

Board: Select Board / Water Commissioner's Meeting
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023
Location: Erving Elementary School, 28 Northfield Road, Erving, MA 01344

Select Board Present: Jacob Smith, William Bembury, Scott Bastarache

At 6:17 PM **Chairman Smith** called the meeting to order.

Executive Session

At 6:17 PM **Chairman Smith** made a motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a) (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel ... and contract negotiations with non-union personnel regarding Chief of Police Robert Holst. **Chairman Smith** stated that the Select Board would return to Regular Session. **Selectman Bastarache** seconded. **Roll call vote:**

Selectman Bembury	Aye
Selectman Bastarache	Aye
Chairman Smith	Aye

At 6:33 PM the Select Board resumed Regular Session.

Chief of Police Employment Agreement

Chairman Smith made a motion to ratify the employment contract for Chief of Police, Robert Holst, with a term of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2026. **Selectman Bastarache** seconded. **Vote:** Unanimously approved.

Discussion Regarding Special Town Meeting Warrant

The Select Board members reviewed the Special Town Meeting warrant. Bryan Smith, Town Administrator, advised that the Select Board should move to pass over Article 4 as the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) has not given approval for the right-of-way plans that have already been submitted. Bryan added that if the Article is approved at the Town Meeting and then MassDOT requests a change, the Town will have to consider the Article again. The Select Board expressed no other concerns about the warrant.

Review of Meeting Minutes for January 11, 2021

The Select Board members reviewed the meeting minutes for Monday, January 11, 2021. **Chairman Smith** made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from January 11, 2021, as written. **Selectman Bembury** seconded. **Vote:** **Selectman Bastarache** abstained. Approved by majority.

Review of Meeting Minutes for January 03, 2022

The Select Board passed over this agenda item.

Issuance of Cemetery Deeds- 583 to 591- Wonsey

The Select Board members reviewed deeds for the purchase of burial rights in the Erving Center Cemetery. **Selectman Bastarache** made a motion to issue the following cemetery deeds for burial rights in the Erving Center Cemetery:

- Deed #583 for lot #1402 to Dennis Wonsey of 18 Forest Street, as deed owner #1;
- Deed #584 for lot #1403 to Dennis Wonsey of 18 Forest Street, as deed owner #1, and Arlene Wonsey, as owner #2;

- Deed #585 for lot #1404 to Dennis Wonsey of 18 Forest Street, as deed owner #1, and Diane Wonsey, as owner #2;
- Deed #586 for lot #1405 to Dennis Wonsey of 18 Forest Street, as deed owner #1, and Tim Haggerty, as owner #2;
- Deed #587 for lot #1406 to Dennis Wonsey of 18 Forest Street, as deed owner #1, and Angela Quinn, as owner #2;
- Deed #588 for lot #1407 to Dennis Wonsey of 18 Forest Street, as deed owner #1, and Liam Quinn, as owner #2;
- Deed #589 for lot #1408 to Dennis Wonsey of 18 Forest Street, as deed owner #1, and Brendan Quinn, as owner #2;
- Deed #590 for lot #1373 to Dennis Wonsey of 18 Forest Street, as deed owner #1, and Emma Wonsey, as owner #2; and
- Deed #591 for lot #1374 to Dennis Wonsey of 18 Forest Street, as deed owner #1, and Ryan Haggerty, as owner #2.

Selectman Bembury seconded. **Vote:** Unanimously approved.

Acceptance of the FY2024 Jail Diversion/ Co-Responder Grant

The Select Board members reviewed the memorandum from Bryan regarding the FY2024 Jail/Arrest Diversion Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health for the Police Department's Co-Responder program. **Chairman Smith** announced that Chief Holst has secured a new grant award in the amount of \$195,353.00 to continue to operate the program. **Chairman Smith** noted that \$91,353.00 of the grant award is funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and will count towards the Town's federal funding. The Select Board members expressed support for proceeding. **Chairman Smith** made a motion to approve the FY2024 Department of Mental Health Master Agreement Jail/Arrest Diversion Program Statement of Work in the amount of \$195,353.00, to begin on July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, and to authorize Jacob Smith, Select Board Chair, and Robert Holst, Chief of Police, to execute all necessary agreements. **Selectman Bastarache** seconded. **Vote:** Unanimously approved.

Extension of Co-Responder Program Service Agreement with Clinical & Support Options

The Select Board members reviewed a memorandum from Bryan regarding the need to extend the professional services agreement between the Town of Erving and Clinical and Support Options, Inc. for the co-responder clinician program. The Select Board members expressed support for proceeding. **Selectman Bastarache** made a motion to enter into the agreement between the Town of Erving and Clinical Support Options, Inc. to provide co-response clinical professional services through the Jail/Arrest Diversion Program, and the towns of Bernardston, Gill, Leverett, Northfield and Warwick, with an effective date of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, and to authorize Jacob Smith, Select Board Chair, and Robert Holst, Chief of Police, to execute all necessary agreements. **Chairman Smith** seconded. **Vote:** Unanimously approved.

Resignation from School Committee- David Chagnon Jr.

Chairman Smith explained that the Town has reviewed a letter from David Chagnon, resigning from his position as a School Committee member, effective July 1, 2023. **Chairman Smith** expressed appreciation to David for his service to the community on the School Committee. **Chairman Smith** explained that the vacancy will be advertised to the public in the coming week.

Review Personnel Policy Amendment Regarding the Beginning & Ending of Work Week

The Select Board members reviewed a memorandum from Bryan requesting an amendment to the Personnel Policies that would change the definition of a workweek. **Chairman Smith** explained that the current definition is Monday at 12:00 AM through Sunday at 11:59 PM and the requested change would define the week as Saturday at 12:00 AM through Friday at 11:59 PM. **Chairman Smith** explained that the request has previously been read by the Select Board and the intended goal had been to implement at the end of Fiscal year 2023. **Chairman Smith** explained that the proposed change has been reviewed with the bargaining units, and they have expressed support for the change. Bryan noted that the Select Board had conducted multiple readings in the recent past on the proposed change. The Select Board members discussed support for proceeding. **Chairman Smith** made a motion to adopt the recommended policy language to change the definition of a workweek to read 12 AM Saturday through 11:59 PM Friday. **Selectman Bembury** seconded. **Vote:** Unanimously approved.

Appreciation to Selectman Bembury

Chairman Smith thanked **Selectman Bembury** for his many years of service to the community and specifically has time on the Select Board, noting that this will be **Selectman Bembury's** last meeting as a member of the Board. **Selectman Bastarache** expressed his appreciation as well.

Adjournment

At 6:45 PM **Chairman Smith** made a motion to adjourn. **Selectman Bembury** seconded. **Vote:** Unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Bryan Smith
Town Administrator