

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 8/23/2022 by a roll call vote of 5-0
6:00 p.m. – August 9, 2022

Roll Call vote taken:

Members in Attendance in person:

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

Also in attendance in person: Town Manager James Smith, Town accountant Tim Harrison & Deb Jacques, secretary

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson Bannon 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 839 9179 8715 & Passcode 816222. 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.

Public Forum – N/A

Select person Hall motions to accept as presented the July 12, 2022 Select Board meeting minutes, Select person Mead seconds passes 5-0 - roll call vote

Select person Hall motions to accept as presented the July 26, 2022 Select Board Goals & Objectives minutes as presented, Vice Chair Anderson seconds passes 5-0 – roll call vote

Recognitions:

Joyce Sardagnola retirement- present tonight is Principal Assessor Joyce Sardagnola who retired after 35 years of service to the Town. Joyce's last day of work was July 29, 2022. Joyce says that Sutton has been very good to her, her family- the Board she has worked with are kind hearted and the dept. would not be run as well without them. The Board all give Joyce their heartfelt thoughts and best wishes for her retirement. At this time Chairperson Bannon presents Joyce with a plaque commemorating her 35 years working for the Town of Sutton. Town Manager Smith takes this time to say on behalf of all town employees- Joyce will be sorely missed, Joyce has been in the work force for 70 years- this will be a transition for her. She definitely left some big shoes to fill.

COA 50th Anniversary- present is COA Director Michelle Edelstein- Michelle announces that Aug 19th from noon – 3pm all are welcome to stop by the Sr. Center. The COA started in the Select board meeting room in 1972- their mission has not changed. The success of the Sr. center is in thanks to the employees there as well as the volunteers. The Board takes this time to praise all that the Sr. center and its workers/volunteers provide for the seniors as well as the Food Pantry at this location. At this time- Selectperson Hall reads into record a proclamation recognizing the 50 years of service to the town.

4th of July Parade Committee- present is Jonathan Rocheleau & April Brown. April begins by saying the 4th of July event went very well. Jonathan Rocheleau said there were a few years off due to covid but they were able to jump back into it. They did not receive any negative feedback. At the end of the event they did have more volunteers then they had anticipated which worked out well. Jonathan Rocheleau says the attendance was down from the original parade but it was very hot out. He also comments on appreciating the Police Dept- there were no traffic issues. Thank you to all the donors whether it was financial or volunteering their time. April lays out the upcoming fundraiser that they are now planning. It is the Oh My Gourd Pumpkin festival 2022. People will bring their carved pumpkins to the center and pay \$5.00 to have them displayed on the common. The key night of this festivity will be October 29th in

conjunction with possible Trunk or Treat at the school and the Historical Society hosting graveyard tours behind the Rufus Putnam building. There may also be pumpkin pies for sale on the common. Select person Hall was not able to attend the events but he did hear a lot of positive feedback. It is a lot of work that goes into this and volunteers are important. Dave feels the pumpkin event is a good use of the town common. Select person Limanek heard nothing negative about the events- only positive. It was a spectacular event – the cemetery tour is phenomenal. Selling pumpkin pies is a great idea- add warm apple cider to it. Jesse does ask if these events will be yearly- Jonathan Rocheleau replies they are not sure yet- it may be every other year or they may just focus on one of the events each year but the temple is there in case someone else would like to jump in. Maybe in the off years have a 2 day art festival at Shaw Farm with different artists. Select person Mead says including the PTO- for the Trunk or Treat and the Historical society with the Cemetery tour is forward thinking. Thank you all for your endless energy in putting this together. Vice Chair Anderson appreciates all the coordination put into including the 4th group, the Historical society and the PTO and what this brings to our town. This is the essence of why Jonathan lives in a small town. These events are a legacy to the town. Chair person Bannon was concerned prior to the parade hearing volunteers were still needed and is glad to hear they did get more volunteers. The parade, the music, the fireworks- it was like it was professionally managed.

Approve & Sign the September 6th 2022 Primary Election Warrant- Town Manager Smith states this is for the primary election to be held between the hours of 7am-8pm on Sept. 6th. There are no questions or concerns- Select person Limanek motions to approve & sign the September 6, 2022 Primary Election Warrant Select person Mead seconds passes 5-0 roll call vote

Town Manager Update:

- Charter change Board of Selectmen to Select Board- the language was approved by the House- sent back to the Senate and they approved as well. The bill is now on the Governor's desk.
- APR- currently there are two before the State Dept. of Agricultural Resources. Wayne Whittier is looking to protect 75.5 acres on Putnam hill & Sharon Kent is looking to protect 67.5 acres at King Farm. The state is doing their due diligence and will inform us if they are approved. If approved by the state, the board can sponsor a warrant article to contribute a sum of money to the purchase. In the past it has been 5% of the purchase price.
- Fire Chief 3-year renewal contract- Town Mgr. Smith entered into a 3-year contract with Matt Belsito expiring on June 30, 2025.
- Blackstone River Valley Greenway challenge- to be held Sat. Sept 24, 2022- 50 cyclists will enter and exit town between 11am and 12:30pm. They will enter from Uxbridge onto McGuire Rd. onto Lackey Dam Rd and head to Douglas. They are working with the Police Dept. in case they need a detail.
- Midstate Massive Ultra Trail event- scheduled for Oct. 8-9, 2022. There will be 250-300 runners over a 100, 50 or 30 mile run spread out over an 8-hour period. They will come through town between 5am and 1 pm on Oct. 9th. We have their Ins. Certificate and they will need a Police Detail.
- Painting of Town Hall- currently underway- should be concluded with in a few weeks.
- Full- Time Assessor's office position- the selection committee held interviews August 2 with 2 candidates- Tracey Tardy was chosen to be the town's Principal Assessor. Tracey is currently the Asst. Assessor in Upton. Her start date will be August 29th.
- Student Officer appointment- Blake Dickman has been appointed as a student officer. He is currently in the Police Academy- upon graduation he will come before the Select Board for ratification.
- Municibid- we collected \$5232. For 4 items.
- Fall Town Meeting to be held Monday, October 17 at 7pm in the Middle School/High School. Early voting for Sept 6. Will be held at the Town Clerks office.

Announcement's/Round Table

Select person Hall visited Mad Dogs food truck in town- Kevin Brown- it is worth a try. Dave also attended the ribbon cutting of a new business District 5 House, a home design retail store on Manchaug Rd. Jamie Burke is the owner.

Select person Limanek reminds all that with the lack of rain and high heat it is important to conserve water use. This past Saturday the National SAL Commander Mike Fox visited the Dudley Gendron. The Dudley Gendron was chosen as they had the most community service hours (1500). Sunday the Dudley Gendron will be the final stop of a 100 mile walk from American Legion Post 125 in No. Adams- next year the Dudley Gendron Post will do the 100 mile walk there.

Select person Mead says part of her campaign to be nice- with this heat check on your neighbors especially if they are elderly, also take care of the pets. Be cautious when watering lawns and flowers- do not deplete the ground water.

Chair person Bannon stresses the importance of checking for ticks- they carry many diseases.

Select person Limanek motions to adjourn, Vice Chair Anderson seconds- Roll Call vote taken- passes 5-0
Meeting adjourned 7:40 pm

