

Town of Sandisfield

Select Board

Minutes for Select Board meeting held on Monday, October 31, 2022 at 4:00PM at the Town Hall, 66 Sandisfield Road, Sandisfield, MA

Members present: Steve Seddon, Alex Bowman, John Field by remote, Jonathan Sylbert

Called to order at 6:30PM

1. Call to order: Note that the meeting is being recorded

2. Robert Putnam in for Introduction, Budget Discussion, and School Committee Search Committee Appointments

Robert Putnam, Interim Principal at Farmington River Regional conducts a brief introduction and explains that the budget process will begin soon. He asks for any suggestions, questions, or concerns regarding this process. It's noted that if FRRSD goes over 5% of its budget from the previous year, Sandisfield will automatically go over prop 2.5 causing cuts to other town services, and this should be considered while compiling the budget.

Alex expresses concerns with enrollment and a long-term solution to avoid local residents "choicing-out" should be considered.

Robert reports there will be a fifteen member Principal Search Committee to find his permanent replacement. The Committee is made up of parents, town officials, School Committee members, administrators, and PTA members, all from both Otis and Sandisfield. The Committee will begin interviewing candidates very shortly. Each interviewee will meet with smaller groups of the fifteen member committee to answer questions and run through realistic situations. Robert estimates a new Principal will begin work by January 2023.

3. Review and Sign STM Warrant

The only significant change to the STM warrant includes formatting of the Town Manager Bylaw, which Town Counsel claimed the state would prefer as a Special Act of Legislature. This will take the same amount of time to pass, but will require the Governor's signature.

There are three money articles, which include the \$85,000 for a DPW truck, transfer of funds for the Sanitarian, and another transfer of funds from Elderly Transportation to Operation Maintenance Salary in the amount of \$5,000 to assist in the hiring of a facilities maintenance person.

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to sign the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Steve Seddon	Aye
Alex Bowman	Aye
John Field	Aye

4. Review and Sign Town Manager Contract

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to sign the Town Manager Contract for Jonathan Sylbert.

Steve Seddon	Aye
Alex Bowman	Aye
John Field	Aye

5. Sign Retail Liquor License Renewal Certification 2023

Item is tabled.

6. Review Letter to the State for Forest Product Sale Date Criteria

Alex Bowman reads the attached letter. Select Board signs letters to be sent to Smitty Pignatelli, Brendan Phair, and Paul Mark.

7. Tolland Ambulance Agreement

Alex and John give Steve and Jonathan permission to conduct agreement negotiations with Tolland independently.

8. Town Manager Updates

9. Select Board Updates

John Field fixed the basketball court gate at the library and confirmed the pipe sticking out of the ground is a discontinued well that can be removed and covered.

10. Future Agenda Items

- Dilapidated Vehicle Letters
- Rumblestrip letter
- Liquor License Renewals

11. Review and sign minutes of meetings, purchase orders, warrants, and mail

12. Adjourn Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 4:54pm.

Steve Seddon

Alex Bowman

John Field