



Town of Reading Meeting Minutes

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2023 FEB -8 AM 9:21

Board - Committee - Commission - Council:

Select Board

Date: 2023-01-10

Time: 7:00 PM

Building: Reading Town Hall

Location: Select Board Meeting Room

Address: 16 Lowell Street

Session: Open Session

Purpose: General Business

Version: Final

Attendees: **Members - Present:**

Mark Dockser, Carlo Bacci, Chris Haley, Jackie McCarthy, Karen Herrick via Zoom

Members - Not Present:

Others Present:

Town Manager Fidel Maltez, Executive Assistant Caitlin Nocella, Joe Carnahan, Health Director Ade Solarin, Mallorie MacDonald, Mary Giuliana, HR Director Sean Donahue

Minutes Respectfully Submitted By: Executive Assistant Caitlin Nocella

Topics of Discussion:

This meeting was held in person and remote via Zoom.

Mark Dockser called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

Public Comment

Joe Carnahan wanted to thank the board for their expanded holiday display this season.

Liaisons

McCarthy reminded the board there are a number of town boards and committees that have vacancies if anyone would like to volunteer.

Herrick spoke about the School Committee budget. Volunteers are putting together a composting program which will pilot at Birch Meadow. She attended a Climate Advisory Committee meeting in which Greg Phipps also joined. RMLD has a need to generate local clean energy. Conservation Commission will discuss lot 5 on January 25th.

Bacci noted Recreation Committee heard about a donation from Reading Little League of a home run fence. There were discussions about the Sturgis park tennis courts. CPDC's last meeting had an executive session about 459 Main Street and then an open discussion about the Birch Meadow project. Winterfest will be on March 9th.

Haley thanked the ARPA committee for their work; the board has received a few thank you letters for their funds.

Dockser noted RECALC is meeting tomorrow to talk about next steps. There are a couple of public meetings planned as well as a lunch and learn at the senior center. MLK Day celebrations on Monday.

Town Manager Report

Maltez noted the town received two grants; \$500K from MassDOT to do sidewalks on Auburn Street and Parkview Road, and a \$2M federal earmark to complete work at Maillet, Sommes, Morgan Resource Area.

Health Department Update

Health Director Ade Solarin, Health Nurse Mallorie MacDonald and Director of Nursing for Public Schools Mary Giuliana gave the board a presentation on the current health status of the town. While they did note we are going through a surge of illnesses right now including COVID-19 again, it is important to note the numbers are nowhere near where they were the last two years. They explained current CDC guidelines for if you test positive with COVID and possible treatments that can be prescribed by your doctor. They will be offering vaccine clinics with the next one being held on January 20th. The schools are experiencing similar numbers as the town. The full presentation can be found in the Select Board packet on the town website.

Housing Production Plan Discussion

Nicole Lambert is a project manager from Anser Advisory, who has been working with Andrew MacNichol and other planning staff with the town's housing production plan. She gave the board a presentation and went over the survey results which can be found in the Select Board packet on the town website.

POST Program

Maltez noted there was only one student in this program and he has since graduated and there are no students in the pipeline for it. Both Wakefield and Reading are requesting a mutual termination of the program effective June 30th, 2023. This will be \$60K savings to the town. The town is currently building out a program of our own.

Haley moved to terminate the Inter- Municipal Agreement with Wakefield for the POST Program effective June 30th, 2023. The motion was seconded by Bacci and approved with a unanimous roll call vote.

Town Manager Review

The board discussed how they want to proceed with doing the Town Managers review. They discussed what they wanted to see in the review as well as it matching up to the goals set earlier in the year. The board set a deadline for members to return their reviews to Human Resources and they will be shared at the next meeting.

Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board

Maltez noted that the Town Clerk has not heard back from the Attorney Generals Office yet. They do have to provide us with an answer by March. It was the Town Clerks suggestion to hold off on officially appointing anyone until we hear back from the AG. If the board wanted to move forward they could start advertising and looking for members but hold off on doing anything officially until a later date.

Budget Summary

Maltez noted the School Committee has finalized their budget and presented to the School Committee. He feels they are in good shape now. He went through a brief presentation summarizing the budget

which has not changed since the board saw it in December. The presentation can be found in the Select Board packet on the town website.

The board discussed the trash contract costs and rolling out a program to provide trash and recycling barrels to residents.

Future Agendas

The board discussed future agenda items.

Minutes

The board edited previous meeting minutes.

Haley moved to approve the meeting minutes from December 6th, 2022 as amended. The motion was seconded by McCarthy and approved with a unanimous roll call vote.

Haley moved to approve the meeting minutes from December 7th, 2022 as written. The motion was seconded by McCarthy and approved with a unanimous roll call vote.

Haley moved to adjourn at 10:46 PM. The motion was seconded by Bacci and was approved with a unanimous roll call vote.

Documents Used:

2023-01-10 Select Board Packet