

SUDBURY SELECT BOARD

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022

(Meeting can be viewed at www.sudburytv.org)

Present: Chair Jennifer Roberts, Vice-Chair Charles Russo, Select Board Member Daniel Carty, Select Board Member William Schineller, Select Board Member Janie Dretler, Town Manager Henry Hayes

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, the meeting was convened at 7:03 p.m., via Zoom telecommunication mode.

Chair Roberts announced the recording of the meeting and other procedural aspects included in the meeting.

Call to Order/Roll Call

Select Board Roll Call: Dretler-present, Russo-present, Schineller-present, Carty-present, Roberts-present

Opening remarks by Chair

- Hoped all had a special and reflective Martin Luther King Day
- Extended condolences to Jewish community members in light of what happened in Texas

Reports from Town Manager Hayes

- Presented snow and ice precautions, and requested that fire hydrants are cleared
- Federal Government COVID tests available, referred to web site or the Sudbury Health Department
- Town Meeting Warrant Articles must be submitted by 12:00 Noon on January 31, 2022
- Extended condolences to the family of former COA Chair John Beeler on his passing
- Sewataro Operator posted related water testing results on the Town website Agreement
- The ARPA Agreement with Powers & Sullivan can be found on the Town website

Reports from Select Members

Vice-Chair Russo:

- Kudos to DPW workers regarding cleaning after the storm
- Condolences to the Beeler family for the recent loss of John Beeler who contributed much to the Town
- Housing Trust to be announcing COVID-related rent relief availabilities

Board Member Dretler:

- Echoed sympathies to the Jewish community for the loss in Texas
- Extended condolences to family and friends of John Beeler, who contributed much to the Sudbury COA
- Recommended people make application as soon as possible to receive COVID home tests
- SPS conducting COVID booster clinic on January, 24, 2022
- Looking forward to attending the MMA Annual Meeting and Trade Show this weekend
- Thanked DPW staff for working to provide safe roadways after the storm

Board Member Schineller:

- Extended sympathies regarding the passing of John Beeler
- Read aloud the “Sudbury Land Acknowledgement” passage

Board Member Carty:

- Extended condolences to the Beeler family

Chair Roberts emphasized that the Town will miss John Beeler.

Citizen’s Comments on items not on agenda

Resident and Goodnow Library employee, Joyce Kamsler, 20 Center Street, confirmed she had sent letter to Board regarding paid sick time for those who work less than 20 hours, especially in consideration of COVID.

Annual legislative update with Rep. Carmine Gentile, Senator Jamie Eldridge and Senator Mike Barrett.

Present: Senator Jamie Eldridge, Mike Barrett and Representative Carmine Gentile

Senator Eldridge spoke of ARPA budget considerations.

Vice-Chair Russo asked the legislators about earmarked funding for Sudbury.

Representative Gentile responded: \$10,000.00 for electronic poll pads, \$22,500 for public safety radio communications, \$75,000 for the weekly free health care clinic, operating in Sudbury and Framingham, \$75,000 for mortgage assistance thru the Sudbury Housing Trust, \$25,000 for the food pantry and \$100,000 for water services; not including the \$200,000 which Sudbury has already received.

Senator Barrett added that \$290,000 was earmarked for the Loring Parsonage, and \$25,000 is earmarked for OARS (Organization for the Assabet River) every year.

Board Member Carty asked the legislators about municipal remote meeting process, and about MBTA Community Housing changes.

Representative Gentile responded that the remote meeting expiration date of April, would likely be extended to July, 2022.

In regarding to MBTA Community Housing changes, Senator Eldridge confirmed he would report back to the Select Board about the inquiry.

Board Member Schineller asked the legislators about the Eversource Transmission Line project, and asked how the MBTA could better serve Sudbury.

Senator Eldridge confirmed he would contact the Governor’s Office again about this aspect, and indicated he did not expect a response from that office. Senator Barrett noted that in the interest of Climate Control Legislation, electric usage would increase with heat pumps and electric vehicles. He stressed that additional subsidies should be approved for such implementations.

Senator Eldridge commented that the proposed millionaires’ tax might advance transportation connections to communities like Sudbury.

Board Member Carty asked if regionalized transportation programs could be enhanced. Senator Barrett stated he had requested such a line item within the State Transportation budget.

Board Member Dretler asked the legislators about public health aspects to assist residents in need. Senator Eldridge responded he submitted a proposal for increased funding for community health departments as well as providing additional funding for pharmacies.

Board Member Dretler stressed the importance of mental health funding as well.

Chair Roberts inquired about municipal meetings and mail-in voting.

Representative Gentile stated it was very likely that the remote municipal meetings would be extended. Senator Barrett stressed the importance of mail-in voting. Senator Eldridge agreed that such legislation was close to passing the election reform bill.

Chair Roberts asked about possible funding for a Sudbury Sustainability Director. Senator Barrett indicated his preference for a permanent Sustainability position, and confirmed that ARPA funding would not cover for a permanent position as ARPA funding involved one-time requests for funding. Senator Eldridge recommended that the Town consider a way to fund such a position.

Senator Barrett confirmed he would no longer be representing the Sudbury community. Chair Roberts thanked Senator Barrett for his service.

Presentation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) project requests by Sudbury Health Department

Present: Bill Murphy, Health Director, and Bethany Hadvab, Town Social Worker

Mr. Murphy acknowledged that COVID incidents have decreased over the past several days.

Mr. Murphy stated he had applied for \$50,000 grant funding for COVID test kits; and requested ARPA funding cover this request.

Ms. Hadvab presented areas in need of funding including:

- Funding for overall health care including mental health aspects, especially for those in the lower economic level
- Funding for child care, and housing for those experiencing COVID-related crises
- Funding for an additional Social Worker position due to increased level of case management services at this time
- Funding for Mortgage assistance – 25 Sudbury homes are in pre-foreclosure
- Funding for additional emergency gift cards for food, transportation

Board Member Carty reiterated that the health-related funding requests were most appropriate for ARPA allocations.

Chair Roberts confirmed the Board would be discussing ARPA-related emergency needs later during the meeting.

Discussion and possible vote to put forward a Transportation Committee article for Annual Town Meeting

Board Member Carty summarized aspects of the draft Transportation Committee article for funding for the Go Sudbury! Taxi and Uber services. He added that the request is for \$100,000. The current funds should keep the program operating through June or July, 2022.

Board Member Dretler asked Town Manager Hayes why funding was not included in the FY23 budget, given two years of repeated usage of mitigation funds. Town Manager Hayes stated that there were other requests that were also unmet.

Board Members indicated their support for the article. Board Member Carty confirmed he would submit the draft article to Legal for final language review, and bring the article back to the Board for a vote.

Discussion and Possible vote on time-sensitive American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) requests as well as other ARPA-related updates

Board Members agreed there were several time-sensitive ARPA requests for Sudbury.

Town Manager Hayes presented a time-sensitive priority listing which totaled some \$136,910,283 for proposed ARPA funding, and included requests for:

- Fire Department – Ambulance, stretcher, stair-chair, CPR machine
- Health Department – Additional COVID testing kits, additional emergency funding for housing, food and health needs, additional staff – social worker
- Facilities Department - Time sensitive aspects in relation to the Fairbank Community Center such as emergency shelter considerations
- DPW Department – Drainage projects, safety considerations
- Sudbury School Department – SEL (Social & Emotional Learning) Program and Summer School Program
- LSRHS – HVAC System update for improved air quality

Board Member Carty mentioned that \$2.9 million of funding was available now and could be distributed at this time. He stressed that public safety, public health, and clean water required priority attention.

Vice-Chair Russo noted that first come, first served, was not his preferred approach when considering priority status for ARPA funding.

Board Member Dretler strongly supported funding for Sudbury Public Schools, health department and the water main situation.

Board Member Carty inquired about the relationship between the Town of Sudbury and the Sudbury Water District regarding the water main at the Fairbank Center. Town Manager Hayes acknowledged that the sole responsibility for the water main would not be Water District, adding that the Water District and the Permanent Building Committee were discussing the matter and would likely be sharing those findings with the Select Board.

Resident Key Bell, 348 Old Lancaster Road, expressed her appreciation for the work being done by the Board regarding ARPA funding.

Resident Manish Sharma, 77 Colonial Road, stated the Board presented a fantastic approach to ARPA funding. He asked Town Manager Hayes if funding could be assigned to a special fund before disbursement. Town Manager Hayes responded that such investment of funds is not authorized.

Resident Kevin Lahaise, 195 Horse Pond Road, asked if the underground infrastructure was considered before Fairbank planning commenced.

Resident Mara Huston, 578 Peakham Road, responded that the water main situation was unknown to anyone.

Chair Roberts read in the words of the motion. Board Member Schineller moved in the words of the Chair. Board Member Dretler seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Russo-aye, Schineller-aye, Carty-aye, Dretler-aye, Roberts-aye

VOTED: To approve the compiled ARPA submission list for time-sensitive initiatives as displayed at this meeting.

Chair Roberts stressed that additional funding would be coming to the Town.

Recess

Chair Roberts read in the words of the motion. Board Member Dretler moved in the words of the Chair. Board Member Schineller seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Russo-aye, Schineller-aye, Carty-aye, Dretler-aye, Roberts-aye

VOTED: To take a five-minute recess and return to the meeting at 10:42 P.M.

Board Members returned to the meeting at 10:42 P.M.

Discussion on current potential 2022 Annual Town Meeting Select Board and Town articles and possible vote(s) to put articles forward

Chair Roberts reviewed the proposed articles listed:

Hire a Sustainability Director – This proposed article will not be advanced by the Board

Reversion of unspent past Town Meeting article Appropriations – Town Manager Hayes confirmed the article could be included on the Fall Town Meeting

Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment (FF&E), including Audio Visual Appropriation for the Fairbank Community Center – Chair Roberts suggested the proposed article be split as two separate articles; \$300,000 allocation for the audio-visual aspects, and \$200,000 for FF&E. Board Members concurred that additional information was required.

BFRT-Related Article for Easements and Lease – Board Members agreed to advance the article, but have Staff present the Article.

BFRT-Related Article for dedications/extension – Board Members agreed to advance the article and have Staff present the Article.

BFRT-Related Article for Additional Aspects - Board Members agreed to advance the article and have Staff present the Article.

Sudbury Housing Trust Bylaw Article – Article will not be presented at Annual Town Meeting because the Sudbury Housing Trust has requested 120 days to review the proposed bylaw/documentation.

Commission on Disability Article – The Board would not be presenting the Article.

Sewataro Operational Funding Article (if current property operator does not renew contract) – Board Members agreed to advance the Article and allocate \$150,000.

Sewataro Land Use Consultant Article - Board Members agreed to advance the Article and allocate \$100,000.

Transportation Article – Board Members agreed to advance the Article and allocate \$100,000. Chair Roberts noted the proposed Article would be reviewed by Town Counsel before final presentation to the Board.

Mr. Sharma questioned the amounts associated with each proposed article. Town Manager Hayes explained the procurement process and forwarded the appropriate links for access.

Discussion and possible vote on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Commission term extension, mission update, and funding request.

The DEI made a formal written request to extend the DEI Commission term to November 2022.

Chair Roberts indicated that the DEI Commission should be a long-term committee.

Vice-Chair Russo motioned to extend the DEI Commission membership term to November 30, 2022. Board Member Dretler seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Schineller-aye, Carty-aye, Dretler-aye, Russo-aye, Roberts-aye

VOTED: To extend the DEI Commission membership term to November 30, 2022.

Chair Roberts confirmed she would adjust the mission statement language and present to the Board for a vote at the January 24th meeting.

2022 Goal Setting Next Steps. Develop deliverables and possibly assign and vote Select Board liaisons to goals.

Chair Roberts stated that this agenda item would be considered at the next Select Board meeting.

Discussion and possible vote on finalization of Financial Policies draft document

Chair Roberts stated that this agenda item would be considered at the next Select Board meeting.

Review open session minutes of 10/26/21, 11/16/21, 12/7/21, and possibly vote to approve minutes

10/26/21 Select Board Minutes

Board Member Dretler motioned to approve the 10/26/21 Select Board Minutes, as edited. Board Member Carty seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Russo-aye, Carty-aye, Schineller-aye, Dretler-aye, Roberts-aye

VOTED: To accept the 10/26/21 Select Board Minutes, as edited

11/16/21 Select Board Minutes

Board Member Dretler motioned to approve the 11/16/21 Select Board Minutes, as edited. Vice-Chair Russo second the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Schineller-aye, Carty-aye, Dretler-aye, Russo-aye, Roberts-aye

VOTED: To approve the 11/16/21 Select Board Minutes, as edited.

Chair Roberts stated the 12/7/21 Minutes would be reviewed at the next meeting.

Citizens Comments (cont.)

None

Upcoming Agenda Items

January 24:

- Warrant Articles review – Chair Roberts
- Financial Policies – Continued from this evening’s agenda – Chair Roberts
- 2022 Goal Setting Next Steps – Chair Roberts

February 1:

- Peakham Road Speed Limit – Board Member Dretler
- MBTA Community Discussion – Vice-Chair Russo will check if Planning Director Adam Duchesneau could present to the Board as well
- MBTA Housing Rule change; discussion last night and would like to revisit – Board Member Carty
- CPA Articles – Chair Roberts
- Appointment Policy – Vice-Chair Russo
- Sewataro Land Use Article – Vice-Chair Russo
- CIAC recording of meetings; could be as simple as Select Board liaison reaching out to CIAC and SudburyTV. How would Chair Roberts wish to proceed – Board Member Carty

February 15:

- Joint meeting with FinCom, CIAC
- Town Manager Hayes will arrange to have Bill Barletta and PBC members at the Fairbank update.

Date to be Determined

- Sudbury Housing Trust Bylaw – Board Member Carty noted he did not want this item forgotten
- Updates regarding Sewataro Camp Operator Negotiations/Executive Session? – Board Member Carty
- Update from Chair regarding Town Manager Contract – Board Member Carty
- Legal Opinion regarding Sudbury Town Charter in relation to hiring abilities of Town Managers, Select Board, and citizens. The legal team was to provide a written opinion on this aspect, and requests that the

Board review and release such opinion, especially in regard to considering a position regarding a Sustainability Director – Board Member Carty

Adjourn

Chair Roberts read in the words of the motion. Board Member Dretler moved in the words of the Chair. Board Member Russo seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0; Dretler-aye, Schineller-aye, Carty-aye, Russo-aye, Roberts-aye

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:04 a.m. Wednesday, January 19, 2022.

1/18/22 SB Meeting - Documents & Exhibits

1. Annual legislative update with Rep. Carmine Gentile, Senator Jamie Eldridge and Senator Mike Barrett. (~50 min.)

Attachments:

1.a Sudbury - Prep for Legislative Update mtg - 2022 Jan

2. Presentation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) project requests by Sudbury Health Department. Health Director Bill Murphy to present. (~25 min.)

Attachments:

2.a ARPA Funds Proposal- Health Department Requests Signed

2.b ARPA Funds Proposal-Social Work Office- 1.12.22-signed

3. Discussion and possible vote to put forward a Transportation Committee article for Annual Town Meeting. (~20 min.)

Attachments:

3.a Carty_email_Transportation_article

4. Discussion and possible vote on time-sensitive American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) requests as well as other ARPA-related updates. (~35 min.)

Attachments:

4.a SB Info - ARPA Fund time sensitive items update - Meeting 2022 Jan 18_wlink

4.b ARPA funding request response Dec. 2021

5. Discussion on current potential 2022 Annual Town Meeting Select Board and Town articles and possible vote(s) to put articles forward. (~30 min.)

Attachments:

5.a Potential SB 2022 ATM Articles - combined edited 01.14.22

5.b Sewataro_draft_article_update_Russo

5.c 2006Article33

5.d KP-#794918-v1-SUDB- Declaration_of_Trust_vs__New_Bylaw

5.e KP-#794875-v1-SUDB- Draft_Warrant_Article-_Housing_Trust_Bylaw

5.f KP-#771120-v1-KP-#771026-v1-SUDB-_Sudbury_Housing_Trust_Opinion

5.g Letter to SB re Housing Trust Bylaw 220114

5.h Art. 1 Hear Reports

5.i Art. 2 Budget Adjustments

5.j Stabilization Fund

5.k Street Acceptance - Huckleberry

5.l Fairbank FF&E

6. Discussion and possible vote on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Commission term extension, mission update, and funding request. (~20 min.)

Attachments:

6.a Diversity Equity Inclusion Commission

6.b Sudbury DEI Commission Funding and Term Extension Request

7. 2022 Goal Setting Next Steps. Develop deliverables and possibly assign and vote Select Board liaisons to goals. (~35 min.)

Attachments:

- 7.a Sudbury SB Goal Setting - 2021 Dec 13
- 7.b BOS-Goals-2021

8. Discussion and possible vote on finalization of Financial Policies draft document. (~25 min.)

Attachments:

- 8.a 2022-01-14-FinancialPoliciesChanges in Red

9. Review open session minutes of 10/26//21, 11/16/21, 12/7/21, and possibly vote to approve minutes.

Attachments:

- 9.a SB_draft1_12.07.21_min_for_review
- 9.b SB_draft1_10.26.21_min_for_review
- 9.c SB_draft1_11.16.21B_min_for_review

11. Upcoming Agenda Items

Attachments:

- 11.a Upcoming items 01.18.21