



**Town of Swampscott**  
**Select Board Meeting Minutes**  
Wednesday, September 1, 2021  
Swampscott High School

**SELECT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Peter Spellios (Chair), Polly Titcomb, Neal Duffy, David Grishman

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Don Hause

**OTHER TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Sean Fitzgerald, Town Administrator; Allie Fiske, Director of Communications & Strategic Initiatives; Heidi Whear, Director of Aging Services; Gino Cresta, Assistant Town Administrator & DPW Director

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 PM.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**UPDATE ON SENIOR SERVICES**

Director of Aging Services Heidi Whear provided an update on the operations of the Swampscott Senior Center over the last few months since she's joined as Director of Aging Services. Heidi provided an update on the Dementia-Friendly Initiatives launched by the Senior Center in partnership with the Council on Aging and Swampscott for All Ages. Existing and planned programs include a caregiver support group, Memory Café, Dementia Friendly for local businesses, Activity Memory Kits, Dementia Awareness Training.

Ms. Whear provided an update on the re-opening of the Senior Center and programs that are taking place, including exercise classes, social clubs, blood pressure clinics, flu shots, trips to restaurants and Encore, and more. She recapped the success of the BBQ at the Senior Center on August 25. Upcoming programs include health education series, a local news series, and an upgrade to the oven and vent in the kitchen.

## **INFILTRATION AND INFLOW (I & D) IN SWAMPSCOTT**

Infiltration and Inflow are terms used to describe the impact on our sewer system. Town Counsel has confirmed that the Swampscott Select Board can establish I&I regulations, as that is the responsibility of the Board of Sewer Commissioners.

There was a discussion about a potential Sewer Connection Fee, which is paid by choice for new developments that want to tie into the Swampscott sewer system. The goal of this connection fee would not be to raise revenue, but to meet the cost associated with adding new users to system.

The Town has reviewed a number of best practices and will report back to the Select Board later this month.

Assistant Town Administrator and DPW Director Gino Cresta provided more information and presented potential models. Many communities have a threshold of charging only complexes that meet a certain flow threshold, so not all homes would be subject to this charge. Chairperson Spellios requested further analysis on other communities and would like to include on a future agenda, with the goal of finalizing by November 1.

## **BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT**

Director of Communications & Strategic Initiatives Allie Fiske was present to provide a presentation on the recommended reappointments for Boards & Committees. There was a discussion regarding the reappointment process, and whether or not existing applicants were considered when reviewing reappointments. Ms. Fiske indicated that this has not been part of the process, and will return to the board in several weeks with an updated recommendation after reviewing current applicants. There was an extensive conversation about the current appointment process and what steps need to be put in place to strengthen the responsiveness of staff and thoroughness in making appointments. Ms. Fiske will review the process and return to the Select Board with a plan for streamlining the appointment process with an eye towards meeting board objectives laid out earlier this summer.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- Vote to approve meeting minutes from August 24, 2021 Meeting
- Approve and execute an easement to Verizon New England at the Machon School, which is being developed under a ground lease from the Town.
- Vote to approve application for Chanukah Run-a-Latice 5K to take place on Sunday, November 28, 2021 at 11:00 AM
- Vote to approve application for Miles for Kyle run/walk to take place on Sunday, October 17, 2021 at 10:00 AM

The agenda item “Vote to approve and execute an easement to Verizon New England at the Machon School, which is eing developed under a ground lease from the Town” was extracted from the consent agenda for a separate vote as one of the Select Board members will abstain.

On MOTION (Duffy) and SECONDED (Grishman) it was VOTED by roll call to approve and execute an easement to Verizon New England at the Machon School, which is being developed

under a ground lease from the Town. Roll call: Titcomb (ABSTAIN), Grishman (YES), Duffy (YES) Spellios (YES)

On MOTION (Duffy) and SECONDED (Grisham) it was VOTED to by roll call to approve the consent agenda minus the Verizon agenda item. Roll call: Titcomb (YES) Duffy (YES) Grishman (YES) Spellios (YES)

#### **NEXT MEETING**

- 9/13 before Town Meeting (virtual)
- Tuesday, 9/28/21 – 6:00 PM

On MOTION (Grishman) and SECONDED (Duffy) it was VOTED to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM

True Attest,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allie Fiske". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

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Allie Fiske, Director of Communications & Strategic Initiatives

*Minutes APPROVED by vote of the Select Board 11/3/21*