

Jeffrey Bannon, Chair person  
Jonathan Anderson, Vice Chair  
David Hall, Clerk  
Jesse Limanek  
Wendy M. Mead



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  
Select Board

Meeting Minutes

**Minutes Accepted and filed with the Town Clerk 8/9/2022 by a roll call vote of 5-0  
6:00 p.m. – July 12, 2022**

Roll Call vote taken:

Members in Attendance in person:

Chairperson Jeff Bannon, Vice Chair Jonathan Anderson, Clerk David Hall, Select person Jesse Limanek

Member in attendance thru Zoom: Select person Wendy Mead

Also in attendance in person: Town Manager James Smith, Town accountant Tim Harrison & Deb Jacques, secretary

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairperson Bannon recites the following: Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, this meeting of the Sutton Select Board is in a hybrid format with both in-person and Zoom component. To join the meeting visit [www.zoom.us/join](https://www.zoom.us/join) and enter Meeting ID 881 3720 8396 & Passcode 749396. The meeting will be broadcast and recorded on local public access station (Verizon 31 & Charter/Spectrum 191) and live streamed on the Towns YouTube channel when available.

**Public Forum** – N/A

Select person Hall motions to accept as presented the June 21, 2022 Select Board meeting minutes, Select person Limanek seconds passes 5-0 - roll call vote

Dudley Gendron Post #414 156 Boston Road- 2 one day outside liquor licenses (7/17/22 & 9/17/22) Select person Limanek recuses himself as he is the Commander of the Sons at the Dudley Gendron. Present thru Zoom is the bar manager Christi Dresser. Town Manager Smith says the 2 functions are as follows- July 17<sup>th</sup> for a multi post bike run stop and Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> for the annual chicken barbecue. Christi Dresser says the July 17<sup>th</sup> event will only be for approx. 35-40 minutes but she is not exactly sure of the time- it will be between 11am-3pm for 40-50 riders. The Chicken barbecue is noon to 5pm. Select person Hall is concerned with the July 17<sup>th</sup> event- it is essentially drinking and biking- what is the purpose of serving alcohol. Christi states they have these events and do serve alcohol as well as water but there is an event inside the legion this date so it is moving to the outside. This will be the 1<sup>st</sup> stop along the route for the bikers. Dave urges to use the TIP safe guards during this event. Select person Mead echoes Dave's comments and concerns, she is glad this will be the 1<sup>st</sup> stop but is fully supportive of this. Vice Chair Anderson voices same concerns but they do have a good track record. Chairperson Bannon has the exact same concern with the July 17<sup>th</sup> event – Jeff asks why they cannot have inside- Christi states it would exceed the capacity of the lounge area as there is a function on the banquet side. Christi states the only difference with this is it will be in the outside space. Jesse Limanek 3 Merrill Road- Commander of the Sons states he has already booked with the Police Dept. a detail officer for the Chicken Barbecue. Vice Chair Anderson motions to approve the Dudley Gendron Post #414 at 156 Boston Road request for two- one day outside All Alcohol licenses in the flagged area for July 17, 2022 11:00am-3:00pm for a multi post fundraiser bike run and September 17, 2022 12:00 noon to 5:00pm for the annual chicken barbecue/community day with Police Detail for the September 17<sup>th</sup> event. Select person Hall 2nds passes 4-0- roll call vote taken.

Historical Commission & Conservation Commission appointments- Town Mgr. Smith is asking for 2 appointments- both are Associate Members being appointed to full members. Rochelle Forsyth is filling the position left vacant by Wally Baker on Historical and James Marran is filling the position left vacant by Zackary Peloquin on Conservation. Present is James Marran of 80 Burbank Road. Jim states he joined the Conservation Commission at the request of Joyce Smith as they embraced the same feelings related to

conservation. Select person Hall says there is value to associate board members it allows them to slide into a full member role when there is a vacancy. Dave thanks Wally and Zac for their time on these boards. Select person Limanek states all boards consist of residents- Jesse states he appreciates all board members that commit to the various boards. Select person Mead thanks Rochelle and Jim – Wendy says she appreciates the associate positions which allows members to step up. Vice Chair Anderson is happy to see Associate members fill vacant seats especially for complicated boards such as Conservation. Jonathan thanks Wally and Zac for years on the boards as well as Jim and Rochelle for continuing to volunteer. Chair person Bannon offers his thanks to Zac and Wally- volunteers mean a lot to the town- it is important to get involved. Select person Mead motions to appoint Rochelle Forsyth to the Historical Commission from associate member to full member with a term until June 30, 2025 Vice Chair Anderson 2nds passes 5-0 roll call vote taken. Select person Mead motions to appoint James Marran to the Conservation Commission from an associate member to full member with a term until June 30, 2025 Select person Limanek 2nds passes 5-0 roll call vote taken.

Year End Transfers- Town Manager Smith states under MGL Chapter 44, Sec 33B allows for these slight deficits to transfer funds from other unspent line items to allow end of year positives. This year the transfer figure is \$72,040. which is .02% of the 35 million dollar operating budget Some of the deficits are due to 4 minor wage shortages, 2 midyear wage increases, Assessors contract services deficit due to new state regulations, Police expenses related to Cable/internet/phone, the highest deficit is Gasoline expenses under Central Purchasing (due to increase in fuel costs) and an annual audit increase due to COVID funds received. This item requires two votes- one from Fin Com and one from the Select Board. Fin Com met and approved last night. Select person Hall says this is the way it is supposed to be done- delineate the line items- this process is a proponent in transparency- Dave states this is unbelievably precise. Select person Limanek says for the sake of transparency there are 18 items- a very small number after dealing with a 35-million-dollar budget. With the current economy the inflation and shipping issues have affected the town also. We were able to maintain services to the residents while maintaining all the complexities that go along with a budget. Select person Mead thanks Tim and Jim for all the time that is put into the budget- .02% is a strikingly low number. Vice Chair Anderson says they have an eye on this and explained the reasons behind the deficits- the fact there is .02% deficit on a 35-million-dollar budget is amazing. Chair person Bannon says every year the few items are rounding errors. The results year after year are good solid conservative budgeting. Select person Limanek motions to approve the FY2022 Year End Transfers in the amount of \$72,040. as presented, Vice Chair Anderson seconds passes 5-0 roll call vote taken- list of transfers attached to final minutes

#### Town Manager Update:

- Charter Change Board of Selectmen to Select Board- the House and Senate have been working on the charter change of the title Board of Selectmen to Select Board. The Senate made significant changes of how the town fills vacancies with the Select Board. The original intent was to change the name of the Board not the vacancy part of it which was established in the 1988 Charter. State Rep Joe McKenna discussed with Jim- Joe McKenna will file a floor amendment to put the original language back in on what was called for in the home rule petition.
- Parking lots at Early Learning Center & Elementary school- repair for the school parking lot was approved at the May town meeting for \$300,000. We are currently finalizing the design- the work will not get done this summer as we have to work on the bid package and have it ready to go out April of 2023 for next summer completion.
- Painting of Town Hall will begin shortly. John Couture is the project manager.
- Full time Assessors position has been advertised in the T&G as well as the Beacon. Joyce Sardagnola will be retiring the end of this month.
- Select Board Goals meeting will be held on July 26<sup>th</sup> at Blackstone National

#### Announcement's/Round Table

- Select person Limanek reads the needed items for the Food Pantry, Sutton Cultural Council has the BVCC band on the common 7/14 at 7pm/rain date 7/21. Gov. Baker has declared 7/11-7/17 Hurricane preparedness week – you can read more about this on the Sutton town website.
- Select person Mead says the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade was a huge success- thankyou to April and Jonathans efforts- they are rearing up for new events- the parade, the concert, the fireworks were fantastic. This was a good reflection of this town. The stability of this country is very abusive at this time- be kind and be respectful.
- Vice Chair Anderson says the parade was a quintessential small town experience- Jonathan is grateful for all that worked to put this together.
- Chair person Bannon says the parade was hot but it was well done- every detail was thought of. This is tick season- please check yourself, check the kids- they spread nasty diseases.

Select person Limanek motions to adjourn, Vice Chair Anderson seconds- Roll Call vote taken- passes 5-0  
Meeting adjourned 7:33 pm

