

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



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James A. Smith, Town Manager

Town of Sutton
Select Board

Meeting Minutes

Minutes Accepted and filed with the Town Clerk 9/06/2022 by a roll call vote of 4-0
6:00 p.m. – August 23, 2022 (Select Person Mead absent)

Roll Call vote taken:

Members in Attendance in person:

Chairperson Jeff Bannon, Vice Chair Jonathan Anderson, Clerk David Hall & Wendy Mead in person: Select person Jesse Limanek present thru Zoom.

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 and enter Meeting ID 897 4976 2564 & Passcode 8045013. 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 August 9, 2022 Select Board meeting minutes, Select person Mead seconds passes 5-0 - roll call vote

School Superintendent Kimberly Roberts-Morandi: Town Manager Jim Smith invited Dr. Roberts-Morandi here to meet the Select Board. Kim has been at the school now for 2 months- she also has had meet and greets around town, she hired a new Business Manager and closed out several open grants. Kim introduces herself to the board- she comes from a very small town in So. West Vermont. Her previous job was backgrounding a school- Sutton does not need turnaround work- she considers this new position as polishing a gem. She said we can always do better, currently she is working on a strategic plan for the district- she encourages feedback from residents as to what we want in our Sutton graduates. Select person Hall recognizes Kim's professionalism and says it must be a challenge with 2 key positions being new- Superintendent and Business Manager. Dave goes on to say there is a great financial team to support Kim- Jim and Tim have a long standing positive relationship with the school. Dave also mentions BVT- a fantastic school but what can we do to attract our students to stay in Sutton. Kim replies we have to understand the needs we may not be meeting; how are we preparing our students- look into expanding our internship opportunities. Talk to the students to see what they would like to see. Select person Limanek says the meet and greets Kim has had were fantastic, Kim put herself out here- made herself visible. Jesse asks how she would go about bridging the academic and social skills some students now lack due to the covid pandemic. Kim replies there is a 3 year process as well as a second step program to help with adjustments some students have had to make as well as a school adjustment counselor. She is currently implementing a district leadership program- each student needs to be treated as an individual. Jesse lastly asks for politicking biases be kept out of the high school. Select person Mead says the new Business Manager was a fabulous selection, Wendy also comments on the great financial team Jim and Tim and their budgeting skills- just as a reminder the SPED stabilization fund is in the school budget for an intended purpose. Vice Chair Anderson is excited Kim has a rural school background- she realizes one size does not fit all- Jonathan asks what are the 3 top priorities Kim would like to focus on- Kim replies academic- yr. one, social/emotional adaption year 2 and technology year 3. Chairperson Bannon says he is very excited the School Committee selected Kim- Jeff goes on to say his general impression of Kim is she brings a level of energy to the town and school. Jeff welcomes Kim.

Appointments: Dan Lessard to Sewer Commission and Jerry Townsend to the Cultural Council. The board invites both Dan and Jerry to come up and introduce themselves. Dan Lessard, a 40 year resident states he had served on the Board of Health in town for 14 years- Sutton has been good to Dan and he would like to give back. Jerry Townsend, a 3-year resident was in the hospitality industry for 25 years- due to an injury he is now in his last year of school for an architectural degree, the board all offer their thanks for volunteering on these two boards. Select person Limanek motions to appoint Daniel Lessard as a Sewer Commissioner with a term to expire June 30, 2025 Vice Chair Anderson seconds passes 5-0 with roll call vote. Select person Limanek motions to appoint Jerry Townsend to the Cultural Council with a term to expire June 30, 2025, Select person Mead seconds passes 5-0 with roll call vote

Establish charge for use of Electric Chargepoint chargers at the school- Town Manager Jim Smith is recommending to institute a fee to use the Chargepoint chargers at the school. After review of the usage as well as the current NGrid bill for \$185.00 if we charge .21cents per kilowatt hour and the same usage continues it would bring in around \$188.00- enough to offset the charge. Jim would like to start the user fee to begin the first Monday of September- we will have to place signage at the chargers to alert the users. Select person Hall feels we should charge- these are not transient users; they are residents- this is not unreasonable it is just covering our cost. Select person Limanek says this is the right decision- it is a sense of fairness- we shouldn't expect the taxpayers to foot the bill- put the expense on the user. Select person Mead asks if there will be more chargers placed around town at some point- Jim replies yes- Galaxy Pass has already begun looking into them. Vice Chair Anderson agrees and says he thought all along we should have been charging. Chairperson Bannon says it is perfectly reasonable to charge- cover the cost - this is a convenience we are offering. Select person Mead motions to institute a \$.21 per kilowatt hour usage fee for the Chargepoint chargers located at the school property, Vice Chair Anderson seconds passes 5-0 with roll call vote.

Town Manager Update:

- Draft Town Meeting Warrant- will be presented on Sept. 27th (changed from Sept 6). The Planning Board will have an article addressing Earth removal standards and there is a citizen's petition calling to amend the Gen. Bylaws to include a requirement of a quorum of 1.5% of the registered voters with a minimum of 100 registered voters.
- Replacing gas tank on Engine one- Sat. Aug 13th the Fire Dept duty crew along with Chief Matt Belsito replaced a gas tank that had rotted out. If the work had been done by a contractor it would have cost \$6000.-\$8000. – this cost \$1500. Now every fire apparatus purchased since 2012 has an aluminum gas tank which does not rust.
- Disposal of mattresses- the State has added mattresses to the list of banned disposal items starting Nov. 1, 2022. Now we are forced to recycle them. The charge by the contractor will be \$15. per unit plus \$10.-\$15. per unit for trucking. We applied and received funding from the State for a container to hold the mattresses. The cost to recycle will go from \$20. per mattress to \$40. per mattress.

Announcement's/Round Table

- Select person Limanek thanks all involved with the 100-mile march- it was a huge turnout- Jesse says he appreciates the Police and especially the Fire Dept for their participation. Sept. 17th is the Dudley Gendron Chicken Barbecue- at noon there will be a 9/11 remembrance- the Select Board are invited to attend.
- Select person Mead offers thanks to Michelle Edelstein for the 50th Celebration of the COA- it was well attended. Wendy also reminds residents there is a drop off box for unused prescriptions in the lobby of the Police Station- this allows any and all types of medicine to be properly disposed of. Lastly Wendy says she was touched by Dr. Roberts-Morandis thoughts to the board- it is important for parents to stress that children need to be nice to other children-it leaves a lasting impression on kids.
- Vice Chair Anderson announces the Concert on the Common- Sept 1st at 6pm The Highwaymen.
- Chairperson Bannon received a letter this week from The Landmark regarding their last publication Sept. 15th. How will this affect the efforts of information in Sutton getting out to its readers regarding issues/town meetings, etc.

Select person Mead motions to adjourn, Vice Chair Anderson seconds- Roll Call vote taken- passes 5-0
Meeting adjourned 7:52 pm