raised solely during Announcements & Public Comments. Chair Carboni asked if the board had any comments; Chair Carboni spoke about the loss of Dick Elkin and honored him for all his hard work for the town. She welcomed Tom to the town. He Thanked the board for having him in the town. There were no other announcements from the board.

The chair asked for public comments from the public. Lyons spoke to the board about the community forum and explained its role as a safe place to be able to have conversations with the community. Maurice spoke to the board about his complaint about the noise level at the Wellfleet Library. He spoke about the library not being quiet. Stinson gave an update on the Herring River project and the work that will be taking place. Morse spoke to the board as vice chair of the Shellfish Advisory Board. He stated he wanted to reverse his vote for the shellfish revolving fund to approve it, he stated that he hasn't received his public records request that he requested. Ahern spoke to the board about her public records request. She spoke about the charter being changed, and the mitigation plan for dredging. Civetta spoke to the board about her following all bylaws and the charter with her department. Brunt spoke to the board and Guerino listing all issues that the town has, discussing illegal hires, public records request, meeting minute issues. Myers spoke to the board stating that she believes the board is in a very tough position and thanked them for their work as volunteers.

II. *Licenses*

A. *Common Victualler Renewals*

- Chequessett Yacht & Country Club

Board Member Curley Moved; Board Member Wolf Seconded; and it was voted to approve the Common Victualler License for the Chequessett Yach and Country Club.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

B. Weekday Entertainment

- Chequessett Yach & Country Club

Chair Curley Moved; Board Member Wolf Seconded and it was voted to approve the Weekday Entertainment License for Chequesset Yacht and Country Club.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

III. *Use of Town Property*

- A. Murro VanMeter, Food truck to operate at Newcomb Hollow Beach for Summer of 2024**

Murro gave his update on his food truck. Thomas spoke to the board stating he is a good addition to the town.

Board Member Curley Moved; Board Member Wolf Seconded; and it was voted to approve the use of Newcomb Hollow Beach for a fee of \$600.00 for the summer season of 2024.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

IV. *Business*

- A. Opening and closing of Herring River ~ Shellfish Constable; Nancy Civetta**
Civetta gave an update on the opening and closing of the Herring River.

Board Member Wolf Moved; Board Member Sayre Seconded; and it was voted to open the Herring River as of Sunrise on Friday, March 15, 2024, or when the town receives written approval from the Mass. Division of Marine Fisheries that it meets water quality standards for the safe harvest of shellfish and can be opened, and to close it at sunset Saturday August 31, 2024, or as otherwise directed by the Mass. Division of Marine Fisheries.

Roll Call Vote: 4-0-1 (DeVasto abstained)

- B. Update on Route 6/Main Street Project ~ Jay Norton, DPW Director, Mischel Gregory, Mass DOT, & Jill McLaughlin, Stantec**

Norton came to the table and gave an update on the route 6 project, stating he and the assistant DPW director Peter Morris have been in constant communication with MASS DOT. HE stated the project is moving along and going well.

Mischel spoke to the board as the project manager for the two projects at route 6. He spoke of the Main Street Route 6 project. He stated Lawrence Lynch was awarded the bid for both projects. He stated that the clearing and safety signs. He spoke of the moratorium that happens in the summer months. 2025 Will begin the actual construction.

Guerino asked about the project, asking about taking and easements. Norton explained that yes that process has already happened. Sayre had questions about the pavement. Mischel spoke about that stating they were working on another project that goes through Truro and into Provincetown. Curley spoke to Norton about the lengthy construction schedule. Norton stated they are discussing extending the work into June. Norton was asked when he thought the next update

would be brought before the board. Norton stated quarterly so the next time would be in the spring.

No Action was Taken.

- C. Changing a Yield Sign to Stop Sign at Pole Dike Rd/Coles Neck Rd. ` Chief LaRocco

Chief LaRocco came to the table to discuss changing the yield sign to a stop sign, he explained that he received a phone call and a follow up email from a concerned citizen. He stated there is no concrete data of accidents at that location but he needed to bring this before the board. Curley stated there needs to be a public hearing. The board supported this and stated it will be advertised as soon as possible.

V. ***Budgets***

- A. Police Department ~ Chief LaRocco

Chief LaRocco gave his budget presentation.

There were a few questions.

Board Member Curley Moved; Board Member Wolf Seconded; and it was voted to approve the FY25 Police Department Operating Budget as presented.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

- B. Fire Department ~ Chief Pauley

Chief Pauley and Deputy Chief Cappello came to the table and presented their budget. There were a few questions regarding the budget and ambulance rates.

Board Member Curley Moved; Board Member Wolf Seconded; and it was voted to approve the FY25 Fire Department operating budget as presented.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

- C. Public Works ~ Jay Norton & Jean Leidenfrost

Norton and Leidenfrost came to the table to present their department's operating budget. There were some questions regarding snow removal sand to salt ratio.

Ahern came to the microphone and made some comments about actuals and asked about the new hire he presented.

Board Member Wolf Moved; Board Member Sayre Seconded, and it was voted to approve the FY25 Department of Public Works Operating Budgets as presented.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

- D. Shellfish Department ~ Nancy Civetta

Board Member DeVasto Recused from this agenda item.

Civetta came to the table to present her budget. She presented her budget; the board had some questions regarding her revolving funds. Felix questioned DeVasto's recusing himself asking why? He asked about the cost of Shellfish grants and if the department should look at the prices for grant leases. DeVasto spoke to the recusing himself of the shellfish budget. He stated it was best for him to recuse as he feels it is an appearance of conflict of interest.

Civetta addressed the price of grants; they cannot be increased as they are part of Mass General Law. Ahern came to the microphone, and asked what Civetta meant funds being drawn from the shellfish budget. She stated she had many questions. Listing them. Chair Carboni stated she would refer Aherns comments

to the interim town administrator and see if there is a solution. Ahern spoke about cultching. Chair Carboni stated these items are not budget related. Chair Carboni gave Ahern a warning. Merl asked the constable a few questions regarding the revolving fund. Civetta gave a response to his question about the revolving fund explaining how it works. Merl had some other questions. There was much discussion about the shellfish budgets. Brunt came to the microphone, asking about the shellfish budgets.

Board Member Wolf Moved; Chair Carboni Seconded; and it was voted to approve the FY25 Shellfish operating budgets as presented.

Roll Call Vote: 4-0-1 (DeVasto Recused)

E. Town Meeting Warrant ~ Review draft form

Board Member Curley suggested that the board take this out of order and discuss later in the meeting. The warrant was continued at 8:30pm.

Civetta spoke to the board about her warrant article that she is presented. The board discussed this with Civetta.

The Board took a 5-minute recess.

The board reconvened at 8:41pm

The board began to review the draft warrant. The board skipped over the first 7 articles and began discussion on the dredging article. There was a good discussion and Chair Carboni asked to continue this discussion at a later date.

The board went through each warrant article discussing them but not voting tonight. Chair Carboni asked the board if they had any articles that they would bring forward. Curley stated he had a few and would write them up and submit them for review. There was discussion on the articles that Curley would like to bring forward.

VI. *Selectboard Reports*

- Wolf gave an update on his meeting with the ice machine working group. He stated they narrowed down the purchasing of the ice machine. He gave more details of the meeting.

VII. *Topics for Future Discussion*

- Wolf would like to have the selectboard direct the town administrator and the town accountant (procurement) to create and RFP for two ice machines. Have the selectboard vote for the location of the ice machine.

VIII. *Vacancy Report*

- Please see the selectboard packet for all vacancies.

IX. *Minutes*

A. February 6, 2024

Chair Carboni questioned if there were any amendments to be made to the above minutes.

Board Member Wolf Moved, Board Member DeVasto Seconded; and it was voted to approve the meeting minutes as amended.

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

X. *Adjournment*

Board Member Wolf Moved; Board Member Sayre Seconded; and it was voted to adjourn.

*Approved 3-12-2024, *** A full recording of this meeting can be found on the town's website****

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

Meeting Adjourned: 9:50pm

Public Documents:

Use of Town Property Application ~ Murro VanMeter

Citizen letter to Police Chief regarding changing a yield sign to a stop sign.

Draft Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Department Budgets

Police

Fire

DPW

Shellfish