



## Town of Ayer

### **\*Ayer Select Board Meeting Highlights from March 27, 2023**

*This meeting of the Ayer Select Board was held remotely on Zoom. Members of the public attended remotely on Zoom.*

- The Select Board (SB) Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm in Open Session.
- The SB conducted a Public Hearing on the FY 2024 Water and Sewer Rate Recommendations. The SB received a presentation on the rate recommendations of the Rate Review Committee by the DPW Director and Water and Sewer Superintendent. (Presentation available in March 27 Select Board Packet on the Town's website at [www.ayer.ma.us](http://www.ayer.ma.us)) The SB voted (2-0) by Roll Call Vote: J. Livingston, Y; S. Houde, Y. to approve the recommendations of the Rate Review Committee for FY 2024 as follows:

Increase the Water Rates by 2% effective July 1, 2023

Increase the Sewer Rates by 5% effective July 1, 2023

Revise the Connection Fees effective July 1, 2023 as follows:

\$4,800 per ERU for Water Services 1", 1.5", 2"

\$6,000 per ERU for a Sewer Service

- The SB received a presentation from the Superintendent of Schools for the Ayer Shirley Regional School District regarding a 2023 Statement of Interest (SOI) Process for a proposed new elementary school in Ayer. The SB voted (3-0) by Roll Call Vote: J. Livingston, Y; S. Copeland, Y; S. Houde, Y to endorse and support a Statement of Interest (SOI) for a proposed new elementary school in Ayer.
- The SB voted (3-0) by Roll Call Vote: J. Livingston, Y; S. Copeland, Y; S. Houde, Y to approve a grant letter of support for a DLTA grant as requested by the Town Planner.
- The SB received a study report and site recommendation from the Senior Center Site Selection Working Group. The Working Group recommended a portion of Pirone Park for the proposed construction of a new Senior/Community Center. The Working Group also requested that the Select Board consider appointing a Building Committee charged with the oversight of the conceptual plan development to include extensive public outreach and participation with future funding and approval subject to future Town Meeting approval. The SB voted (3-0) by Roll Call Vote: J. Livingston, Y; S. Copeland, Y; S. Houde, Y.
- The SB voted (3-0) by Roll Call Vote: J. Livingston, Y; S. Copeland, Y; S. Houde, Y to approve the execution of an easement agreement with National Grid for the Jonathan Drive Cross-Country Water Main Project on recommendation of the DPW Director.

- The SB received an Administrative Update from the Town Manager. The SB voted (3-0) by Roll Call Vote: J. Livingston, Y; S. Copeland, Y; S. Houde, Y to appoint Marilyn Schmalenberger as an Alternate Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. The SB received an update on the FY 2024 Budget from the Town Manager. The Town Manager reviewed the DRAFT Annual Town Meeting Warrant with the Select Board.
- The SB voted (3-0) by Roll Call Vote: J. Livingston, Y; S. Copeland, Y; S. Houde, Y to adopt Chapter 269 of the Acts of 2022 (One-time COLA for Town Retirees). The SB discussed a recommendation from the Town Manager and DPW Director to use \$500,000 from ARPA Funds toward the West Main Street Bridge Replacement Project. The SB took no action and the SB to discuss further on April 4. The SB voted (3-0) by Roll Call Vote: J. Livingston, Y; S. Copeland, Y; S. Houde, Y to approve Amendment #1 to the Cell Tower Agreement with SBA Towers II, LLC.
- Under New Business, the SB discussed a DRAFT letter presented by Select Board Member J. Livingston regarding noise issues to MassDevelopment. No action was taken by the SB and the SB will discuss further on April 4.
- The SB voted (3-0) by Roll Call Vote: J. Livingston, Y; S. Copeland, Y; S. Houde, Y to approve the meeting minutes from March 7, 2023.
- The SB voted (3-0) by Roll Call Vote: J. Livingston, Y; S. Copeland, Y; S. Houde, Y to enter into Executive Session pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21A, Exemption #3 (Collective Bargaining) regarding ratification of the Town Hall/Clerical Union, AFSCME 93 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 April 4, 2023, at 6pm. This will be an in-person meeting with a remote participation option on Zoom for the Public.