

MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, July 12, 2021 7:00 p.m via Go To Meeting

In attendance: C.lino, L. Annino, Jr., E. Blewett, M. Nuhn, P. Scofield, M. Naveu, R. Regolo, L. Lefko, N. Gorski, D. Phelps, S. Obrien, A. Stirna, E. Unger-Pleines, R. Pleines, S. Hawkins, E. Sirignano
T. Gannon, S. Hawkins

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Blewett joined the meeting after the approval of the minutes of 6/28.
2. Public comment: none
3. Department/Board of Education reports: Building and Health Dept. reports were distributed.
4. Approval of minutes
Annino moved to approve the minutes of June 28, 2021 as presented. The motion, seconded by Annino, passed unanimously.
5. Refunds and abatements: none
6. Appointments
During consideration of the position on the Charter Review Commission vacated by Mary Meixell (U), Blewett raised two questions: whether the composition of the committee complies with the bare majority requirement of the state statutes, and whether the composition complies with the statute's requirement that no more than one-third of its members be town officials. There was extensive debate about minority representation and the composition of the committee. lino will consult with town attorney to resolve questions.

The selectmen then discussed two candidates for the vacancy, Arjumund Abid (U) and Sara O'Brien (R). Their qualifications were reviewed. Abid's name had been brought forth by the Democratic Town Committee; O'Brien's, by the Republican Town Committee.

lino moved to appoint Arjumund Abid (U) to fill the vacancy on the Charter Revision Committee . The motion was seconded by Annino.

Discussion: Blewett sought further clarification about the definitions of *bare majority* and *public officials*. lino said that *bare majority* could only refer to a majority of the total membership of the committee. lino also said that the question regarding town officials was not relevant to the filling of this vacancy. lino moved the question.

Voting in favor: lino, Annino Opposed: Blewett Motion carried.

7. Old Business
A. FY 2020/2021 Year-end Budget
Regolo noted that capital closeouts have been approved, and that over- and under-expenditures of the FY21 operating budget will likely be presented at the next meeting.

Blewett asked about budgeted revenue vs actual revenue. lino introduced tax collector Nuhn to respond. Nuhn reported that although tax collections were lower than in FY20, because the tax levy was lower, collections were actually significantly over budget. She noted that part of this was due to her special efforts on collecting back taxes. The board applauded Nuhn's efforts.

B. MYCIP

Multiple final changes to the multi-year plan were discussed. lino will share the BOS-approved plan with the Board of Finance for review, and it will go to town meeting for ultimate approval.

lino noted that this plan is useful in alerting the town about capital expenditures and is also required by statute in order to be eligible for LOCIP funding from the state. Annino repeated his regular reminder that the MYCIP is a planning tool and not a commitment to spend. He also noted that while the BOF will review the plan, they are not approving any actual expenditure.

lino moved to approve the Multi-year Capital Improvement Plan dated 7/12/2021, and to send it to town meeting. The motion, seconded by Annino, passed unanimously.

C. Economic Recovery Committee

lino moved for discussion that the board approve the list of nominees for the Economic Recovery Committee. Blewett asked to initiate discussion before the list was presented. There was discussion about definition of boards and committees and about the list of nominees as presented. There were 10 names under consideration for a 9-person commission. There was agreement that this was an uncommon, but welcome, problem. There was extensive discussion.

Blewett moved to increase the maximum number of members of the Economic Recovery Committee to 10. The motion was not seconded.

Blewett suggested that the list of nominees include John Mancini in place of Derek Phelps. There was discussion.

Annino moved appoint the following slate of nominees to the Economic Recovery Committee:

**Richard A. Bauer (R)
Geoffrey Cook (D)
Kerry Lynn Emerson (U)
James Joseph Duffield (U)
Lucinda H. Hogarty (D)
Douglas B. Lefko (R)
Sara Jane O'Brien (R)
John Mancini (R)
Annie Stirna (D)**

The motion was seconded by Blewett. Voting in favor: Annino, Blewett Opposed: lino

lino moved to set a June 30, 2022 date of conclusion for the Economic Recovery Committee, unless extended by the Board of Selectmen. The motion, seconded by Annino, passed unanimously.

8. New Business

A. Summer Breeze Ride for Autism

It was discovered that this application was submitted too late for consideration.

**lino moved to add to the following item to the agenda: Item 8 Ai. Closer to Free Ride
The motion seconded by Annino, passed unanimously.**

lino moved that the BOS, as Traffic Authority, allow the annual Closer To Free bicycle event to travel through town on September 11, 2021. The motion, seconded by Blewett, passed unanimously.

B. Call to Town meeting

lino proposed an August 9 date for an upcoming town meeting. The meeting will be held in the Parmelee Farm Pavilion. The regular BOS meeting will follow. Agenda items will include:

- MYCIP approval
- Capital Closeouts
- Operating budget overs and unders (possibly)
- HK Recreation Authority appointments
- Official acceptance of Beaver Dam Roads and Buell Hill Roads

C. Updated Public Meetings Policy

lino reported that based on CDC guidance and due to Killingworth's maintenance of low levels of infection, in-person meetings for boards and commissions are now permitted. Some required special accommodations were noted. Options were discussed. Annino asked for an update on town hall status. Masks are still required, but all offices are open to the public. Traffic flow is directed one-way to encourage distancing.

9. First Selectwoman's comments

A. A public meeting regarding PFAS will be held in the bays of the KVFC Station 1 on Tuesday July 20th. Representatives from DEEP and the state DPH will be available to answer questions.

B. A demonstration, similar to one held in June, is expected at the traffic circle on Saturday, July 17. A previous event sponsored by the same group reportedly included harassment of passers-by and interference with the flow of traffic. The board supports the right to protest but deplores harassment of the public. Any dangerous situation or interference with traffic should be reported to the state police right away.

C. lino thanked outgoing fire chief Dick Bauer for his impressive record of service to the town. She said Killingworth will remain deeply indebted to Chief Bauer for instilling the highest levels of professionalism in the KVFC. She congratulated Donnie Venuti on his election as chief, and wished him well. Annino added that the town is very lucky to have such a qualified candidate ready to step into "some very large shoes."

10. Selectmen's comments

none

11. Adjournment

Annino moved adjournment at 8:51 p.m. The motion, seconded by Blewett, passed unanimously.