

Town of Sandisfield

Select Board

Minutes for Select Board Work Session held on Tuesday, August 23, 2022 at 10:00AM at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Sandisfield Road, Sandisfield, MA

1. Discuss items for Special Town Meeting warrant and schedule STM date

Items the Select Board previously agreed to include on the STM warrant:

- Adoption of MGL title 7 Chapter 40U- Section 12 - Attaching citations to properties as liens
- MGL Chapter 60 Section 62-65 - Tax payment agreements and title taking procedures
- Article to request the School Committee draft an amendment setting forth the terms of Sandisfield's withdrawal from the district
- MGL Chapter 40 Section 5b - Legally adopt Capital Planning Stabilization Fund - Jonathan must check with Town Counsel to see if it's necessary to include this on the warrant.

It's questioned whether there will be enough time to prepare a proposed Town Manager bylaw for the STM. Jonathan does not believe drafting the language for this bylaw will be difficult, and suggests the Select Board hold a work session to review once he's drafted it.

Another potential warrant item would be the purchase of an \$85,000 F550 truck for the DPW. Within the last month, the DPW has sold over \$40,000 worth of surplus equipment, with the likelihood of selling an additional \$20,000 worth. These funds could be used to offset the cost of the truck.

Jonathan does not believe money needs to be allocated towards determining where the town is with their assessing. Instead he believes the salary budget line for the Principal Assessor can be used to get the town through the tax recap and certifying free cash. He mentions the potential of hiring Jacki Bitso as a consultant.

Increasing the Town Building Maintenance budget is considered. Steve notes the library needs some immediate attention.

Carl Nett has been asked to provide the wording for the Cannabis Bylaw amendment regarding the Cannabis Sub-Committee. However, Alex does not agree with an amendment, for there are no obvious reasons the committee should not work under open meeting law. The purpose of the committee is to take public input. The Select Board decides the revision of the bylaw would be the responsibility of the Planning Board.

Alex motions to send a letter to the requestees about the Cannabis Sub-Committee to say that it is under the authority of the Planning Board, and the Select Board suggests they make the request to the Planning Board instead. Steve seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

The STM is scheduled for October 20, 2022 at 6:00PM.

2. Coordinate goals, initiatives, and projects for Town Manager with a priority structure

Jonathan reviews a list he created highlighting his priorities, which include changing of the official town posting place, the Rudolphs property sale, Minery property sale, annual appointments, job postings, capital plan inventories, town charter, Town Manager bylaw, STM warrant articles, financial policies, broadband, status of salary vs hourly for Administrative Assistant, ambulance contract with Tolland, insurance status, year-end closing, solid waste contract, and ARPA funds.

Alex would like to create a way to measure success in town hall, both to present to the town and to monitor day-to-day operations to create transparency and accountability.

The Select Board meeting of August 29, 2022 is canceled. Alex motions to make Steve Seddon the delegated warrant signer until Tuesday, September 6, 2022. Steve seconds. Motion passes.

Roll-call vote: Alex, yes. Steve, yes.

3. Discuss and review town services that can be put out to bid

Steve suggests there are a lot of town services that are not being put out to bid properly. While it is likely the result will remain the same, it is important that the town does their due diligence.

Meeting adjourned at 11:26AM.

Steve Seddon

Alex Bowman

John Field