

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES – April 22, 2019**

6:50 p.m. - Algonquin High School, 79 Bartlett Street, Northborough, MA

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dawn Rand, Chairman  
Jason Perreault, Vice Chairman  
Leslie Rutan, Clerk  
Timothy Kaelin  
Julianne Hirsh

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 4, 2019 JOINT MEETING**

Selectman Perreault moved the Board vote to approve the meeting minutes of the April 4, 2019 joint meeting as submitted; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 8, 2019 REGULAR MEETING**

Selectman Perreault moved the Board vote to approve the meeting minutes of the April 8, 2019 regular meeting as submitted; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**APPOINTMENT TO THE COUNCIL ON AGING**

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to appoint Lee Beavers to the Council on Aging for a three-year term; Selectman Perreault seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**APPOINTMENT TO THE OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to appoint Brian Belfer to the Open Space Committee for a three-year term; Selectman Perreault seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to appoint Lisa Smith to the Community Affairs Committee for a three-year term; Selectman Perreault seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to appoint Ruba AbdelHadi to the Community Affairs Committee for a three-year term; Selectman Perreault seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to appoint Joan Scott to the Board of Library Trustees for a three-year term; Selectman Perreault seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to appoint Neeta Karanjkar to the Board of Library Trustees for a three-year term; Selectman Perreault seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**OTHER BUSINESS – SOLID WASTE COLLECTION BID RESULTS**

Mr. Coderre informed the Board the solicitation for bids for collection of the Town's solid waste and recyclable materials included the current program as a base bid, including the processing and marketing of recyclable materials. Due to the high volatility of the recyclable market, the Town included an alternate bid, which removed the processing and marketing of recyclable materials from the collection contract and placed that responsibility with the Town.

Mr. Coderre indicated that only two of the four bidders were willing to accept the contractual obligation of processing and marketing recyclable materials. He was pleased to report that the low bidder for both the base bid and the alternate bid is the Town's current contractor, Republic Services. The base bid is within the FY2020 proposed budget, while still allowing for a reasonable solid waste enterprise fund budget contingency. Assuming contract negotiations are successful, bag fees and the current level of services (single stream recycling) can be maintained in FY2020 and possibly for the next couple of years.

**TOWN MEETING PREPARATION**

Mr. Coderre provided information to the Board regarding the financial impact that Article 39 (Citizen Petition to delete Section 2-44-100 entitled "Snow and ice removal from sidewalks") would have on the Operating and Capital Budgets.

Mr. Coderre indicated that the Town has approximately 37.3 miles of sidewalks, including State Highways. The Public Works Department performs snow removal for approximately 17.0 miles, or 46% of them with two sidewalk machines in a 22-hour period. During this time, the remainder of highway staff performs other snow removal operations, including the clearing of intersections and trucking of municipal parking lot snow.

Mr. Coderre cautioned that the FY2020 Budget does not include the personnel or capital equipment to remove snow from all 37.3 miles of municipal sidewalks. Without additional resources and equipment, it would take existing personnel several days to clear snow from all the sidewalks. The DPW Director estimates that two additional sidewalk machines would be required at a cost of approximately \$180,000 each. In addition, the personnel costs would still need to be determined, since staff cannot be taken off of other priority snow removal tasks following a snow storm.

A discussion ensued amongst members of the Board as to the adverse monetary and capital implications to the Town's Operating and Capital Budgets if Article 39 were to pass. Also discussed was the concern the proposal lacks appropriate information, transparency and process.

Selectman Perreault moved the Board vote to not recommend approval of Article 39 as presented; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION**

The Board reviewed the Certificates of Appreciation that would be awarded at the beginning of Town Meeting to those volunteers who have served on a Board or Committee for three years or longer.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Selectman Hirsh moved the Board vote to adjourn; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Wackell  
Executive Assistant

Documents used during meeting:

1. April 22, 2019 Meeting Agenda
2. Town Meeting Warrant
3. Memorandum – Solid Waste Collection Bid Results
4. Memorandum – Sidewalk Snow Removal Data