



Office of the Board of Selectmen
Webster Town Hall
350 Main Street
Webster, MA 01570

Phone: (508) 949-3800 x 1041
Fax: (508) 949-3888
selectmen@webster-ma.gov

Randall V. Becker Chairman
Donald D. Bourque, Vice-Chairman
Andrew Jolda, Secretary
Lisa Kontoes
Earl Gabor

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, January 13, 2020 5:04 P.M.
Bartlett High School, 2nd Floor Conference Room
52 Lake Parkway, Webster, MA 01570

MEETING OPENING: At 5:04 p.m., Chairman Becker called the meeting to order at Bartlett High School, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 52 Lake Parkway, Webster, MA. The following individuals were present: Chairman Randall Becker, Selectman Andrew Jolda, Selectman Lisa Kontoes, Town Administrator Douglas Willardson, Risk Manager William McKinnon, Attorney Gerard Donnelly, Attorney William Hewig and Executive Secretary Courtney Friedland.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 5:05 p.m.,

Motion by Selectman Kontoes, seconded by Selectman Jolda, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.

- o Ralph v. Town of Webster

Call Vote: Selectman Kontoes – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes and Chairman Becker – yes.

The Board of Selectmen reconvened in Regular Session at 5:48 p.m. Selectman Bourque and Selectmen Gabor joined the meeting during Executive Session.

Meeting Minutes

Motion by Selectman Gabor, seconded by Selectman Jolda, to approve the meeting minutes of December 16, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

POLE HEARING – NATIONAL GRID:

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Bourque to open the Pole Hearing to install 1 JO pole on Cedar Point Road beginning at a point approximately 450 feet east of the centerline of the intersection of Black Point Road & Cedar Point Road and to install a new JO pole 3-84 across from house 13 on Cedar Point Road approximately 40 feet south from existing pole 3. The motion passed unanimously.

A Representative from National Grid came forward. He stated the owner of the property located at 13 Cedar Point Road has requested National Grid install a new pole. He stated the owner was looking to build a shed near the existing pole.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Kontoes to close the Pole Hearing to install 1 JO pole on Cedar Point Road beginning at a point approximately 450 feet east of the centerline of the intersection of Black Point Road & Cedar Point Road and to install a new JO pole 3-84 across from house 13 on Cedar Point Road approximately 40 feet south from existing pole 3. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Bourque, seconded by Selectman Kontoes to approve the request to install 1 JO pole on Cedar Point Road beginning at a point approximately 450 feet east of the centerline of the intersection of Black Point Road & Cedar Point Road and to install a new JO pole 3-84 across from house 13 on Cedar Point Road approximately 40 feet south from existing pole 3. The motion passed unanimously.

SELECTMEN SPONSORING OF THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLES: Mr. Willardson stated it was brought to his attention by the Town Clerk that the Town Charter does not have a provision for him to sponsor articles on the Town Meeting Warrant. He said the Town Administrator has sponsored articles in the past. He said as a pre-cautionary measure he would like to Board to vote to sponsor the articles.

Motion by Selectman Bourque, seconded by Selectman Gabor to sponsor all of the article that the Town Administrator sponsored on the Town Meeting Warrant. The motion passed unanimously.

REVIEW AND VOTE RECOMMENDATION ON TOWN MEETING WARRANT: Mr. Willardson stated Andrew Jolda will act as the temporary moderator for article one. He stated Monique Pierangeli and Ruthann Goguen will give a presentation for the article. Mr. Willardson went through the rest of the articles. Selectman Jolda stated article fourteen was passed over in October and can't be brought back up for a year or at the next regular Town Meeting. Attorney Hewig agreed stating this article will have to wait until the May Town Meeting.

Motion by Selectman Gabor, seconded by Selectman Jolda, to recommend approval of all articles except fourteen and fifteen. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL FOR TOWN ELECTION WARRANT:

Motion by Selectman Gabor, seconded by Selectman Jolda, to approve the Town Election and Presidential Primary Election Warrants. The motion passed unanimously.

REORGANIZE OR DISBAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION: Mr. Willardson stated it was hard to get a quorum for the Commission. He stated they would also like the Webster Dudley Business Alliance and the local Chamber of Commerce to be part of the Commission but couldn't always send the same representative. Selectman Kontoes stated she liked having the EDC and would suggest eliminating the member requirement that were established that was making it difficult to get a quorum.

Motion by Selectman Gabor, seconded by Selectman Kontoes, to eliminate the background requirements for the Economic Development Commission. The motion passed unanimously.

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME LETTER: Mr. Willardson stated the Board received a letter from the Department of Massachusetts of Fish and Game requesting the Board write a letter of support for the purchase of land for open space. He said the land will be gifted to the State used to protect and manage wildlife resources, and provide public access for passive outdoor recreational opportunities including wildlife observation, hunting, fishing and trapping.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Bourque, to provide a letter of support for the department of Fish and Game's purchase of the property as proposed in the letter. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S REAPPPOINTMENTS: Mr. Willardson stated he has put together a list of Selectmen's appointments and gave them term dates. Chairman Becker asked if each of the Committees, Commission and/or Board have looked at this list. Mr. Willardson stated they have not seen the term dates.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Bourque, to approve the Board of Selectmen's Re-Appointment as presented subject to the appointee accepting and each Board's Chairman's approval. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S POLICIES: Mr. Willardson stated he sent everyone the copy of the Selectmen's Policies. He stated he would like comments and feedback for discussing them. Chairman Becker stated they can add this to the March agenda.

OPEB POLICY: Mr. Willardson stated the attached OPEB Policy was suggested from our auditors.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Bourque, to approve the OPEB Policy as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Mr. Willardson stated the town received the Complete Street Grant to put in sidewalks on East Main Street. He said the local portion needs to be completed by the end of this fiscal year. He stated the Board might have to hold a Special Town Meeting in March to appropriate these funds.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Bourque, to approve the Town Administrator's Report. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN: At 6.49 p.m.:

Motion by Selectman Gabor, seconded by Selectman Kontoes, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Courtney M. Friedland, Executive Secretary to the Board of Selectmen