

John L. Hebert, Chairman  
David Hall, Vice Chair  
Wendy M. Mead, Clerk  
Jesse Limanek  
Jonathan Anderson



Sutton Town Hall  
4 Uxbridge Road  
Sutton, MA 01590  
Telephone (508)865-8727  
Fax : (508)865-8721

James A. Smith, Town Manager

Town Of Sutton  
Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes

**Minutes Accepted and filed with the Town Clerk on 12/04/2018 by a vote of 5-0**

7:00 p.m. – November 13, 2018  
Sutton Town Hall, Meeting Room 1A

**Members in Attendance:**

Chairman John L. Hebert, Vice Chair David Hall. Clerk Wendy Mead & Selectmen Jesse Limanek & Jonathan Anderson  
Town Manager James Smith & Deb Jacques, secretary

Public Forum: N/A

Vice Chair Hall motions to accept as presented the 10/30/2018 meeting minutes, Selectman Limanek 2nds passes 5-0

Public Hearing: Chapter 61B- 211 Boston Road: Selectman Mead reads the Public Notice as advertised in the October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Millbury Sutton Chronicle. Town Manager Smith states no interest was expressed by inter office Depts. Alan Blume of 18 Golf Ridge Drive asks what is planned for this property, Town Manager Smith replies a proposed small subdivision. Mr. Blume asks what the impact would be on the water in the back of the property as well as encroachment to the abutters. Mr. Smith replies this will go before the Planning dept. as well as Conservation and they are welcome to attend the meetings. The BOS all express no interest in this location. Selectman Limanek motion to close the Public Hearing, Vice Chair Hall seconds passes 5-0. Selectman Limanek motions to not exercise the tow's option under MGL Chapter 61B for 211 Boston Road Assessors Map 17 Parcel 21, Vice Chair Hall seconds passes 5-0

(Selectman Limanek recuses himself from the next agenda item due to relation to the property)

Public Hearing: Chapter 61A- 188 & 199 Mendon Road: Selectman Mead reads the Public Notice as advertised in the October 25, 2018 Millbury Sutton Chronicle. Town Manager Smith states the Planning Board felt this could be looked at to add to Pigeon Hill Cemetery, Diane McCann, Realtor for this property states there are two lots the Pigeon Hill side property is listed for \$350,000.. Robert Nunnemacher, 24 Singletary also suggested to purchase the south side property to add to the cemetery. Town Manager Smith states there is only one offer for the two parcels of land. George Kowszik 162 Mendon Road states he does still own land aside Pigeon Hill and would be interested to sell additional property to the town if the town wishes. Vice Chair Hall states there is not a bonafide offer for the one parcel so they cannot just offer to purchase one of the two parcels. Selectman Mead thanks Mr. Kowszik and says if the BOS wishes to pursue this property they must vote on the entire area (2 parcels) as it is presented as one sale. Selectman Anderson agrees and says it is complicated by having both parcels together, he feels the BOS should pass. Mr. Russell of 176 Mendon Road asks who will maintain the dam and pond on the property, the realtor states the buyer or they may pass rights on to someone else. Vice Chair Hall motions to close Public Hearing, Selectman Mead seconds passes 4-0-1 (Selec. Limanek abstains). Selectman Mead motions to not exercise the town's option under MGL Chapter 61 for 188 Mendon Road Assessors Map 30 Parcel 18 and 199 Mendon Road Assessors map 30 Parcel 30 Selectman Anderson seconds passes 4-0-1 (Limanek abstains) Selectman Limanek rejoins the Board

Public Hearing: Tax Classification with the Board of Assessors: present is Robert Nunnemacher and Ray Nichols from the Assessor's office. Knick states this is a yearly procedure held before the Selectmen as the BOS have the choice of keeping a single tax rate or a split rate. If the Selectmen choose to go to a split tax rate it will shift a larger burden to the commercial properties in town. Historically it has been a single tax rate. The tax rate is based on debt exclusions and new growth. The new tax rate for residents for FY19 will be \$16.53 per thousand (a decrease of .02 FY18). The new growth, in the amount of \$358,747.00 has been approved by DOR. The total new value of the town is \$1,462,496,231.00 with a levy limit of \$24,175,062.70. Selectman Mead at this time reads the Public Notice as advertised in the November 1, 2018 Millbury Sutton Chronicle. Vice Chair Hall asks Knick if it has always been one rate, Knick

replies it has always been the prerogative of the board to have one rate. Dave feels we should stay at one rate, if we had a split rate we may not have had Primetals come in to town. Selectman Limanek is also in favor of a single tax rate and feels it keeps the door open for new businesses in town. Selectman Mead knows the importance of bringing in new business while maintaining the rural character of the town. Wendy feels it should stay a single rate. Selectman Anderson says a single rate makes sense and it encourages new business which benefits us all. Chairman Hebert agrees with his colleagues and agrees a mission of the BOS is to bring in new business. Selectman Limanek motions to close the Public Hearing, Vice Chair Hall seconds passes 5-0. Selectman Limanek motions to approve a single tax factor for FY19 Vice Chair Hall seconds passes 5-0

Vaillancourt Folk Art- one day Wine & Malt on site: present is Luke and Gary Vaillancourt: Luke addresses the BOS, this is for the 2 day event of the annual "A Christmas Carol" play. There will be a tip certified bartender on site. Vice Chair Hall says this is a great event and says they have complied with the rules and regs, Selectman Limanek says this is an upscale event and being able to have a glass of wine is an added benefit. Jesse asks if Malt will also be served, Luke replies a Christmas malt which will be purchased through a distributor. Selectman Mead has no issues, Selectman Anderson says this is a great event. Chairman Hebert says this event draws in unique clientele of a certain type and age. Selectman Limanek motions to approve two-one day onsite Wine & Malt special licenses for Vaillancourt Folk Art on November 24<sup>th</sup> & November 25<sup>th</sup>, Selectman Mead seconds passes 5-0

NGRID Easement-Hatchery Road: Town Manager says NGrid needs to access the Wilks Water parcel through property owned by the Town of Sutton to replace a pole. Jim states there is a resident on Hatchery Road that had some concerns. Vice Chair Hall says it sounds like it is just infrastructure that needs to be dealt with, Selectman Limanek says it is an easement to access the site and has no issues. No other comments made. Selectman Limanek motions to approve the easement request from NGRID to access Wilkinsonville Water district property at 40 Hatchery Road through the property owned by the Town of Sutton for pole replacement, Selectman Mead seconds passes 5-0

Conservation Commission update: Present is Chairman of Conservation Joyce Smith that has served on Conservation for 14 years, as well as Vice Chair Andy DeWolfe. Joyce provides a power point put out by MACC which includes some photos she has taken in town. In this power point it shows the importance in protecting the public and private water supplies, protecting ground water supply and protecting wetlands. All of this falls under the jurisdiction of Conservation. Joyce states there are 5 great ponds in Sutton as well as many areas of wetlands. Conservation Commission members are appointed by the Board of Selectmen but they are an arm of DEP. Vice Chair Hall asks why the town has its own Conservation bylaws, Joyce states we can have stricter regulations then the state, we protect the vernal pools and great ponds. We have added 4 more items to our bylaws, they are aesthetics, agriculture, aquatic life and recreation. Selectman Limanek asks what percent of undeveloped land in Sutton contains wetlands. Joyce replies there are wetlands all over, it is even found in the hillsides as springs. With the properties that were released earlier in this meeting under MGL61, there will be a lot of Conservation Commission input once they file before the Conservation Board. Selectman Mead says the edification to the town is enormous. Selectman Anderson thanks Joyce and commends her for taking the classes to be certified, Jonathan goes on to say protecting wetlands helps our town keep its rural look and feel. Chairman Hebert thanks Joyce and the commission on the valued work they do, we need you for the checks and balances. John asks Joyce why she feels it is important to have the 200foot buffer rather than the 100 ft. required by the state. Joyce replies the more protection the better.

Pam Nichols presents the web page update- Pam is the Cable Coordinator, at this time she thanks her assistant Christine Hicks for her assistance in this new web page. Pam states it was back in 2008 that the previous webpage went live. Since then we have 1893 hours and 14 minutes of meetings. This past February Pam and Christine rolled out a You Tube channel for people to watch meetings. The new web page is an open platform so it resizes to adjust to any size screen which is more user friendly. Pam goes on to say they have a link now for Clear Gov which offers more transparency into the financial aspects of the town, bill pay is another area they are going to meet with the treasurer and expand the options. A points of interest button may be added in the future for anyone looking for different things in town to see or do. Vice Chair Hall says this was a great presentation and commends Pam on her innovation. Selectman Limanek says fantastic work, he has used the You tube and says it was seamless. Jesse says the new site is eye pleasing. Selectman Mead tells Pam she is a fixture at most town and school events with a camera, the website is spectacular and super user friendly. Selectman Anderson thanks Pam for the countless hours bringing information to the town and also helping us to be more transparent. Chairman Hebert says this was 100% positive, your demeanor is professional- this is an example of leading by example.

Holiday Opening schedule read by Selectman Wendy Mead

Town Managers Update:

- Budget process & capital plan- FY20 budget process has begun. Request for capital items is due back to Town Manager Dec. 14.
- Storage at Shaw Farm- there is an 8X20 container at Shaw Farm storing items to be used for final grading and paving at the new Police Station site. It will be there through January.
- Easement for Public Safety communications- at the fall town meeting an article was passed to allow the town to gain an easement off of Reservoir Ave to the Manchaug water tower. This will be fiber that will run underground in a conduit. Special thanks to Paul Maynard, Lisa Moczynski of Metacomet Land trust, Andrews Engineering, Matt Stencel, Larry Morris and Dennis Towle.
- Transfer Station will be closed on Thursday, Nov 22 and will reopen Friday the 23 for regular hours.
- Chain of lights- scheduled for Sat. Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 10am-4pm. It will end at the common for lighting of the trees and Santa Claus
- Jingle Jaunt- Jingle Jaunt 5K will be held on Sat Dec 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am Special thanks to Howie Bottomly for this annual tradition.

Announcements/Round Table:

- Vice Chair Hall- Early voting was really nice, thanks to Laura for her work on this.
- Selectman Limanek thanks all that participated and attended the Armistice Day. Big Ben was fired 5 times. Special thanks to St Marks for the Thanksgiving food donations.
- Selectman Mead wishes the community a Happy Thanksgiving
- Chairman Hebert thanks Laura Caruso and her staff for all their work in early voting. John also states that special thanks to Jen Callahan for the food that will be delivered this Saturday to the Sr Center for the Thanksgiving baskets

Selectman Limanek motions to adjourn, Selectman Mead seconds passes 5-0 meeting adjourned 9:15pm

