

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 6/6/2023 a roll call vote of 4-0-1
(Select person Champigny abstains- new to board)**

6:00 p.m. – May 16, 2023

Roll Call vote taken:

Members in Attendance in person:

Chairperson Jeff Bannon, Vice Chair Jonathan Anderson, Clerk David Hall, Select person Wendy Mead

Select person Jesse Limanek, virtual

Also in attendance in person: Town Manager James Smith, Town accountant Tim Harrison & Donna Wood, secretary

Chairperson Bannon recites the Hybrid Opening Statement which went in to effect March 29, 2023

Public Forum – N/A

Select person Hall motions to accept as presented the May 2, 2023 Select Board meeting minutes Select Person Mead seconds passes 5-0 with roll call vote.

Special 1-day Wine & Malt requests (11) Vaillancourt Folk Art- 9 Main Street- present is Gary & Luke Vaillancourt- Town Manager Smith introduces this item to the Select Board- this is a yearly request for the Christmas season activities. These alcohol beverages are to be consumed in a designated area- with TIP certified pourers on site. Luke Vaillancourt, president of Vaillancourt is here to answer any questions. Select person Hall says we have never had any problems with these events- Dave is in full support- this is the type of event that creates community. Select person Limanek says he is glad to have them here- Vaillancourts have been entwined in our town- they have always been here for the community. These events are always done top notch. Select person Mead begins by saying they are an institution in town. Wendy asks for Luke to expand on the Manchaug-Nantucket Stroll. Vice Chair Anderson says he loves they highlight the history and beauty of Manchaug. These licenses have never been a problem. Chairperson Bannon says he appreciates the seriousness with these licenses- have there ever been any issues? Luke replies not that they are aware of. Hearing no further questions- Select person Limanek Motion to approve 11-one day special licenses to serve Wine/Malt at Vaillancourt Folk Art (outside of the licensed \$15 off site Wine/Malt license) located at 9 Main Street for various Christmas Season gatherings on Nov. 10th, 11th, 18th, 25th, 26th. Dec. 2nd, 6th, 8th, 9th, 16th, 17th. - TIP Certified Bar Tender on site for these events Select person Mead seconds passes 5-0 with roll call vote.

Powerpoint-Transfer Station discussion on increase of bag fees (attached to final minutes)- Town Manager Smith begins by thanking Dave Arsenault for running the Transfer Station overseen by Matt Stencil. Dave Arsenault is retiring this summer- he will be missed. Sticker fees (currently at \$50.00) have gone up a few times over the years- The current bag fees (sold in packages of 5) are \$6.25 for small and \$12.50 for large. Also reviewed is the average cost for use of the Transfer Station vs the local haulers and revenues vs expenses. The Transfer Station is still the most economical trash/recycling- the revenues have continued to show a positive balance by a tight margin. This is due to the increase in costs to run the Transfer Station. Jim is proposing to increase the bag fees- .25 per bag- this would be \$7.50 for 5 small and \$13.75 for 5 large. This change will raise approx.\$12,000. The average cost currently for a family is \$245.00/year. with this increase in bag fees the average cost will be \$270.00/year. The goal continues to be to provide a low cost alternative to curbside pickup. Select person Hall says this is a good alternative to the community- Dave supports this increase- we have to keep this sustainable. Dave is very confident this increase is needed. Select person Limanek has been using the Transfer Station

for years- Dave is a true professional- the goal is to keep the Transfer Station slightly profitable enough to offset the cost of repairs. Jesse supports the increase but asks if the stores that sell the bags will be able to take a little of the profit or still strictly cost- Jim replies strictly cost. Jim says they are also looking into reducing the hours but this is still in discussion. Select person Mead says looking at the retained earnings line we need to do this. Wendy wishes Dave Arsenault well and supports the increase. Vice Chair Anderson says this increase is just keeping it sustainable. People can choose to use or not. Chairperson Bannon says it is important to know the enterprise fund the revenues are sufficient to cover the expenses. Select person Mead motions to approve an increase in the Transfer Station bag fees by .25¢ per bag- package of 5 large trash bags- \$13.75/package of 5 small trash bags- \$7.50- New prices effective July 1, 2023 Vice Chair Anderson seconds passes 5-0 with roll call vote

Town Manager Update:

- Parking Lots Award- a notice of award was given to The Hatch Group to pave the Elem/ELC parking lots. The winning bid was \$248,180. This job will be done during summer vacation.
- The Electricity Aggregation with Peregrine Energy took place on May 10 at noon- we agreed to a two-year contract with Constellation New Energy at a price of 0.14728 cents per kilowatt hour effective January 2024.
- Fire Works meeting was held on May 9 with Tom Fournier. The date for fireworks is June 26. The Police Chief, Fire Chief, Highway Superintendent, Board of Health and Town Manager were at the meeting. There may also be a small concert and food served by the Lions Club on the common. We will meet again in two weeks to discuss the progress in the planning.
- Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday May 29th- the parade will leave the center and march to the school at 11:15.
- Town Election is to take place on Tuesday May 23rd 12pm-7pm.

Announcement's / Round Table:

Select person Dave Hall reminds all there is a red flag warning for fire risk. Also this is a bittersweet night- Wendy was the first female in many years as a board member- it is good to have female representation on the board. Dave says Wendy has been a role model. Dave didn't know Wendy well when she came on the board but knew of her work around town. Wendy is calm and kind- we will miss that.

Select person Limanek reports that the Food pantry has been restocked a little bit. Also the USPS had a food drive and collected many items for the Sutton Food Pantry. Memorial Day- the Veterans will be marching- as well as going to the cemeteries in the morning. Saying bye to Wendy – politically they are diabolically opposed but they find common ground. When the next building project comes into town we will call Wendy. Thank you for all that you have done for the town. Vice Chair Anderson also acknowledges Wendy for her service to town- Jonathan appreciates her point of view. This town runs on people willing to give their time.

Chairperson Bannon says Wendy has always spoken of different seats she has held in town- we know all your contributions. The biggest thing is you keep us grounded with your life lessons at the end of the meetings.

Select person Mead thanks the Board and Jim after 20+ years on committees- her last 2 terms on the Select board have been wonderful. Wendy found out a work acquaintance of hers was diagnosed with 4th stage pancreatic CA. Life is super short- appreciate your family/acquaintances-

Select person Mead motions to adjourn, Vice Chair Anderson 2nds- Roll Call vote taken- passes 5-0

Meeting adjourned 7:12 pm