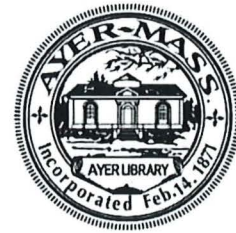


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TOWN OF AYER
TOWN CLERK



Town of Ayer
Ayer Select Board
Ayer Town Hall – 1st Floor Meeting Room
Ayer, MA 01432



Broadcast and Recorded by APAC

November 1, 2022
Open Session Meeting Minutes

SB Present: Jannice L. Livingston, Chair; Scott A. Houde, Clerk

SB Absent: Shaun C. Copeland, Vice-Chair

Also Present: Robert A. Pontbriand, Town Manager
Carly M. Antonellis, Assistant Town Manager

Call to Order: J. Livingston called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. J. Livingston stated that this meeting/hearing of the Ayer Select Board will be held in-person at the location provided on this notice. Members of the public are welcome to attend this in-person meeting. Please note that while an option for remote attendance and/or participation via Zoom is being provided as a courtesy to the public, the meeting/hearing will not be suspended or terminated if technological problems interrupt the virtual broadcast, unless otherwise required by law. Members of the public with particular interest in a specific item on this agenda should make plans for in-person vs. virtual attendance accordingly. This meeting will be live on Zoom and Channel 8. The public may access the proceedings by joining Zoom (Meeting ID# 897 9080 0793) or by calling (929-205-6099).

Pledge of Allegiance: Select Board members and meeting attendees stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Meeting Agenda: J. Livingston asked to add Devens Jurisdictional Framework Committee Update under New Business.

Motion: A motion was made by S. Houde and seconded by J. Livingston to approve the meeting agenda, as amended. **Motion passed 2-0.**

Announcements:

- J. Livingston stated that on Thursday October 27, 2022, Senator Eldridge and Rep. Sena presented the Town of Ayer with a check in the amount of \$100,000 for the Pirone Park Kiddie Junction Remediation Project. This funding came from an earmark in FY '23 state budget. Thank you to both Senator Eldridge and Rep. Sena.
- The long-awaited Ribbon Cutting at Depot Square Park will take place on Monday November 7 at 10:00 AM. Please join us at Depot Square Park to celebrate. Please park your car in the Nashua River Rail Trail Parking Deck, located at 3 Groton Street, free of charge.

Public Input: None

Change of Manager Request – Global Montello Group Corp. d/b/a Alltown Fresh Ayer– 28

Harvard Road, Ayer, MA 01432: Attorney Jon Aieta and Mr. Patrick Joslin were in attendance. Alltown Fresh Ayer is seeking to change their Manager of Record from Jonathan Cantillion to Patrick Joslin. C. Antonellis stated that all departments have reviewed the request and there were no issues.

Motion: A motion was made by S. Houde and seconded by J. Livingston to approve the Change of Manager request for Global Montello Group Corp as requested. **Motion passed 2-0.**

Mr. Irving Rockwood - Sandy Pond Schoolhouse Update: Irving Rockwood stated that a new roof has been installed and it was done to conform to Dept. of the Interior standards for a historic building. The Sandy Pond School Association is working to make the building accessible and usable. They have been working with Page Hilltop Elementary School to coordinate a curriculum for third or fifth graders for classes to take place in the Sandy Pond School. The next phase of the project is to upgrade the washroom, new plumbing and windows and the creation of an accessible entrance and walkway on the rear side of the school. The building comfortably holds 30-35 people.

Dan Van Schalkwyk, Director, Dept. of Public Works - Drought and Water Supply Status Update: Dan Van Schalkwyk referenced a memo in the packet on the 2022 Drought Status. He is recommending that the Board move to lift the current State of Water Supply Conservation that was authorized on August 4, 2022.

Motion: A motion was made by S. Houde and seconded J. Livingston to lift the current State of Water Supply Conservation that was authorized on August 4, 2022. **Motion passed 2-0.**

Town Manager's Report - Administrative Update/Review of Town Warrant(s): R. Pontbriand provided a brief Administrative Update to the Select Board on the various activities, initiatives, and projects of the Town since the Select Board last met and referenced the Town Warrants that are in the Select Board's packet that were approved since the Select Board last met. He noted that all the FY '24 Capital Budget requests have been submitted. The Rate Review Committee will be making a recommendation to the Select Board at their next meeting. The Town Hall roof repair capital project is underway. The Social Worker job posting has been posted but no resumes have been received to date. The Treasurer/Tax Collector position is also posted. He noted that the Town did not receive any qualified applicants for the IT Director position and will repost the position. The Bi-Board continues to work on the Town's Financial Policies. He stated that the Friends of the Nashua River Rail Trail will be conducting a site visit soon to look at problem areas on the trail. R. Pontbriand noted that the license renewal process is underway. C. Antonellis asked the SB what they would like to do this year in relation to fees. For the past two years, the SB has waived the license fees by 75%. S. Houde and J. Livingston agreed that they are willing to do a reduction, but gradually increase it to a 50% reduction.

Motion: A motion was made by J. Livingston and seconded by S. Houde to reduce the Select Board annual license fees by 50%. **Motion passed 2-0.**

Appointments – R. Pontbriand is respectfully recommending that the SB vote to appoint Amanda Lewis, Benefits & Payroll Manager, as the Town of Ayer's Primary Representative to the Minuteman Nashoba Health Group.

Motion: A motion was made by S. Houde and seconded by J. Livingston to appoint Ms. Amanda Lewis as the Town of Ayer's primary representative on the Minuteman Nashoba Health Group. **Motion passed 2-0.**

R. Pontbriand is also recommending that the SB vote to appoint Onyinyechi Njoku of Ayer to a three year term on the Ayer Cultural Council to expire on June 30, 2025. **Motion passed 2-0.**

New Business/Select Board Member Questions: J. Livingston gave an update on the status of the Devens Jurisdiction Framework Committee. She advised that the Framework Committee on her recommendation and motion at the last meeting will be moving to quarterly meetings and that the

meetings will rotate their location alphabetically starting with Ayer in January and then moving to Harvard then to Shirley, and of course the DEC or MassDevelopment can also host one on Devens. She stated the plan is for the meeting in Ayer to take place on January 11, 2023 at 3:00 PM in the First Floor Meeting of the Ayer Town Hall. She also advised that she attended the MassDevelopment Board of Directors Meeting in October and on behalf of the Devens Jurisdiction Framework Committee read a statement to the Board of Directors stressing the importance of the disposition of Devens and the importance of MassDevelopment being back at the table. She further stated that Alan Manoian, Director of Community and Economic Development is working on putting together a public forum for after the holidays to get Ayer's local interest and local efforts with disposition re-energized.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by S. Houde and seconded by J. Livingston to approve the meeting minutes from September 20, 2022 and October 4, 2022. **Motion passed 2-0.**

Adjournment: A motion was made by S. Copeland and seconded by J. Livingston to adjourn at 6:45 PM. **Motion passed 2-0.**

Minutes Recorded and Submitted by Carly M. Antonellis, Assistant Town Manager

Date Minutes Approved by SB: November 15 2022

Signature Indicating Approval: 