



**Town Of Webster**  
Massachusetts Est. 1832

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

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, March 9, 2020 6:00 P.M.**

Selectmen's Meeting Room

Webster Town hall, 350 Main Street, Webster, MA

**MEETING OPENING:** At 6:01 p.m., Chairman Becker called the meeting to order in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Webster Town hall, 350 Main Street, Webster, MA. The following individuals were present: Chairman Becker, Selectman Don Bourque, Selectman Andrew Jolda, Selectman Lisa Kontoes, Selectman Earl Gabor (via conference call); Planning Board members: Paul LaFramboise, Michael Dostler, Thomas Klebart, Daniel Morin, and Cathy Cody; Director of Planning & Economic Development Ann Morgan, Town Administrator Doug Willardson, Attorney Brian Winner, Attorney Brian Maser, and Executive Assistant Courtney Friedland.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** At 6:03 p.m.,

**Motion by Selectman Bourque, 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 BWC Chamberland Pond, LLC vs Webster Planning Board, et al
- o Dowgiewicz v. Town of Webster, et al
- o Bounphasaysonh v. Town of Webster, et al
- o Finamore v. Town of Webster, et al
- o Early v. Town of Webster, et al
- o Ralph v. Town of Webster, et al
- o Hylton v. Ralph

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

**Planning Board:** Paul LaFramboise - yes, Michael Dostler – yes, Thomas Klebart - yes, Daniel Morin - yes, and Cathy Cody – yes.

The Board of Selectmen reconvened in Regular Session at 8:02 p.m. Chairman Becker called for a five-minute recess.

## Meeting Minutes

**Motion by Selectman Gabor, seconded by Selectman Jolda, to approve the meeting minutes of February 10, 2020. Call Vote: Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Bourque – yes and Chairman Becker – yes.**

### POLE HEARING – NATIONAL GRID:

**Motion by Selectman Bourque, seconded by Selectman Jolda to open the Pole Hearing to install and remove 1 JO Pole on Wawela Park Road beginning at a point approximately 1300 feet southwest of the centerline of the intersection of Lower Gore Road & Wawela Park Road. Call Vote: Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Bourque – yes and Chairman Becker – yes.**

A Representative from National Grid came forward. He stated the owner of the property located on Wawela Park Road requested to have the pole moved. No public comments were provided.

**Motion by Selectman Bourque, seconded by Selectman Jolda to close the Pole Hearing to install and remove 1 JO Pole on Wawela Park Road beginning at a point approximately 1300 feet southwest of the centerline of the intersection of Lower Gore Road & Wawela Park Road. Call Vote: Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Bourque – yes and Chairman Becker – yes.**

**Motion by Selectman Bourque, seconded by Selectman Kontoes to approve the request to install and remove 1 JO Pole on Wawela Park Road beginning at a point approximately 1300 feet southwest of the centerline of the intersection of Lower Gore Road & Wawela Park Road. Call Vote: Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Bourque – yes and Chairman Becker – yes.**

**2020 COMPOST FACILITY RATES:** Mr. Willardson stated the town has been running in the red when operating the compost facility for many years. He stated DEP has strict regulations about the grinding and disposing of compost which is costly. He stated the town has two options for operating the compost. He said the town can raise the rates of the stickers or find funding to offset the deficit. He stated he would recommend running the compost at a deficit and keep the same sticker rates as last year. Mr. Pizzetti stated the compost has been running in the red for years. He stated the cost of operating it keeps increasing. Selectman Bourque asked if increasing the cost would increase the hours it would be open. Mr. Willardson stated they would keep the same hours. Selectman Bourque asked where the money to fund the deficit would come from. Mr. Willardson stated he would fund it at the end of the year or through free cash. Chairman Becker stated it is a service for the residents and would not be in favor of tripling the cost to veterans. The Selectmen's consensus was to agree with the Town Administrator to continue with existing rates and find the deficit through the Town budget.

**TOWN'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19:** Board of Health Agent Jennifer Sullivan and Public Health Nurse Cheryl Rawinski came forward. Mrs. Sullivan stated the town is taking a proactive approach to the virus. Referring to her presentation she stated as of today 719 people in Massachusetts are in self-quarantine. She stated the data is constantly changing and they are in daily communication with local and state officials. She stated there were three cases in Webster that were in self-quarantine. She advised everyone to be diligent in washing their hands and avoid touching their eyes, face and nose. Mr.

Willardson stated the town has put in place two tiers as a precaution. He stated tier one was to close the Senior Center to the public. He stated the workers will be assigned to another location. He stated tier two was to close the Town Hall and Library to the public with workers still working from the site. Mrs. Rawinski stated the Department of Public Health are looking at certain factors such as a patient's symptoms, travel history and contact with a presumptive positive. Self-quarantine has been advised to anyone who has travelled to any of the level 3 countries such as China, Iran, Japan, South Korea, and Italy. She stated most of the people quarantined in Massachusetts attended the Biogen Conference in Boston.

**VACATE TAX LIEN FORECLOSURE CASE FOR 25 ARKWRIGHT ROAD:** Mr. Willardson stated the owners to 25 Arkwright have paid all of the outstanding taxes and penalties in the amount of \$39,000.00. As a result, the Selectmen voted:

**As provided under MGL Chapter 60, Section 69, I Selectman Jolda hereby move to vacate the final judgment entered on January 23, 2020 in tax lien foreclosure case no. 19 TL 000861, Town of Webster v. Michael J. Penkala covering the property located at 25 Arkwright Road (Assessors' Parcel 17-F-11-0) upon payment by Michael J. Penkala on or before March 2, 2020 of all amounts due to redeem the tax taking covering the property, which include, but are not limited to, taxes and interest to the date of payment, all charges and fees associated with the foreclosure case and any costs incurred by the Town in the care, custody and control of the property after the entry of the judgment. Upon payment to the Town of the full redemption amount the Town will take the necessary action to vacate the foreclosure judgment and withdraw the foreclosure case in the Massachusetts Land Court. Selectman Bourque seconded the motion. Call Vote: Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Bourque – yes and Chairman Becker – yes.**

**ANNUAL TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REVIEW PROCESS:** Chairman Becker thanked Selectman Kontoes for coming up with a new Town Administrator's review format. He stated this review is much more thorough. He stated section 8 would be sent out to major Department Heads to complete and section 6 would be put out to residents to complete. Selectman Kontoes suggested having an open-ended commentary section at the end of section 6 & 8, so that the major Department Heads and residents have the opportunity to offer more insight. Chairman Becker encouraged all of the Selectmen to sit down with Mr. Willardson individually to discuss the review. He stated the Board can add this to their agenda on March 30<sup>th</sup>. He said all reviews will need to be in by March 23<sup>rd</sup> to the Board's Secretary for her to compile.

**NON-BINDING ASKING PRICE FOR 26 PARK ROAD:** Mr. Willardson stated he met with an interested party and they expressed the \$400,000 asking price was too high. He stated he would like to lower the asking price to \$250,000, which is still non-binding and can be rejected.

#### **2020 SPECIAL AND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT:**

**Motion by Selectman Bourque, seconded by Selectman Kontoes to open the Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrant for Monday, May 11, 2020 starting at 7:00 p.m. at Bartlett High School, 52 Lake Parkway, Webster. The Warrant will close Monday, March 30, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Call Vote: Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Bourque – yes and Chairman Becker – yes.**

#### **ST. JOSEPH'S 1-25 CLIB – ONE DAY LIQUOR LICENSE REQUEST:**

**Motion by Selectman Bourque, seconded by Selectman Gabor to approve the “One Day” liquor license for St. Joseph’s 1-25 Club, 53 Whitcomb Street, Webster for March 14, 2020 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Call Vote: Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Bourque – yes and Chairman Becker – yes.**

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- April 4<sup>th</sup> Easter Egg Hunt at the Beach at 10:00 AM
  - April 4<sup>th</sup> Senior Dance at the Senior Center from 6:00 to 9:00 PM
  - April 18<sup>th</sup> Earth Day at the Town Hall starting at 8:00 AM
1. Public Health and Safety
    - a. Police—Speed radar signs installed on Route 16.
    - b. Fire—Marc Becker put out fire at Town Hall.
  2. Financially Responsible
    - a. Participated in bond rating call this week.
      - i. We need to meet on 3/30 for an extra meeting to approve this.
      - ii. Tri-meeting with School & Finance Committees on 3/30
    - b. FY2020 Budget in process.
      - i. Health Insurance claims skyrocketed over the last few months
        1. 11 high claimants in combined pool. 10 of which were from Webster.
        2. Initial renewal quote was 18%; negotiated down to 7.5%
    - c. Grant funds used to install LED lighting in Town Hall and the Police Station.
    - d. Draft Audit complete. Will schedule Audit Committee meeting prior to April’s meeting.
  3. Economic Development
    - a. Meet with ED consultant regarding market analysis of Webster. Will incorporate this data onto our website. Focus on four sites.
      - i. Tornado area (still working on making into a park in the interim)
      - ii. South Main lots (Owner indicated that he has someone interested that will be applying to Planning Board)
      - iii. Lot at Cudworth and Lower Gore—ideal site for hotel
      - iv. Kmart Plaza—researching and pursuing “last mile” distribution center.
    - b. Business Improvement District discussion.
    - c. Extreme Spring Cleanup
      - i. Walked or drove main routes in Town.
      - ii. Developed list of 140 tasks to beautify the Town this spring/summer
        1. Approximately 46 nuisance properties
          - a. Will fine and clean up ourselves in not done timely
        2. Tornado Park; High Street Park
        3. Streetlight decorations; Lots of plants/flowers
        4. Street sweeping/litter collection
  4. Maintain Infrastructure
    - a. Water filtration plant—ribbon cutting ceremony on May 9th
    - b. Lake Parkway/Klebart Ave project bid out and on schedule for the spring.
    - c. Memorial Beach—surveyed and architect met with staff. Design underway.
    - d. Eddy Street full depth reclaim bids received.

- e. Town Hall renovation plan. Design for roof 7 copula repairs underway. Apply for \$100,000 grant for construction by March 23<sup>rd</sup>
- 5. Transparent, Open and Friendly government
  - a. Last day to pull papers is March 12<sup>th</sup>. Must be Returned Monday, March 16th

Position	Years	Available Seats
Board of Selectmen	3	2
Finance Committee	3	1
School Committee	3	2
School Committee	1	1
Trustees of the Public Librarv	3	3
Trustees of the Public Librarv	1	1
Board of Health	3	1
Redevelopment Authority	5	1

- b. Selectmen office hours on March 16th. Selectman Kontoes will do the Selectmen's hours on March 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6: p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Motion by Selectman Bourque, seconded by Selectman Jolda, to approve the Town Administrator's Report. Call Vote: Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Bourque – yes and Chairman Becker – yes.**

**ADJOURN:** At 9:07 p.m.:

**Motion by Selectman Bourque, seconded by Selectman Jolda, to adjourn. Call Vote: Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Bourque – yes and Chairman Becker – yes.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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

