Town of Dunstable Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: March 23, 2023
Minutes Approved March 30, 2023

Dunstable Town Hall, 511 Main Street, Dunstable, MA 01827
Convened: 6:00 PM

Present were: Chairman Kieran Meehan, Selectwoman Leah Basbanes, Selectman Ron Mikol, TA Jason Silva, Sue Fayne

Meeting called to order by Kieran Meehan for the Board of Selectmen at 6:00pm

Public Forum

There were no comments from the public.

Appointment of Chief Farrell & Chief Hoar to the Public Safety Building Sub-Committee*

During the Select Board meeting on 3/11/23, there was a request to replace the former Chiefs of Police and Fire with our current Chiefs on the Public Safety Building Sub-Committee.

On a motion by Selectwoman Basbanes and seconded by Selectman Mikol, it was **VOTED**: for the Board of Selectmen to appoint Police Chief Erik Hoar and Fire Chief William Farrell to the Public Safety Building Subcommittee for a term to expire on June 30, 2023. **The vote was unanimous.**

Appointment of Bonnie Ricardelli as Treasurer/Collector*

Due to the Treasurer/Collector vacancy in the town, TA Silva contacted Bonnie Ricardelli to see if she would be interested in assisting the town as an interim Treasurer/Collector until the town finds a full-time replacement. After a brief discussion with the Selectboard, it was decided to appoint Bonnie as Interim Treasurer/Collector..

On a motion by Selectman Mikol and seconded by Selectwoman Basbanes, it was **VOTED**: for the Board of Selectmen to appoint Bonnie Ricardelli as Treasurer/Collector through a date to be determined. **The vote was unanimous.**

Appointment of Sue Fayne as Assistant Treasurer/Collector*

In an effort to provide additional resident support and backup coverage for the Treasurer/Collector, TA Silva recommends appointing Sue Fayne as Assistant Treasurer/Collector. This will assist the Treasurer/Collector office and allow Sue additional

opportunities to learn Town functions. TA Silva mentioned we do have funding in the budget through 6/30/23 to support this appointment.

On a motion by Selectman Mikol and seconded by Selectwoman Basbanes, it was **VOTED**: for the Board of Selectmen to appoint Sue Fayne as Treasurer/Collector for a term to expire on June 30, 2023. **The vote was unanimous.**

Facilities Use Request: Gazebo for Sunrise Service*

A request by Dana Metzler was made on behalf of the Dunstable Evangelical Church, to use the Town Common and Gazebo for a sunrise Church service on April 9, 2023. Selectman Mikol advised that we inform Mr. Metzler there isn't any power currently at the Gazebo. TA Silva will reach out to him to let him know.

On a motion by Selectman Mikol and seconded by Selectwoman Basbanes, it was **VOTED** to approve use of the Bandstand on the Common on April 9, 2023 by the Dunstable Evangelical Church for the purpose of hosting a sunrise Easter service between 6:50am-7:30pm. **The vote was unanimous.**

Town Meeting Warrant Review and Discussion*

The Town Meeting Warrant was reviewed in detail by TA Silva and the Board of Selectmen. After discussing each of the articles, it was decided to keep the articles currently on the draft warrant, and would continue to work on the details of the articles and modify, as needed, as well as drafting a document explaining each of the articles and what they mean and seek to accomplish.

On a motion by Selectman Mikol and seconded by Selectwoman Basbanes, it was **VOTED** to . **The vote was unanimous.**

FY24 Budget Update

Budget update was provided by TA Silva after meeting earlier in the week with the Advisory Board and Town Department heads.

All Capital was removed from the budget, using ARPA funds for the Town's capital needs.

Critical needs: Fire Department needs significant repairs – cinderblock wall, roof over the truck bay. Police Station needs floor repaired/replaced. Rehabbing the wells at Larter Field. Per TA Silva & Joan Simmons, CPA funds could be used for a new well, but not for repair or maintenance costs to fund that need.

Advisory meetings again on April 4th and the BOS and Advisory will reconvene on April 13th.

TA Silva to follow up on the timeline of the elections.

Liquor License Draft Policies & Guidelines

A packet of documents supporting the Liquor License process for the town were submitted to the Board. This included the Resident Process, Town Policies, Applications, and supporting forms. Suggestion by Selectman Mikol to change the verbiage on the License template from "drunk" to "consume." The Board & TA Silva suggested sending the draft documents to our contact at ABCC for additional feedback. Sue Fayne will send those next week for review, and will continue to provide updates in future BOS mtgs.

The Board then entered into Executive Session, not returning to Public Session.

Executive Session: Pursuant to M.G.L. Chap. 30A, Sec. 21(a), Clause 2, to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel.*

On a motion by Chairman Meehan and seconded by Selectwoman Basbanes, it was **VOTED**: to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm. **The vote was unanimous.**