

MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, November 23, 2020 7:00 p.m via Go To Meeting

In attendance: C. Iino, L. Annino, Jr., E. Blewett, R. Regolo K. Zandi , Walter J. Adametz Jr., Wayne Linsley, Nancy M. Gorski, Mary Casey Jacob, Robert T. Rimmer, Mary Meixell, Graig Judge, Kristi LiDonni, L. Lefko

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:04. P.m.
2. Public comment: None
3. Department/Board of Education report
BOE liaison Kathy Zandi reported on the following topics. The full October report is available at rsd17.org. Zandi then fielded questions from the selectmen.
 - First full month of in-school learning
 - Changes to BOE Bylaws
 - Facilities: replacement of oil tank, field house project
 - Long-term strategic plan: *Vision of the Graduate*
 - Reminder to see updated, redesigned RSD17 website for COVID communications
4. Approval of minutes
After discussion, **Blewett moved to approve the minutes of November 9, 2020. The motion, seconded by Iino, passed with Annino abstaining.**
5. Refunds and abatements
Iino moved to approve a \$27.42 refund for overpayment to Sheridan Matthies of 566 N. Roast Meat Hill Road. The motion, seconded by Annino, passed unanimously.
6. Appointments
Iino is awaiting a reply from the proposed candidate for Emergency Management Director.
7. New Business
 - A. Charter Revision
The Charter Revision Commission was in attendance. Chair Rob Rimmer reported that the commission has reviewed charters and interviewed professors, leaders from several towns, and town boards and commissions in preparation for considering revisions to the town charter.

Rimmer asked for input from the BOS. Topics discussed included:
 - Terms of office: there was consensus a two-year term for the first selectman is inadequate
 - Forms of government: Representative town governments, town councils, larger board of selectmen, and specifically the town manager
 - Town meetings as legislative body, and the challenge of encouraging adequate participation.The commission is considering a townwide survey. The type of survey and suggested topics (do residents feel their voices are heard? Are unaffiliated voters adequately represented?) were discussed.

Further items for consideration included:

- Budget schedule in current charter: better coordination with school budget and state budget schedules
- Should all current elected positions (e.g. town clerk, tax collector) remain elected?
- Removing positions from charter job descriptions to ensure more flexibility in staffing
- Other topics to review: Bidding thresholds, public notices, fire commission, pension fund

9. Old Business

A. Schedule of Meetings

A motion by Blewett, seconded by lino, to approve the following schedule of meetings for 2021 passed unanimously.

SELECTMEN’S MEETING SCHEDULE 2021:

Monday, January 11 @ 7 pm	Monday, June 14 @ 7 pm
Monday, January 25 @ 7 pm	Monday, June 28 @ 7 pm
Wednesday, February 3 @ 6pm	Monday, July 12 @ 7pm
Thursday February 4 @ 6 pm	Monday, July 26 @ 7pm
Monday, February 8 @ 7 pm	
Thursday, February 11 @6 pm	Monday, August 9 @ 7 pm
Wednesday, February 17@ 6 pm	Monday, August 23 @ 7 pm
Thursday, February 18 @6 pm	
Monday, February 22 @ 7pm	Monday, September 13 @ 7 pm
	Monday, September 27 @ 7 pm
Monday, March 8 @ 7 pm	
Monday, March 22 @ 7 pm	Tuesday, October 12 @ 7 pm
	Monday, October 25 @ 7 pm
Monday, April 12 @ 7 pm	
Monday, April 26 @ 7 pm	Monday, November 8 @ 7 pm
	Monday, November 22 @ 7 pm
Monday, May 10 @ 7 pm	
Monday, May 24 @ 7 pm	Monday, December 13 @7 pm

B. 2020 Appointments/Roster of Committees

After distributing a list of vacancies and current positions up for reappointment , lino asked for input and suggestions. She had asked the board to offer suggestions for new appointees as well as possible new or reestablished committees.

There was consensus that current appointees should be reappointed. No new candidates were added. There was confirmation that background checks performed for the Fire Marshal and the Health Director. lino will ensure that one will be performed for the Building Official as well.

There was discussion of the establishment of new committees, including:

- Building committee
- Town barn committee
- Trash/recycling: in light of anticipated increases in municipal solid waste processing fees

There was discussion about combining the building and barn committees, and about whether Planning and Zoning Commission should be brought in to keep the process in alignment with the town Plan of Conservation and Development. Annino will approach the Commission to discuss. There was consensus that this matter is urgent.

10. First Selectwoman's comments

A. lino informed the board about the passing of Zoning/Wetlands Enforcement officer Cathie Jefferson's husband. The board expressed condolences.

B. State has asked local authorities to pre-enroll people in certain critical groups to receive the COVID vaccine when it becomes available. The groups include first responders, teachers, and municipal employees. Electronic forms are being distributed to potential recipients. Vaccination is not mandatory, and completing the form is not a commitment to receive the vaccine.

11. Selectmen's comments

A. Blewett reported on a successful annual Helping Hands food distribution and recognized the contributions of the Lions Club, the churches, KES/HKMS families, and other volunteers. She noted that the community should be very proud of the broad level of support.

B. Blewett thanked the town crew for quickly addressing the clogged gutters at the Center School.

12. Adjournment

Annino moved to adjourn at 8:36 pm. The motion, seconded by Blewett, passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Doyle Disbrow on 12/3/2020
Video recording available.