



Town of Ayer

***Ayer Select Board Meeting Highlights from March 19, 2024**

This meeting of the Ayer Select Board was held in-person at the Ayer Town Hall with a remote participation option on Zoom for the Public.

- The Select Board (SB) Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm in Open Session.
- The SB voted (2-0) to conduct a Public Hearing pursuant to MGL 148 Section 13 – Amendment to Storage of Flammable and Combustible Liquids, Gases and Solids License for JAR Realty Corporation, 1 Nemco Way. The SB voted (2-0) to continue the Public Hearing to April 2, 2024 pending further information requested by the SB.
- The SB conducted the Public Hearing for the FY 2025 Water and Sewer Rates and voted (2-0) to adopt the FY 2025 Water and Sewer Rate Recommendations of the Rate Review Committee to increase the FY 2025 Water Rates by 2% on July 1, 2024 and to increase the FY 2025 Sewer Rates by 5% on July 1, 2024. *(Note: The estimated annual impact on the average residential bill for FY 2025 would be \$2.40 increase for water and \$18.40 for sewer for a total of \$20.80. For more information, please see the presentation slides in the March 19, 2024 Select Board meeting packet).*
- The SB voted (2-0) to approve Change Order #1 for the Pulpit Rock Drainage and Pathway Improvement Project in the amount of \$15,255. The SB voted (2-0) to issue a support letter for the Main Street Reconstruction Project. The SB received a Stormwater Utility Advisory Workgroup and a Water Supply Update from the DPW Director. The SB voted (2-0) to approve an out-of-Town sewer connection application subject to Town Meeting approval on April 22, 2024. The SB voted (2-0) to waive the 90-day review period for the application on recommendation of the DPW Director and the SB voted (2-0) to hold a Public Hearing on April 16, 2024 at 6:05pm. The SB received an update on various DPW projects from the DPW Director.
- The SB voted (2-0) to adopt the following fees for the Transient Merchant Bylaw as approved by Town Meeting (October 23, 2023) and on recommendation of the Police Chief as follows: \$25 application fee; permit duration fees of: \$5 for one day; \$25 for one week; \$50 for one month; \$100 for one year.
- The SB received an Administrative update and FY 2025 Budget process update from the Town Manager. The SB voted (2-0) to authorize \$310,512.90 from the Town's ARPA Funds to pay the FY 2024 Minuteman Nashoba Health Group (MNHG) Dissolution Invoice.

- The SB voted (2-0) to fund the Town's portion (\$350,000) of the 71 Sandy Pond Road purchase to come from the Town's remaining ARPA funds with any remaining balance to come from the Town's UDAG fund subject to a future replenishment by Town Meeting. *(Note: The purchase of 71 Sandy Pond Road is \$700,000 subject to Town Meeting approval on April 22, 2024 with \$350,000 to come from CPA Open Space Funds subject to Town Meeting Approval and \$350,000 from the Town's remaining ARPA funds with any further balance to come from the Town's UDAG fund subject to a future replenishment by Town Meeting.)*
- The SB received an update and overview of the DRAFT Annual Town Meeting Warrant from the Town Manager.
- The SB voted (2-0) to approve the meeting minutes from March 6, 2024.
- The SB voted (2-0) by Roll Call Vote: J. Livingston, Y; S. Copeland, Y to enter into Executive Session pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21A Exemption #2 (Non-Union Personnel) Ratification of Finance Manager; DPW Director; and Police Chief Personal Service Contracts and for Exemption #3 (Collective Bargaining) Ratification of Dispatchers Contract MOA and to adjourn for the evening at the conclusion of the Executive Session.

**(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 regularly scheduled meeting of the Ayer Select Board will be on Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at 6pm in-person at Town Hall and on Zoom. At this meeting the Select Board will be approving the 2024 Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

The Second FY 2025 Budget Public Forum will take place on Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 6pm in the First Floor Meeting Room of Town Hall both in-person and via Zoom.