



Town of Ayer

***Ayer Select Board Meeting Highlights from November 2, 2020**

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic and in accordance with Governor Baker's Emergency Order temporarily suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law; Public bodies otherwise governed by the OML are temporarily relieved from the requirement that meetings be held in public places, open and physically accessible to the public, so long as measures are taken to ensure public access to the bodies' deliberation "though adequate, alternative means".

- The Ayer Select Board Meeting called the meeting to order in Open Session at 6:00pm. The meeting was conducted using public remote participation technology which consisted of a live broadcast of the meeting on Channel 8 as well as a live stream on www.ayerpublicaccess.org and by Zoom conferencing technology. The Public was instructed to call in remotely to a teleconference number or via Zoom conferencing technology if they wanted to provide any public input or ask any questions.
- The Select Board (SB) voted (3-0) by roll call vote (S. Copeland, Yes; S. Houde, Yes; J. Livingston, Yes) to approve a lien subordination request for 16 Pond Street.
- The SB received and Administrative Update from the Town Manager including a COVID-19 preparedness update. The SB reviewed and discussed the recent Annual Special Fall Town Meeting with the Town Manager. The SB is looking to develop a more formal application process for future potential water/sewer connections outside of the Town that require Town Meeting approval. The Town is also going to review the issue(s) of a new Senior Center which were raised at Town Meeting and discuss a plan for consideration by a future Town Meeting.
- The SB voted (3-0) by roll call vote (S. Copeland, Yes; S. Houde, Yes; J. Livingston, Yes) to reduce the cost of the following license renewals fees (for calendar year 2021) for Class I, II, III; Common Victuallers; All Alcohol; Beer/Wine; Amusement; and Sunday Entertainment by 75% for the upcoming year (calendar year 2021) due to the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on these small businesses and restaurants.
- The SB voted (3-0) by roll call vote (S. Copeland, Yes; S. Houde, Yes; J. Livingston, Yes) to declare a vacancy on the Ayer Board of Health and to advertise the vacancy for two weeks with interested applicants submitting a letter of intent/resume to the Town Manager's Office by no later than Friday, November 20. Applicants must be 18 years of age and a resident of Ayer. Applicants will be interviewed by a Joint Meeting of the Select Board and Board of Health. The successful applicant will be selected by a simple majority vote of the Joint Meeting of the Select Board and Board of Health. The appointment will last until the next Town Election in April 2021.
- The SB had an initial discussion on planning for a future public dialogue on race and diversity issues. The SB voted (3-0) to approve the meeting minutes from October 20, 2020 (Part 1 and Part 2). The SB voted (3-0) to adjourn the meeting at 7:12pm.

**(Note: The Select Board Meeting Highlights are for public informational purposes only and do not constitute an official record of the Select Board nor do they constitute the official meeting minutes.)*

The next meeting of the Ayer Select Board will be on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 6:00pm