



Town of Swampscott Select Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 27, 2021
Virtual Meeting

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OTHER TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT

Sean Fitzgerald, Town Administrator; Allie Fiske, Director of Communications & Strategic Initiatives; Joe Douillette, Cable Media Manager; Molly O'Connell, Senior Planner; Michael McClung, Town Moderator

The meeting was called to order to 6:04 PM.

VERIZON HEARING

On **MOTION** (Grishman) and **SECONDED** (Duffy) it was **VOTED** to continue and table the public hearing under M.G.L. c.166A, to determine whether to issue a cable television license to (name of cable operator). All applications, reports, statements and license drafts to be considered at the hearing that constitute public records under state law are available for public inspection during regular business hours and for reproduction at a reasonable fee. Members of the public are invited to attend and be heard on the topic: (a) whether the current cable operator is in full compliance with its currently-existing cable license; and (b) what are the Town's future community cable-related needs. Roll call – Grishman (YES) Titcomb (YES) Duffy (YES) Hause (YES) Spellios (YES)

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

FALL SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

December 13 is the earliest date Town Meeting can be held when factoring in posting and mailing requirements. Town Moderator Michael McClung will work with necessary staff to plan for the meeting and will speak with the Board of Health and Health Department to determine if the meeting will be virtual. The warrant should be closed November 17.

On **MOTION** (Titcomb) and **SECONDED** (Duffy) it was **VOTED** to open the warrant for Special Town Meeting on Monday, December 13. Roll call – Grishman (YES) Titcomb (YES) Duffy (YES) Hause (YES) Spellios (YES)

FIRST READING OF SUSTAINABLE VEHICLE POLICY

Ryan Hale and Martha Schmitt from the Renewable Energy Committee were present to share information about the emissions and a sustainable vehicle policy.

The Renewable Energy Committee requests that the Select Board adopt the “EV First Policy” for fleet vehicle purchases and appoint a liaison to a “Climate Action and Resilience Coalition” who can advance a “Climate Action Plan” that will reduce local emissions.

The state has a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050 and the Renewable Energy Committee will work toward this as well. The Select Board reviewed recent community achievements such as 250+ buildings installing rooftop PV, grants received, and electric vehicle charging stations. They also outlined some priorities including residential awareness, electric vehicle policy adoption, and greenhouse gas inventory.

The committee reviewed the basic information in the electric vehicle purchase policy. Town Administrator Sean Fitzgerald expressed interest in having all Town Department Heads sign a pledge to work towards this renewable energy goal. The Board suggested the Department Heads provide any input on the report and request feedback from the public.

Neal Duffy stated that he is happy to serve as the liaison to the Climate Action and Resilience Coalition.

REPRECINCTING

Molly O’Connell provided a presentation on proposed re-precincting, a process that happens every 10 years following the 10-year census. Because we are a smaller municipality, we work with the state on this process.

No vote will be taken at this meeting. Swampscott has 6 precincts and the 2020 Estimated Population is 15,111. Molly shared the suggested precinct map and identified specific changes which were largely initiated by population density changes in different regions of the town. After re-precincting, all Town Meeting members are required to re-run for Town Meeting.

Any questions and comments must be returned to the state, at which point the map will be finalized which will come back to the Select Board for a vote. A vote will tentatively take place at the November 17 Select Board meeting.

CONTINUATION OF VERIZON PUBLIC HEARING

On **MOTION** (Duffy) and **SECONDED** (Grishman) it was **VOTED** to take the Verizon Hearing off the table. Roll call – Grishman (YES) Titcomb (YES) Duffy (YES) Hause (YES) Spellios (YES)

Attorney Hewig from KP Law was present to answer any questions. The Board spoke favorably of the business plan though no vote is needed to move forward with negotiations. The board will review the proposed contract at the November 17, 2021 meeting with the possibility of extending to December 1, 2021.

On **MOTION** (Grishman) and **SECONDED** (Duffy) it was **VOTED** to close the public hearing. Roll call – Grishman (YES) Titcomb (YES) Duffy (YES) Hause (YES) Spellios (YES)

JRM SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

Johnny Gold and Wayne Spritz from the Solid Waste Advisory Committee joined the discussion. Town Administrator Sean Fitzgerald reviewed the current contract as well as the results of the new Solid Waste program, which eliminated 283 tons of non-recyclable waste from our waste stream, translating to a 7% reduction. Recycling has increased by 20% with an estimated 306 tons of additional waste recycled.

Town Administrator Fitzgerald reviewed the JRM proposal. The proposed costs reflect the market.

Chair of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee Wayne Spritz and member Johnny Gold stepped through a presentation requesting the Select Board consider some information when reviewing the proposed agreement. The Town Administrator will continue conversations with JRM, Johnny, and Wayne to consider some of the suggestions made and will return to the Select Board for a second reading of the agreement in November.

SELECT BOARD OFFICERS

The Select Board members thanked Peter Spellios for his service as Chair of the Select Board.

On **MOTION** (Duffy) and **SECONDED** (Grishman) it was **VOTED** that Vice Chair Polly Titcomb be appointed to Chair of the Select Board. Roll call – Grishman (YES) Titcomb (YES) Duffy (YES) Hause (YES) Spellios (YES)

On **MOTION** (Grishman) and **SECONDED** (Hause) it was **VOTED** that Neal Duffy be appointed as Vice Chair of the Select Board. Roll call – Grishman (YES) Titcomb (YES) Duffy (YES) Hause (YES) Spellios (YES)

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda consists of:

- Vote to approve meeting minutes from September 1, 2021; September 13, 2021 September 20, 2021; September 28, 2021; and October 6, 2021 meeting (MINUTES NOT PROVIDED TO BOARD SO TAKEN OFF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

- Vote to approve one-day liquor license for Swampscott Senior Center event on November 10, 2021 located at 200 Essex St.
- Vote to approve additional 2021-2022 Board & Committee member renewals
- Vote to approve Hawking & Peddling & Door-to-Door Solicitation Permit to employees of Power Home Remodeling located at 201 Jones Road, Waltham, MA 02481
- Vote to appoint new member to the School Building Committee

Select Board Member Grishman requested the Hawking & Peddling permit be discussed outside of the consent agenda.

On **MOTION** (Grishman) and **SECONDED** (Duffy) it was **VOTED** by roll call to approve the consent agenda removing the Hawking & Peddling License item.

David Grishman withdrew his request to discuss the Hawking & Peddling License. It was **MOTIONED** (Grishman) and **SECONDED** (Duffy) to approve the Hawking & Peddling License. Roll call – Grishman (YES) Titcomb (YES) Duffy (YES) Hause (YES) Spellios (YES)

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- COVID-19 Update
- Discussion with Mayor McGee
- Massport/Flight Path
- Civil Service
- Congressional Meeting
- Asset Management Grant
- Community & Economic Development
- Municipal Hearings Officer
- Swamptoberfest
- American Rescue Plan Act
- Halloween Safety
- Staffing Update
- DPW
- Fire Dept.
- Police Dept.
- Waste Reduction Programs
- Substance Abuse Service Grants
- Upcomign Events
- Town Clerk

SELECT BOARD TIME

- David Grishman commended Swamptoberfest and alluded to some winter events taking place.
- Peter Spellios thanked Sean Fitzgerald
- Chairperson Polly Titcomb provided an update on the “Library of Things” project
- Chairperson Titcomb also provided a brief update on the Select Board handbook and anticipates having that to the Select Board in the next few weeks.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

True Attest,

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

Allie Fiske, Director of Communications & Strategic Initiatives

Minutes approved by Select Board in vote at meeting on 11/17/21