

SUDBURY SELECT BOARD

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2023

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

Present: Chair Charles Russo, Vice-Chair Janie Dretler, Select Board Member Daniel Carty, Select Board Member Lisa Kouchakdjian, Select Board Member Jennifer Roberts, Interim Town Manager Maryanne Bilodeau

The statutory requirements as to notice having been compiled with, the meeting was convened at 7:01 P.M. via Zoom telecommunication mode.

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

Call to Order/Roll Call

Roberts-present, Carty-present, Kouchakdjian-present, Dretler-present, Russo-present

Opening Remarks by Chair

- Emergency responders were busy during the stormy weather – suggested that people stay off the road tomorrow
- Construction of BFRT has begun, thanked everyone who have supported the project over the years
- Director of Planning and Community Development will discuss MBTA Communities legislation and future outlook
- Select Board joint meeting with Sudbury School Committee went well
- Spoke of Warrant Article deadlines

Reports from Interim Town Manager

- Real Estate and Personal Taxes are due February 1, 2023
- Family Puzzle event being held at the Fairbank Community Center on Friday, February 3, 2023; additional information on the Town Website

Reports from Select Board

Vice-Chair Dretler

- Referenced the BFRT picture on the screen behind her. She, Board Members Roberts, Kouchakdjian, Interim Town Manager Bilodeau and Conservation Coordinator Lori Capone participated in a site visit at the Eversource substation – proceeding to Bridge 127; everyone is staying within the permitted guidelines
- She, Board Members Roberts and Kouchakdjian attended the Mass. Municipal Association (MMA) Conference last weekend; hoping to share information discussed at the Conference
- “Eight Weeks in Ukraine,” promoted by the Town, with volunteer Tania Vitvitsky at the Sudbury Senior Center on February 7, 2023 at 2:00 PM

Board Member Carty

- Select Board Office Hours scheduled for Friday, January 27th from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM; he and Board Member Kouchakdjian will be in attendance

Board Member Kouchakdjian

- BFRT walk was muddy, but very beautiful; she thanked all who arranged the tour
- MMA Annual Conference was most informative, met and chatted with MA elected officials, with great speeches from the Governor and Lt. Governor; will share related information with the Select Board Policy Subcommittee

Board Member Roberts

- Great BFRT progress – years in the making
- MMA Conference was great and super to be back in person; prime takeaway was the amount of funding being offered to municipalities
- Happy Lunar New Year with celebration at the Goodnow Library tomorrow
- CPC Articles were discussed at the Finance Committee last night; she will be updating the Board

Public Comment

None

Update on Sewataro Financials and Infrastructure/ADA improvement plans

Present: Scott Brody, Camp Operator

Mr. Brody provided Camp Sewataro financial report overview. He explained expenses increased last summer due to a challenging labor market/associated increased payroll, and other inflationary factors. Mr. Brody spoke of the outstanding PPE loan, and increased revenue share for the Town.

Resident and COA Chair Jeff Levine, 42 Chanticleer Road, inquired about Town revenue share. Mr. Brody provided detail about revenue share over the past several years.

Resident and COD Chair Kay Bell, 348 Old Lancaster Road, mentioned that she visits the Sewataro property from time to time, and feels the site reflects a very positive atmosphere. She invited Mr. Brody to attend a COD meeting. She recommended ADA signage and continued effective communications.

Mr. Brody referred to ADA and Infrastructure Investments, including:

- Increasing ADA access to Liberty Lodge, adding accessible parking area/walkway and ramp
- Swimming program ADA access with added roadway, ADA walkway and other implementations

Mr. Brody confirmed he's been working with Combined Facilities Director Sandra Duran, and a few folks from COD with the hiring of Graves Engineering to complete the 50% design plan in order to meet the June 1 deadline for completion of the two mentioned projects.

Board Member Kouchakdjian asked if the Select Board could review the 50% design plan. Mr. Brody responded in the affirmative. Member Kouchakdjian stated that she is super pleased to see Mr. Brody addressing the access needs. Member Kouchakdjian stated that moving forward, it would be a good idea to share the plans with the COD and have a community conversation about the property. Member Kouchakdjian stated that it is always important to involve people with disability in doing these projects. Mr. Brody responded that going forward, further access and COD input would be part of the plan.

Board Member Roberts inquired about access to Liberty Lodge. Mr. Brody confirmed new accessible parking and related pathways would be included.

Vice-Chair Dretler asked if the gate area near Liberty Lodge would be made available for public access. Mr. Brody responded in the affirmative. Chair Russo suggested that Chief Nix be involved in planning such access.

Related pro-con discussion regarding parking accessibility took place.

Vice-Chair Dretler inquired about possible parking access within the property and vehicle access. She recommended that present access be included on the Town website.

Board Member Carty opined that there should be balance regarding parking accessibility; adding that in reference to earlier comments about gates on public property that Featherland and LSRHS have gates.

Sewataro liaison Kristen Drummey, 66 Mossman Road, confirmed that drop off parking, and special parking arrangements will continue to be arranged, for specific event convenience.

Chair Russo Recommend that the 50% design plan expenditure forecast, and revisit of associated fees and use policies be presented to the Board. Mr. Brody agreed.

Solar Panels discussion - potential Town Meeting articles

Present: Rami Alwan, Chair of the Energy and Sustainability Committee

Mr. Alwan provided description regarding each of the three Energy and Sustainability Articles to be presented at the Annual Town Meeting: Solar panels for the DPW building, Fairbank Community Center Solar Project, and renewable development facility.

Board Member Carty asked about the proposed renewable development facility article, and indicated that solar and wind reflected different renewable energy concepts, and wanted assurance that legal counsel was reviewing these aspects. Mr. Alwan responded that Town Counsel was reviewing this area.

Board Members presented related questions.

Resident Radha Gargeya, 120 Powder Mill Road, indicated his support for the solar energy projects. He explained that he was the SPS Chair when the solar panels were installed at LSRHS.

Resident Manish Sharma, 77 Colonial Road, suggested that the Energy and Sustainability Committee research which solar energy companies provide service, and consider cost scenarios along with state tax incentives for such installations.

Discussion/Vote on Select Board Transportation Goal and Funding for FY24, to include a possible warrant article

Present: Director of Planning & Community Development Adam Duchesneau

Interim Town Manager Bilodeau summarized that Mr. Duchesneau and the Transportation Committee are asking if the Board will vote to consider approving free cash funding for the Transportation Article in the amount of \$150,000.

Board Member Roberts asked if funding for the remainder of the year would be enough to support the program. Board Member Carty responded affirmatively, noting that grant funds were confirmed and being mailed to the Town.

Vice-Chair Dretler and Board Member Kouchakdjian expressed their disappointment when they heard that rides were being limited due to funding. Member Kouchakdjian stated that we need to fund this program.

Vice-Chair Dretler motioned to support putting the Transport Article for \$150,000 of free cash, or other funds, on the Town Warrant for the May 2023 Town Meeting, with the caveat that the Select Board approve the presentation at Town Meeting. Board Member Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

Board Member Carty stated he was expecting that the warrant article be approved as presented in tonight's meeting packet. Vice-Chair Dretler explained that she was happy to support the Article as written in the packet, with the addition that the Select Board approve the presentation that will be presented at the Town Meeting.

Chair Russo commented that the addition to the proposed motion was somewhat unusual. Vice-Chair Dretler stated that in the past, the Board had also heard presentation at Town Meeting, and hoped that all members could provide input, and residents would receive all information possible. Board Member Carty stated that all possible information has been provided to the residents.

Chair Russo indicated that in the past, this approach has not been standard practice. Board Member Kouchakdjian opined that standard practice could perhaps be improved, and Board consensus was always preferable. Board Member Roberts stated that perhaps all larger Articles should be considered and reviewed by the Board in this manner.

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

VOTED: To support putting the Transport Article for \$150,000 of free cash, or other funds, on the Town Warrant for the May 2023 Town Meeting, with the caveat that the Select Board approve the presentation at Town Meeting

Discussion on potential 2023 Annual Town Meeting Articles to be submitted by the Select Board, and also authorize the Interim Town Manager to submit articles on behalf of the Select Board. Topics could include reversion of the Eversource litigation money, additional funding requests for audio/visual equipment for the Fairbank Community Center, status of check out bag legislation (Article 56 of 9/20/20 ATM), and other warrant article requests.

Check out bag legislation (Article 56 of 9/20/20 ATM)

Chair Russo confirmed that the item was never filed with State Legislation. Board Member Carty opined the article should be refiled per the will of the voters at Town Meeting. Vice-Chair Dretler agreed.

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

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

VOTED: To authorize Interim Town Manager Bilodeau to submit the check-out bag article, on behalf of the Select Board

Recess

Vice-Chair Dretler motioned that the Board recess and return to the meeting at 10:00 PM. Board Member Roberts seconded the motion.

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

VOTED: To recess and return to the meeting at 10:00 PM

The discussion regarding potential 2023 Annual Town Meeting Articles resumed at 10:00 PM.

Additional funding requests for audio/visual equipment for the Fairbank Community Center

Board Member Kouchakdjian noted that several residents reached out to her regarding providing feedback for the AV at the Fairbank Community Center. Member Kouchakdjian spoke with the Interim Town Manager at the request of the residents. Member Carty voiced dissatisfaction in the process that was followed in that meetings were held with citizens and staff that were not open to the general public.

Interim Town Manager Bilodeau suggested that the Permanent Building Committee (PBC) and Combined Facilities Director Sandra Duran attend an upcoming Select Board meeting to provide information to the Select Board. Chair Russo confirmed that he needed to see a defined plan before extending support.

PBC member Jennifer Pincus apologized for the recent events and explained the process that occurred with residents advocating for AV and ALS systems. Ms. Pincus stated that since November 2021 nothing had been done on AV and ALS. Ms. Pincus stated that now that the PBC is starting to design the AV and ALS, residents are seeking to provide feedback. Ms. Pincus stated that giving them access to the designer was because they wanted to begin fundraising. Ms. Pincus stated they needed information from the AV designer in terms of exactly what the technology is that would fix their issues and how much it would cost. Ms. Pincus stated they thought it made more sense to give them direct access to the AV designer.

COA Chair Jeff Levine stressed that COA objected to the related proposal over a year ago.

COD Chair Kay Bell confirmed that as a private citizen, she did approach the design team about a year ago. She thanked Ms. Pincus for listening to users, stressing that meeting legal requirements was important, as well as implementation of a universal design.

Chair Russo outlined questions to be addressed at the special Select Board meeting scheduled for January 30:

- Would waiting for funding at Town Meeting in May impact the project timeline for the opening of the Fairbank Community Center
- Anticipated number of residents using an ALS system at the Fairbank Community Center
- Could this proposal be phased into the construction project
- Need to see specific line items for this proposal

Board Member Roberts suggested that any additional Select Board questions be submitted to Interim Town Manager Bilodeau.

Eversource

Chair Russo suggested the Select Board not discuss reversion of litigation funds at this time. Members were in agreement.

Follow up discussion from Select Board's January 23 meeting with School Committee

Chair Russo recommended that the discussion regarding the January 23 meeting be included in the meeting agenda for the first meeting in February.

Resident Radha Gargeya recommended that the Board have the discussion earlier than later, to provide direction for the School Committee.

Vocational Education discussion

Board Member Kouchakdjian provided update, and acknowledged that she received a response from Minuteman High School, who communicated they needed additional time and would get back to her in the springtime. Board Member Kouchakdjian stated that Keefe Technical School confirmed they were not admitting new members at this time.

Chair Russo and Board Member Carty agreed the Select Board must continue to get responses from the other schools as this topic is under the purview of the Select Board. Board Members agreed.

Board Member Kouchakdjian confirmed she would reach out to the other three vocational education schools.

Vote to review and possibly approve the open session minutes of 9/27/22 and 11/1/22

Chair Russo suggested tabling the minutes of 9/27/22 and 11/1/22 to Monday night's meeting.

Public Comments (cont.)

None

Upcoming agenda items

1/30/23:

- Fairbank Community Center A/V Discussion/Citizen Proposal

2/7/23:

- Order of Warrant Articles
- ARPA Requests

2/13/23:

- MBTA Communities
- Eversource Statement

Future:

- Camp Sewataro
- Broadacre Farm (holistic/preliminary discussion)

- Mission Statement for BFRT Advisory Committee

Consent Calendar

Vote to approve Small Wireless Subcommittee minutes of 11/16/22 and 12/5/22

Chair Russo read in the words of the motion. Vice-Chair Dretler moved in the words of the motion. Board Member Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

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

VOTED: To approve Small Wireless Subcommittee minutes of 11/16/22 and 12/5/22

Vote to accept the resignation of Mark Sevier, 14 Arborwood Road, from the Energy and Sustainability Committee, and send a thank you letter for his service to the Town

Chair Russo read in the words of the motion. Vice-Chair Dretler moved in the words of the motion. Board Member Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

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

VOTED: To accept the resignation of Mark Sevier, 14 Arborwood Road, from the Energy and Sustainability Committee, and send a thank you letter for his service to the Town

Vote to accept the resignation of Susan Scotti, 26 Longfellow Road, from the Sudbury Housing Trust, and send her a thank you letter for her service to the Town

Chair Russo read in the words of the motion. Vice-Chair Dretler moved in the words of the motion. Board Member Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

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

VOTED: To accept the resignation of Susan Scotti, 26 Longfellow Road, from the Sudbury Housing Trust, and send her a thank you letter for her service to the Town

Vote to approve the minimum wage increase from the current 14.25/hour to 15.00 hour for participants in the Property Tax Workoff program. This is consistent with Massachusetts State Minimum wage increase as of 1/1/23; AND vote to approve that the 68 Tax Work-off positions be available to any resident 60 or older, and to veterans of any age, as needed. (This is a change from 60 slots for 60+ and 8 slots for veterans.)

Chair Russo read in the words of the motion. Vice-Chair Dretler moved in the words of the motion. Board Member Kouchakdjian seconded the motion.

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

VOTED: To approve the minimum wage increase from the current 14.25/hour to 15.00 hour for participants in the Property Tax Workoff program. This is consistent with Massachusetts State Minimum wage increase as of 1/1/23; AND vote to approve that the 68 Tax Work-off positions be available to any resident 60 or older, and to veterans of any age, as needed. (This is a change from 60 slots for 60+ and 8 slots for veterans.) This was requested by Debra Galloway, Senior Center Director

Adjourn

Board Member Kouchakdjian motioned to adjourn the Select Board meeting. Vice-Chair Dretler seconded the motion.

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

VOTED: To adjourn the Select Board meeting

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 11:56 PM.

SB Meeting 1/23/24 - Documents & Exhibits

1. Update on Sewataro Financials and Infrastructure/ADA improvement plans.

Attachments:

- 1.a Sewataro_Contract_Amendment_3-_Executed
- 1.b Sewataro Financial Statement Sept 2022_ INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT
- 1.c Exhibits_to_Sewataro_Amendment_4-11-22
- 1.d 2023_Swimming_Exhibit
- 1.e RE_ ConCom Licenses
- 1.f January Update

2. Solar Panels discussion - potential Town Meeting articles.

Attachments:

- 2.a Proposal to put solar panels on the Fairbanks Center upon completion
- 2.b Pilot Agreement For the DPW Roof Project
- 2.c Pilot Agreement For the Fairbanks Community Center
- 2.d Town Solar Lease Article

3. Discussion/Vote on Select Board Transportation Goal and Funding for FY24, to include a possible warrant article.

Attachments:

- 3.a GO SUDBURY TAXI AND UBER TRANSPORTATION Draft 2023 ATM Warrant Article
- 3.b Go Sudbury! FY24 Funding Request Summary 221219
- 3.c Go Sudbury! 11292022SB spend actual and projected
- 3.d Draft_CTPS_Sudbury_scope_2022 edited
- 3.e TAXI SURVEY comments
- 3.f UBER SURVEY comments
- 3.g MATERIALS FROM 9.13

4. Discussion on potential 2023 Annual Town Meeting Articles to be submitted by the Select Board, and also authorize the Interim Town Manager to submit articles on behalf of the Select Board. Topics could include reversion of the Eversource litigation money, additional funding requests for audio/visual equipment for the Fairbank Community Center, status of check out bag legislation (Article 56 of 9/20/20 ATM), and other warrant article requests.

Attachments:

- 4.a Art56_email
- 4.b Email from Bella Wong Re_ FW_ Checkout bag fee legislation
- 4.c Article 56 Act authorizing the town to establish checkout bag fee
- 4.d H4091
- 4.e ATM 21 Article 14 Fund Litigation Costs- Eversource - certified vote from Town Clerk
- 4.f JRyan_email
- 4.g KP-#847674-v1-SUDB- Fairbank_AV_Warrant_Article
- 4.h Fairbank and DPW Solar Panel Article Memo 1.20.2023
- 4.i Fairbank AV Article Memo 1.23.2023 from Sandra Duran
- 4.j Fairbank CC - AV Narrative 11 30 2021 (003) to go with Sandra Duran Memo

5. Follow up discussion from Select Board's 1/23 meeting with School Committee

Attachments:

- 5.a SSC Budget Letter to Select Board 1.9.23

6. Vocational Education discussion.

Attachments:

- 6.a Letter to Minuteman12 22
- 6.b Minuteman_email.12.22
- 6.c Minuteman_email_update.1.13
- 6.d Chair Burman Sudbury Letter

7. Vote to review and possibly approve the open session minutes of 9/27/22 and 11/1/22.

Attachments:

- 7.a SB_draft1_min_9.27.22_for_review
- 7.b SB_draft_11.01.22_min_for_review

9. Upcoming agenda items

Attachments:

- 9.a Upcoming items 01.24.23

10. Vote to approve Small Wireless Subcommittee minutes of 11/16/22 and 12/5/22.

Attachments:

- 10.a Small Wireless Facility Subcommittee 120522 Minutes_Draft
- 10.b SmallWireless_11162022_minutes_DRAFT

11. Vote to accept the resignation of Mark Sevier, 14 Arborwood Road, from the Energy and Sustainability Committee, and send a thank you letter for his service to the Town.

Attachments:

- 11.a Sevier resignation

12. Vote to accept the resignation of Susan Scotti, 26 Longfellow Road, from the Sudbury Housing Trust, and send her a thank you letter for her service to the Town.

Attachments:

- 12.a Scotti_resignation

13. Vote to approve the minimum wage increase from the current 14.25/hour to 15.00 hour for participants in the Property Tax Work-off program. This is consistent with Massachusetts State Minimum wage increase as of 1/1/23; AND vote to approve that the 68 Tax Work-off positions be available to any resident 60 or older, and to veterans of any age, as needed. (This is a change from 60 slots for 60+ and 8 slots for veterans.) This was requested by Debra Galloway, Senior Center Director.

Attachments:

- 13.a memo to select board re property tax work off 12 16 22