

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



Sutton Town Hall
4 Uxbridge Road
Sutton, MA 01590
Telephone (508)865-8727
Fax :(508)865-8721

James A. Smith, Town Manager

Town of Sutton
Select Board

Meeting Minutes

Minutes Accepted and filed with the Town Clerk on 7/13/2021 by a roll call vote of 5-0

6:00 p.m. – June 15, 2021
HYBRID 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 (Zoom)

Chairperson Limanek 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 852 7388 0982 & Passcode 069715. 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.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Forum – Mike Whittier 70 Torrey Road is here representing the Sutton Teachers Union. Mike states that there was a misstatement regarding the teachers and the cybersecurity training that is currently on going. Mike says it was a brief 5-minute discussion in the hall- this was not included in the union negotiations. The union didn't say no didn't say yes.

Select Person Hall motions to approve as presented June 1, 2021 meeting minutes, Select person Anderson 2nds passes 5-0
Roll Call vote taken

****PUBLIC HEARING**** 104 Mendon Road Pole Hearing- Cancelled per NGRID

Associate member to Conservation Commission Timothy Thompson: present is Timothy Thompson of 90 McClellan Road- Town Manager Smith states he is looking for an appointment to the Conservation Commission as an alternate member. Tim states he is interested in small town government and had a positive experience with Conservation previously. Select person Hall says the town dose not run without volunteers- the alternate position on the board is a great way to learn. Select person Mead offers thanks for volunteering his time- you are joining a diverse and talented board. Select person Anderson says Conservation has a lot of complexity- Jonathan suggests to take some classes that offer training for this board. Vice Chair Bannon welcomes Tim and feels he has a good background for this board. Chairperson Limanek says Conservation is actually an agency of the state and follow compliance with state regulations. Select person Mead motions to approve Timothy Thompson as an Associate Member to the Conservation Commission with an expiration date of June 30, 2024 Vice Chair Bannon seconds passes 5-0

Rescind Declaration of Emergency (COVID-19) for Town of Sutton- Town Manager Smith updates the board with information from the Town Nurse Cheryl Rawinski- There were 1200 positive COVID cases in Sutton, 825 positive, 16 deaths and 19,000 tested (some due to job tested repeatedly). At the school vaccination clinic 82 were given the first shot 4 weeks ago and 90 today the Governor rescinded the State of Emergency effective today (6/15)- Town Manager Smith is requesting the board rescind the emergency declaration made by the Select Board March 19, 2020. After brief discussion- the board feels now is the time- this was to support the Governors actions last year. Vice Chair Bannon says 10% of the town was Covid positive- Town Mgr. Smith replies 24 out of 28

weeks we were a red community. Chairperson Limanek feels it is time, we enacted the State of Emergency- it was supposed to be for two weeks to flatten the curve- that was 15 months ago- but as the Select Board we are the executive Branch and enforce laws sent from the state. Jesse hopes that history recognizes in years to come and does not repeat what happened. Select person Anderson motions to Rescind the Declaration of Emergency put in place March 19, 2020 by the Sutton Select Board in response to the COVID-19 pandemic Select Person Mead seconds passes 5-0 Roll Call vote taken.

Approval of 3 year Police Union & Teamsters contracts- Town Mgr. Smith presents two 3yr union contracts for approval: The Sutton Police Union and the Teamsters. Jim states both unions were respectful and courteous. The increases over the 3 years are 2%, 2.5%, 2.5%. the Police and dispatchers did come to the table with surrounding towns showing they are underpaid. Steps were adjusted for these positions. There was also an adjustment to the educational stipends in the Police Dept. and new employees after 7/1/21 will pay 5.00 into OPEB. A CORI Policy was added into the contracts and for the Teamsters- sick leave buyback is out of the contract (85% of what is owed) will be paid out to those with time to buy back. The Board all state they were briefed during Executive Session a few months ago so there were no surprises- Vice Chair Bannon motions to approve the 3 year (6/30/2021-6/30/2024) Police Union & Teamsters contracts, Select person Hall seconds passes 5-0 Roll Call vote taken.

Board & Committee Reappointments- Select person Anderson reads the list of reappointments made by the Select Board as well as the Town Manager along with the terms of the position. (list attached to final minutes) Select person Mead seconds passes 5-0 Roll Call vote taken- Chairperson Limanek at this times thanks Dot Gravison for her time on the COA (Dot asked to not be reappointed).

Town Manager Update:

- Charge Point Chargers at school- the town received \$6000 from a DEP EVIP and NGRID will provide an additional \$24,000. To complete this project. We had worked with Rise Engineering but the cost for them to complete the work was going to be over \$52,000. Larry Morris will take the lead on electrical and Matt Stencel will take the lead on the trenches and concrete pads. These chargers will be placed by the Basket Ball courts at the Middle school- Jim will monitor usage over the next few months and report back to the board. Brief discussion on the thought of charging for use- this will be discussed more once we see the usage.
- State Budget Earmarks- Sen. Ryan Fattman was successful in getting earmarks into the state budget. Currently the state has an additional \$300,000. For the Town of Sutton- \$175,000. Will go towards waters Farm to complete the barn, \$50,000. Will go towards the chimney project at Waters Farm and \$75,000. Will go towards a restroom at Marion's' camp outside of Goddard Lodge. Thank you to Sen Fattman & Representative McKenna
- MBR Bid opening- the town received 1 bid from utility Service Company out of Perry, Georgia in the amount of \$427,632. Our engineers are reviewing.
- Annual Goals Meeting- scheduled for Tuesday, July 20th 6PM at Blackstone National.
- Sutton Public Library is opened but masks are required due to the younger population that visits the library.
- Juneteenth holiday- the Town hall will be closed Monday June 21 in observation of Juneteenth- this holiday was adopted last year in MA- this is to observe the end of slavery in the United States- this is in the new Union contracts.

Select board announcements/updates:

Select person Hall informs the residents of the Open Space & Recreation Planning meeting at Marion's Camp on Wednesday- June 16th 5:30-7:30pm

Chairperson Limanek offers thanks to Boy Scout Troops 181 & 243 for their attendance at the Dudley Gendron in celebration of Flag Day. Jesse also asks to remember the Food Pantry during the summer months with kid's home from school.

Chairperson Limanek at this time states the Board will go into Executive Session M.G.L. c. 30A Sec. 21 reason #6 Roll Call Vote taken and enter back in to regular session for adjournment only (7:15pm)

Select person Mead motions to adjourn, Select person Anderson seconds- Roll Call vote taken- passes 5-0
Meeting adjourned 8:25 pm