

Jonathan Anderson, Chair person
David Hall, Vice Chair
Jesse Limanek, Clerk
Jeffrey Bannon
Normand Champigny



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James A. Smith, Town Manager

Town of Sutton
Select Board

Meeting Minutes

Minutes Accepted and filed with the Town Clerk 10/24/2023 with a roll call vote of 5-0

6:00 p.m. – October 10, 2023

Roll Call vote taken:

Members in Attendance in person:

Chairperson Jonathan Anderson, Vice Chair David Hall, Clerk Jesse Limanek, Select members Jeffrey Bannon & Normand Champigny

Also attending in person: Town Manager James Smith & Deb Jacques, secretary

Public Forum –

John Belcufine- 75 Leland Hill Road- offers thankyou to the Highway Dept. for recent brush cutting along Leland Hill road to improve visibility. Mr. Belcufine also requests if solid lines could be painted on the corners of Leland Hill similar to the lines on Hartness Road. He has noticed large trucks at times using Leland Hill Road as a cut through- could there be signs posted saying Not a Truck Route. Another issue which Mr. Belcufine would like to see addressed and enforced is no parking on the East side of Uxbridge Road. He was told this is under the Select Board authority. Mr. Belcufine would like to see the Town Hall sign board replaced at some time- it is aged and crooked- Northbridge has a nice sign. He would like responses back to his requests. Chairperson Anderson informs Mr. Belcufine that usually the Town Manager will update the board of the progress at the next meeting- this is Public Forum meant for residents to come in and voice concerns. In regards to the sign board- the Town is working on replacing that sign- it is in the next budget season capital plan.

Annsie Kangas- 67 Griggs Road agrees with Mr. Belcufines thoughts on the parking along Uxbridge Road- it creates a safety issue when cars are parked on both sides.

Vice Chair Hall motions to accept as presented the September 19, 2023 Select Board meeting minutes Select Person Bannon seconds passes 5-0 with roll call vote

Public Hearing- Pole Hearing Boston Rd/Buttunwood Ave- present from NGrid is Brandon MacMillin- Clerk Jesse Limanek reads the notice as advertised in the September 7th 2023 Millbury Sutton Chronicle- Town Manager Smith states this is for the current road improvement project ongoing at this site. The poles are being moved back for the widening of the road. Vice Chair Hall says he has no issues but is glad to see that within the information from NGrid it states there is space on pole for local public safety. Select person Limanek asks while they are at the site of they could look at a pole a little further down that is leaning down the embankment. Select person Champigny is encouraged seeing this project completed. Hearing no further comments/concerns Select Person Limanek motions to close the Public Hearing- Vice Chair Hall seconds passes 5-0 with roll call vote. Select person Limanek motions to approve Pole Hearing # 30788930 from NGrid & Verizon for Boston Road/Buttunwood Ave as advertised in the September 7, 2023 Millbury Sutton Chronicle Select person Bannon seconds passes 5-0 with roll call vote.

Public Hearing- Pole Hearing- Town Farm Road- present from NGrid is Brandon MacMillin- Clerk Jesse Limanek reads the notice as advertised in the September 7th 2023 Millbury Sutton Chronicle- Brandon with NGrid states there is a tree guy (that is currently attached to a dead tree). They will put in a new stub pole and move the wire off of the dead tree. Vice Chair Hall asked how this was discovered- Brandon replies there is someone looking to build a home in this area and it was discovered. Brandon says if residents feel there are issues with certain poles they can put in an inquiry for it to be checked out. Select person Limanek questions what is a span guy and a tree guy. Select person Bannon asks if there are records within NGrid that show where there are tree guys- Brandon replies he is not sure but sometimes they are identified during surveys. Hearing no comments/concerns Select person Bannon motions to close the Public Hearing- Select person Champigny seconds passes 5-0 with roll call vote. Select person Bannon motions to approve Pole

Hearing # 30807504 from NGrid for Town Farm Road/West Sutton Road as advertised in the September 7, 2023 Millbury Sutton Chronicle Select person Limanek seconds passes 5-0 with roll call vote

Sutton Housing Authority appointment – Amy Parslow is present along with John Slocum director of Sutton Housing Authority. Town Manager Smith says this is to fill the seat left vacant by the passing of Barbara Wade. Amy introduces herself- she was born and raised in Sutton, left for a few years and has since moved back and is now living in the senior housing. Vice Chair Hall likes what Amy said in her introduction- she has something to offer and she likes to participate. Select person Limanek welcomes Amy and says it is nice to see new people step onto different boards. Select person Champigny says thank you – you are a good example and it is good for the future of the town to see volunteers step up for different boards. Normand asks if there are any tenant issues there- Amy replies the current tenants are pretty settled there right now. Chairperson Anderson acknowledges the position Barbara Wade held. John Slocum at this time gives a brief history of the Sutton Housing Authority. Select person Champigny motions to appoint Amy Parslow to the Sutton Housing Authority Tenant Board for a 5-year term with an expiration of June 30, 2028- Vice Chair Hall seconds passes 5-0 with roll call vote

Select person Limanek recuses himself at this time for the next agenda item

The Dudley Gendron has 2 special license requests- present for the Dudley Gendron is bar manager Nick Hall. Town Manager Smith says the first is a fundraiser on Sunday Oct. 29th to raise money for the Lucas CPR chest compression system during regular post hours- this will involve celebrity bartenders along with a regular tip certified bartender to oversee the alcohol being poured- the second is a request to open early at 8am for Friendsgiving (a private event). Nick Hall explains the fundraiser- Fire Chef Belsito and FF Jeff Briggs are present with an actual Lukas chest compressor. FF Briggs explains how this equipment works. This is a life saving device- the one the town has was purchased through a grant that FF Briggs obtained. The Fire Dept would like to purchase a second one that the Fire Dept can dictate where it goes. The Select board all say they have no issues with the events and special license requests by the Dudley Gendron. They all appreciate the Dudley Gendron for hosting and supporting our Fire Dept. Vice Chair Hall motions to approve the special license requests for the Dudley Gendron Post #414 for the Sunday- October 29th fundraiser and the Thursday November 23rd early pouring of 8am for a private event Select person Bannon seconds passes 5-0 with roll call vote.

Select person Limanek rejoins the board at this time

Waters Farm- Paul Schaefer 10 Uxbridge Road- Paul says Farm Days is this weekend (basic source of revenue for the farm)- all are welcome. It has been a very busy year – Waters Farm although town owned property is run by a 12-member board that is very dedicated. This past year they have had 9 tractor pulls, open houses, mushroom foraging classes as well as 4-H, school events, Easter Egg hunts, movie night and breakfast with Santa. Two good things this year is the road leading to the farm was paved and there was a drainage project for the main field which was paid out of a \$100,000. grant through the state. This year Farm Days is dedicated to the memory of Bob Kneeland and Sten Brote Memorial Engine show. There will be 7 food vendors and 36 sponsors. Paul goes on to say Waters Farm is open to the public from dawn to dusk but not the buildings. The day to day, weekly and monthly maintenance is done by mostly the board members but volunteers are needed. Vice Chair Hall asks Paul to talk about memberships and how they can be purchased. Select person Limanek says wonderful update- there are people that ask for things to do- reach out to Waters Farm. Select person Bannon offers his thanks to Paul for staying engaged in this – it is a lot of work. Select person Champigny says thankyou to Paul and his board members. Chairperson Anderson says thankyou to Paul for putting the time in to Waters Farm as well as obtaining grants to keep things functioning and upkeep on the farm.

CMRPC Alternate delegate- Town Manager Smith explains that the Select board have 2 members- Jesse Limanek as the primary and Jonathan Anderson as the alternate- Planning Board appointed Bill Talcott as Wally Baker was appointed by CMRPC to sit on the Executive Board. Planning Director was contacted by CMRPC that we have 1 person to many. Chairperson Anderson agreed to step down so Wally Baker can be named as an alternate delegate. Vice Chair Hall thanks Jonathan for stepping down. Select person Limanek motions to approve the replacement of Select Board Chair Jonathan Anderson as the CMRPC alternate delegate and appoint Wally Baker as the alternate delegate Select person Champigny seconds passes 5-0 with roll call vote.

Town Manager Update:

- Town Hall septic system- out to bid on Wed. Sept 27th- site visit held on Oct. 10th- bids due Oct 19th. We hope if this is awarded it is completed by Dec. 15th 2023.
- NGrid winter rates- NGrid released winter rates to residential ratepayers- 18.2 cents per kilowatt hour. Suttons new 2-year contract is 14.7 cents per kilowatt.
- Free Cash certification- MA DOR recently certified the towns free cash at \$3,564,421. The Sewer Enterprise fund retained earnings were \$849,606. and the Transfer Station \$45,995. Thank you to Tim Harrison who submitted and oversaw this process.

Chairperson Anderson updates the board at this time of a zoom call held last Thursday (10/5/23) by MA DOT, MA State Police, CMRPC, WRTA along with Sutton Public Safety and Town Manager Smith. This meeting was held due to the concern of the refugees

at the Red Roof Inn crossing 146 to get to the grocery store. Jonathan states the state is still offering no support- CMRPC has signed a short term agreement that will provide a small van twice a week (Sun and Wed.) to bring them to Walmart in Northbridge.

Announcement's / Round Table:

- Vice Chair Hall implores the public to attend Waters Farm Days- this is a great opportunity for fundraising for the farm. Town meeting is Monday October 16th at 7pm- Sutton Middle School High School. Dave also agrees with John Belcufine and the recent trimming of brush along Leland Hill Road.
- Select person Limanek mentions he was recently re-elected to the executive board-CMMPO. Jesse recently attended the 200 Anniversary of the Rufus Putnam Building as well as last Friday at the SPD- Officer Den Yin was recognized with the quilt of valour. And a reminder to all that Oct 29th at the Dudley Gendron a fundraiser for the Lucas lifesaving equipment. Jesse reads the list of items needed for the Food Pantry.
- Select person Champigny says next Friday (Oct. 20th) the Witches Ball will be at the Dudley Gendron. Normand is concerned with Mr. Belculfine and his concerns being addressed.
- Chairperson Anderson also attended the 200 Anniversary of the Rufus Putnam building- it was attended by the organization the Masons who presented a plaque- this building in the past has been used by the masons, it was a school and is now a museum. This holds an important part of our history.

Select person Limanek motions to adjourn, Select person Bannon 2nds- Roll Call vote taken- passes 5-0

Meeting adjourned 7:47pm