



Town of Ayer

***Ayer Select Board Meeting Highlights from October 20, 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 a special meeting to order in Open Session at 5:45pm for the purposes of adjusting the quorum due to the COVID-19 pandemic for the Fall Special Town Meeting on October 26, 2020 pursuant to the provisions of Section 7 of Chapter 92 of the Acts of 2020. 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 (2-1) by roll call vote (S. Copeland, No; S. Houde, Yes; J. Livingston, Yes) to adjust the quorum of the Fall Special Town Meeting to be held on October 26, 2020 at 7pm due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic from 50 voters to 40 voters.
- With no other agenda items for the 5:45pm Special Select Board Meeting, the SB adjourned the Special Meeting (3-0) at 5:59pm.
- The Ayer Select Board Meeting called the regular 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 SB observed a Moment of Silence in honor and remembrance of the Town Moderator, Thomas Horgan, Jr.
- The SB voted (3-0) to execute the contract for the Groton Shirley Road utility improvements in the amount of \$598,159.25 to KJS, LLC. of Walpole, MA. The SB voted (3-0) to execute the contract for the Spectacle Pond PFAS Treatment Facility in the amount of \$5,145,889 to Winston Builders.
- The SB received and Administrative Update from the Town Manager including a COVID-19 preparedness update. The SB voted (3-0) to approve the FY 2022 Budget Calendar. The SB received an update from the Town Manager regarding the COVID-19 preparedness plans for the Fall Special Town Meeting on October 26, 2020 at 7pm.

- The SB voted (3-0) to accept a grant in the amount of \$5,000 from the Center for Tech and Civic Life as secured by the Town Clerk to be used for costs related to the election due to COVID-19.
- The SB received a presentation from the Town Manager providing an overview of Article 4: West Main Street Property for a New Senior Center in preparation for the Fall Special Town Meeting. The Ayer Senior Center Feasibility Study Report may be found on the Town's website at: <https://www.ayer.ma.us/home/news/special-fall-town-meeting-october-26-2020>
- Under New Business, Select Board Member Copeland suggested that the SB begin the planning discussion on next steps regarding a future public discussion on race and diversity issues for the November 2, 2020 SB Meeting.
- The SB voted (3-0) to approve the meeting minutes from October 6, 2020.
- The SB voted (3-0) to adjourn the meeting at 7:07pm.

**(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 Monday, November 2, 2020 at 6:00pm