

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 5/4/2021 by a roll call vote of 5-0

5:00 p.m. – April 20, 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 recites the following: Due to the current COVID-19 Crisis (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 being held remotely via Zoom. To join the meeting visit www.zoom.us/join and enter Meeting ID 899 3279 8128 & Passcode 677903. 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. Pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A Section 20, no person shall address a meeting of a public body without permission of the chair. Individuals who would like to participate should state their name and address after being recognized by the chairperson. In an effort to ensure transparency to our viewers at home, the chat function is not available.

Public Forum: N/A

Select person Hall motions to approve as presented minutes from the April 6, 2021 meeting, Select person Anderson seconds- Roll call vote taken - passes 5-0

Dudley Gendron #414- 1 Day outside Beer & Wine and 1 Day outside music permit for May 15, 2021- Vice Chair Limanek recuses himself as he is the Commander of the Sons of the American Legion at Post #414. Present is Bar Manager for the post Christi Dresser and from the BOH Cheryl Rawinski. Christi states this request is for a fundraiser for Iggy Garcia. The event will run 11am-8pm. Beer & Wine will be out doors in a roped area- Christi acknowledges with COVID there are still restrictions and there is a capacity of 150 guests per event. Food will be put in single serve boxes. Inside- the bar side will serve to seated guests- the function side will be for raffles- There will be volunteers at the doors counting guests. Select person Hall asks how the number of guests will be handled should the number go over the 150- Christi states they will be turned away and asked to come back. Christi is thinking of two different colored wrist bands to split the time up. Cheryl asks if guests can walk up to bar to order/Christi replies no- the bartenders will go to table to get drink/food orders. The goal is to keep all seated unless they are walking thru the raffle area. When asked if they have a plan to control the number of guests- Christi replied not really- plans are still being worked out. Chairperson Mead at this time mentions an establishment in Worcester- Pepe's- they are also having an event and they have plans in place for crowd control as well as 2-hour time limits- they may want to reach out to see how they planned it. Dave is concerned with the number of people that will attend, they have to devise a way to keep track of guests- there is a lot of uncertainty. Select person Anderson is concerned with the complexity of this with the COVID restrictions, Select person Bannon has similar concerns- the limit today for gathering is 150/ if 350 tickets are sold- 11-8 is a long duration- where will the excess guests wait. This is a great event to hold, Jeff states he is not concerned with the permit itself- there have been a number of events there with no issues. Chairperson Mead questions parking- cars cannot park along the road there- Christi states they can park at the strip mall- Wendy asks if they requested approval from the owner of that property for parking. Christi states there is another meeting Wednesday to review all of the specifics. The Select Board agree to move forward with a vote but not to sign permits until after the next meeting (May 4th) in which they have asked Christi to come back and update on plans. Select person Anderson motions to approve the request for a special One Day Outside Beer & Wine license and One Day Out Door Music permit at the Dudley Gendron Post #414 located at 156 Boston Road for Saturday May 15, 2021 between the hours of 11am- 8pm with a detail Police Officer on site-contingent upon the following items resolved by May 4, 2021: Plan for 150 guest limit with specific group time limit; authorization to use private property for overflow parking; cohesive plan to track number of people on

site- Select person Hall seconds passes 4-0-1 (Vice Chair Limanek recused himself from discussion and vote). Vice Chair Limanek rejoins meeting

Final Budget Presentation: Town Manager Smith provides the FY2022 Final Budget (\$35,002,055.) Addressed in this presentation is the switch from Fallon to Blue Cross at almost a 20% reduction, an increase in appropriation to school by \$425,000., sale of Hatchery Road funds to be put into a road improvement stabilization fund, a Health Care stabilization fund to help with future spikes in health care costs, adding to the SPED fund and the OPEB account. The total Capital Plan for fy22 is \$1,472,000. To be allocated from free cash, new growth and retained earnings. The Spring Annual Town Meeting is scheduled to be held outside on May 15th at the school complex. Select person Hall feels the budget message encapsulates this presentation- Dave is impressed with where we are now with the uncertainty of where we were last year. The town should be happy with where we are. Vice Chair Limanek says this is a yearlong effort always top priority. Jesse always looks forward to the long range forecast. The town continues to live within our means- the needs are always focused on. This is a fulfillment of the public trust. Select person Anderson is amazed we are in better shape than we had anticipated last year. Jonathan does question the choice of the school committee to limit the school choice seats and questions if there is any budgetary risk in that- town Manager Smith replies over time there could be- that is a decision made yearly by the School Committee- hopefully next year they reconsider. School enrollment has dropped from approx. 1600 back in 2008 to currently 1200-1300. Select person Bannon lists the positives in the Budget Message: Health Care Stabilization Fund, Hatchery Road Sale (Road Improvement Stab fund), SPED Stab. Fund, purchase of Waters Rd prop and OPEB. Also mentioned was the Sewer project resolution on the MBR tank paid for by leftover school funds. Chairperson Mead thanks Jim and Tim for always using the conservative approach- it serves the town well. Wendy is concerned that the school does not use the SPED Stab. Fund to become part of the budget.

Approve & sign the Spring Town Meeting warrant: seeing no changes in the articles Vice Chair Limanek motions to Approve and Sign the 2021 Spring Town Meeting Warrant Select person Bannon seconds passes 5-0.

Town Managers Update:

- Green Community Grant- Doreen DeFazio applied for a \$173,289. Green community grant on April 9th. This would be for LED lights at the ELC, Elem. School and the 2nd floor of the Middle/High School.
- Reopening Town Hall Monday May 10th we anticipate the town hall will reopen. Masks will be required in common areas by employees as well as anyone coming in to do business.
- Contributions to OPEB- the Teamsters and the Police union have agreed as of 7/1/2021 all new employees will pay \$5.00 weekly towards OPEB. Included in this will be all new nonunion personnel.
- Inspection report MBR tank- we received the final inspection report from Suez Eng. They believe with the appropriate coating recommendations the life of the tank could be extended 15-20 years. Onsite Eng. Is writing up specifications with a plan to go out for bid for rehab of the tank.
- Andy DeWolfe resigned from the Conservation commission- thankyou to Andy for his years of service.
- Fire Dept special service award- Sutton Fire along with District 7 tech rescue and Medstar were chosen for Region 2 Special Service award on the excavator accident at 77 Leland Hill Rd last September. The outcome was not what we hoped for but we thank Matt Belsito and his team for their efforts.
- Early Voting Reimbursement- the State reimbursed the town \$5,509. For early voting for the State Primary and the election.
- Reduced voting hours for the Town Election on May 25th- due to it being uncontested the town clerk has recommended reduced hours from 12noon to 6pm. The Select Board all have concerns for residents that like to get out and vote early but do agree it makes sense with the 12noon to 6pm.
- Brush chipping Saturday May 1 8am-noon at the Transfer Station.

Select Board Roundtable:

- Select person Hall thanks ACO Dan Chauvin for help with a duck in his chimney.
- Vice Chair Limanek reads the needs for the Sutton Food Pantry.
- Select person Bannon asks if there is an issue with capacity at Town Meeting- Town Manager Smith replies no town Meeting is exempt.
- Chair person Mead asks for all to be kind

6:45 pm Chair person Mead motions to enter Executive Session – for #3 Union Negotiations Roll Call taken passes 5-0

7:15 pm Enter back into regular meeting for adjournment only.

Select person Hall motions to adjourn, Select person Anderson seconds- Roll Call vote taken- passes 4-0 (Vice Chair Limanek left Exec. Session early)

Meeting adjourned 7:15 pm