

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



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James A. Smith, Town Manager

Town of Sutton
Select Board

Meeting Minutes

Minutes Accepted and filed with the Town Clerk on 1/19/2021 by a vote of 5-0

5:00 p.m. – January 5, 2021
REMOTE DIAL IN MEETING

Members in Attendance by video chat:

Chairperson Wendy Mead, Vice Chair Jesse Limanek, Clerk Jonathan Anderson & Select Board David Hall & Jeffrey Bannon

Town Manager James Smith & Deb Jacques, secretary

Town Finance Director Timothy Harrison

Chairperson Mead calls meeting to order, begins meeting with Gov. Bakers order to conduct meetings remotely consistent with his Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the “COVID-19 Virus.”

In order to mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 Virus, we have been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor’s Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible physical location. Further, all members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

The Order, which you can find posted with agenda materials for this meeting allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting.

Public participation has been offered for this meeting.

Public Forum: Tammy Blakeslee of 162 Eight Lots Road- informs the Select Board an official request to rescind the current State of Emergency related to COVID in the Town of Sutton has been delivered to the Town Hall earlier today along with the Notice & Demand which has been sent to Gov. Baker against his unsubstantiated State of Emergency. Ms. Blakeslee requests the Board provide verifiable scientific evidence that there is an actual widespread emergency- Chairperson Mead states the Board has not yet had chance to review but will take under advisement and review the appropriate information and perhaps it will be at another meeting.

Select person Hall motions to approve as presented minutes from the December 15, 2020 meeting- Vice Chair Limanek seconds passes 5-0

Recognition- Years of Service- Don Conlon- read into record by Vice Chair Limanek

Market 32- Liquor License- Change of Directors- present is Atty. Eugene Richards- Town Manager Smith states this is for a change in directors/officers at the corporate office- the local manager will remain the same. This is required by the ABCC. The Select Board have no questions or concerns as it is corporate change. Vice Chair Limanek motions to approve as requested the Change of Officers/Directors for the All Alcohol Package Store License # 00026-PK-1254 (Price Chopper Operating Co. of MA dba Market 32) Select person Bannon seconds passes 5-0

Appointment to the Historical Commission - Keith Downer (Historical Commission) and the candidate Christopher Leary are on the Zoom Meeting. Keith states Christopher has a deep value and love of the town and its history, Christopher will be a great asset to the commission. Christopher introduces himself- he has lived in town for 5 years and has a young family. He works for Verizon and holds a degree in history- he would like to help preserve and protect the heritage in Sutton. Select person Hall welcomes Christopher and thanks him for volunteering his time. Vice Chair Limanek thanks Chris for wanting to contribute to the preservation of our town. Select members Anderson and Bannon thank Chris for volunteering- we need volunteers to keep the town moving- Sutton has a special

character. Select person Anderson motions to approve the appointment of Christopher Leary to the Historical Commission for a term ending June 30th 2023 Vice Chair Limanek seconds passes 5-0

Town Managers Update:

- 2022 Draft Capital Plan- the 2022 draft estimated Capital Plan has projects estimated at a cost of 1.2 million. Over \$300,000. was deferred from 2021. We have \$3.4 million in free cash and would like to use some of that to invest in a good capital plan. The draft Capital plan will be presented at the next meeting. Departmental Budget requests are due January 8th - the Budget will be presented to the Select Board February 16th.
- School WasteWater Treatment Plant inspection- as part of the due diligence for the sewer project to the school we are going to drain and inspect the Membrane Batch Reactor (MBR) during February vacation. It may be possible that we can clean and recoat the MBR which may give it an additional 10 years of life. The cost is approximately \$200,000.
- Refund from NGRID- we requested \$73,141.92 from NGRID for the 4 streetlights at Gilmore Drive. With Larry Morris' assistance we can purchase 5 LED street lights for less than \$50,000.
- Spring Town Meeting outdoors- We are looking to have our May annual Town Meeting outdoors. Pam Nichols has been working with Immedia Event Productions- the estimate for the entire event would be \$9,300. We are planning on seating for 500, a sound system, microphones. The date is May 15 with a rain date of May 22.
- Handicap doors- the winning bidder for replacement of the front doors as well as the library door was E5 Builders- the winning bid came in at \$37,980.- we will submit to FEMA as well as the CARES Act for funding.
- Blackstone Logistics Center- we have been informed through Atty. Fletcher Tilton that Scannel properties will be filing an application for construction of a 646,000 ft facility for warehouse/distribution. This approx. 70-acre parcel involves the towns of Douglas, Uxbridge and Sutton. Our Building Commissioner John Couture will represent the 3 communities with the construction of the building. Plans will be filed within the respective Planning Depts. within the next two weeks.
- Shared Winter Streets grant- MassDOT notified us that Sutton was awarded \$299,900. To construct a new, safer pedestrian walk, curbing and crossings in the vicinity of Hough Road fields as well as connecting to the Sutton Sr. Center
- Burning Permits now available online along with Transfer Station stickers. We are also looking into online sales for Dog Licenses.

Select Board Roundtable:

- Select person Hall wishes all Happy New Year
- Vice-Chair Limanek thanks St. Marks for their continued generosity with monthly Food donations. If there is anyone in need please contact the Mike Chizy Food Pantry. Jesse recently was involved with an Eagle Scout interview. Gareth McCauligh (previously from Sutton) worked on a project with Cemetery/Historical cleaning headstones at some of the local cemeteries.
- Chairperson Mead says she was amazed by the number of families that received assistance over the holiday season. Wendy asks for all to have a warm heart and be kind.

Vice Chair Limanek motions to adjourn, Select person Bannon seconds- meeting adjourned 6:04pm