

IN BOARD OF SUDBURY SELECTMEN
MONDAY, MAY 22, 2017
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Present: Chairman Susan N. Iuliano, Selectman Robert C. Haarde, Selectman Leonard A. Simon, Town Manager Melissa Murphy-Rodrigues.

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, the meeting was convened at 4:06 p.m. in the Silva Conference Room, Flynn Building, 278 Old Sudbury Road.

Chairman Iuliano read aloud the first item:

Vote to enter into Executive Session regarding strategy with respect to potential litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares (Eversource), pursuant to General Laws chapter 30A, §21(a)(3). And not to return to open session.

Seconded by Selectman Simon; all voted aye.

Chairman Iuliano opened the meeting with a discussion about the Energy Facilities Siting Board public hearing on May 25th at LSRHS. A robust discussion took place.

As counsel advised, someone should speak on behalf of the Board. Local officials first, then residents, abutters have preference.

Selectman Simon asked what local officials are expected to attend, and the response was Carmine Gentile, Jamie Eldridge, Stow Selectmen or Hudson Selectmen. Representatives from Eversource will attend to give a presentation.

Town Manager Rodrigues shared that there are two versions of “statements” for the hearing. Selectman Haarde opined that the statement needs to be very firm. There’s no pressing need for this; the power isn’t going down. Is this a solution in search of a problem? The link from Sudbury substation to Hudson Light & Power is an improvement, but not a pressing need. Overall damage to Sudbury outweighs the value it adds. Eversource doesn’t need to create a new route; they should use existing lines. The argument to save rate payers money doesn’t hold up. This isn’t making the grid that much stronger for the greater good. No need to slice a new path in Sudbury.

Chairman Iuliano shared that what we want to win on is the impact to Sudbury more than a need. Per legal counsel, the BOS should not take a position.

Selectman Simon shared there will be different audiences at meeting – one is siting board and other is the Town. Residents’ voices are more important than Selectmen.

Chairman Iuliano asked Selectman Haarde if he wanted to take the draft statement home and look at it, and add anything and we can vote on tomorrow night’s meeting? He agreed to make changes and provide update to Town Manager Rodrigues.

Town Manager Rodrigues said this can be submitted as written testimony on behalf of BOS, not from one specific member.

Chairman Iuliano shared that the next item is confidentiality. The siting board is asking Eversource for the confidentiality agreement to stay in place. Selectman Simon asked is there precedence for state agencies to get confidential info? Town Manager Rodrigues will get back to the Board on this. MEPA comments are due June 15.

Regarding a memo from the Stow Board of Selectmen, Selectman Haarde asked if we should contact them to say we appreciate their intervention to oppose anything in the Right Of Way? Selectman Haarde offered to reach out to Stow.

Selectman Haarde shared the first comments siting board hears is on Thursday – send back to alternative route, reject or make other decisions.

Selectman Simon asked when is the pretrial scheduled? Town Manager Rodrigues responded in the fall; it's a yearlong process. Another meeting is scheduled for June 7.

Chairman Iuliano made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Selectman Haarde. All members voted in favor – aye.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Attest: _____
Melissa Murphy-Rodrigues
Town Manager-Clerk