

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

MEETING DATE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2019
8:30 A.M.

MEETING PLACE: TOWN CAMPUS ROOM A

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

8:30 a.m. Regular Session

First Selectman Banisch called the Regular Session of Monday, February 11, 2019 to order at 8:30 a.m. Present were First Selectman Banisch, Selectwoman Ferris, Selectman Goldberg, Selectman Murphy, and Selectman Wilson.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.
First Selectman Banisch led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Minutes.

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to **APPROVE** the minutes of January 28, 2019.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

3. First Selectman's Comments.
 - a. The Town of Madison has been awarded a Platinum Wellness Certification from the Greater Fairfield Business Council. First Selectman Banisch thanked Paula Carabetta for her efforts to bring Madison this honor and to engage employees in wellness initiatives.
4. Public Comment.

Maureen Lopes stated that she was the Chair of the Senior Commission when the Town was building the new Senior Center and she suggested that the Town required this commission to provide comprehensive plans, including staffing needs, to the residents before the bonding could be voted on. She stated the same information should be made available for a vote on the Academy School / Community Center project.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Discuss and take action to approve a Proclamation honoring Joan Cerosky.

DISCUSSION: Selectman Wilson read aloud the Proclamation. Gus Horvath and Stewart MacMillan thanked Joan for her commitment to the Town and also for the painting of James Madison which hangs in the Town Campus main conference room.

Representative Noreen Kokoruda echoed the comments of Mr. Horvath and Mr. MacMillan and she added that it was important to recognize the work that went into the Town Campus building and also that the Town honors the portrait which Ms. Cerosky painted as it is the only painting of James Madison within the Town.

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectwoman Ferris to **APPROVE** a Proclamation honoring Joan Cerosky.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

6. Presentation from ROOTS students on the Mad-Love Project.

DISCUSSION: Erin Corbett of Madison Youth & Family Services stated that the club has been renamed to ROOTS and they are here to discuss the Mad-Love Project.

The students provided an overview of the ROOTS club which is student-led and oversees projects to better the community. They have painted kindness rocks and other programs to spread encouraging messages throughout the High School community. Also, the club has created Mad-Love bracelets which are handed out to encourage acts of kindness. The bracelets are currently at the High School, but the club hopes that the initiative will be spread throughout town. The bracelets will be passed to local business and also to teachers and staff to pass through town.

Tina Garrity of the MADE Coalition recognized the efforts of the club and she added that when these types of initiatives are encouraged, the younger generations are less likely to grow up and experience symptoms of depression or anxiety as adults.

7. Discuss and take action to approve awarding the contract for the purchase of a new Type III Ambulance to New England Fire Equipment & Apparatus Corporation/PL Custom Emergency Vehicles. The total cost is \$245,000; funding is budgeted in the Ambulance Vehicle Replacement account.

DISCUSSION: Chief Chris Bernier stated that the 2007 Ambulance with over 100,000 miles needs to be replaced and after this replacement, the goal will be to replace the chassis only in future vehicles. This should be last full-vehicle replacement for the Ambulance Department.

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to **APPROVE** awarding the contract for the purchase of a new Type III Ambulance to New England Fire Equipment & Apparatus Corporation/PL Custom Emergency Vehicles. The total cost is \$245,000; funding is budgeted in the Ambulance Vehicle Replacement account.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

8. Discuss and take action to approve hiring Cristal DePietro to the position of Social Services Coordinator located within the Youth & Family department. The position is Exempt; rate of pay is Grade 6, Step 4 \$50,400.61 annually. The position is budgeted, not requiring an appropriation of funds and the vacancy was created by a resignation.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectwoman Ferris to **APPROVE** hiring Cristal DePietro to the position of Social Services Coordinator located within the Youth & Family department.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

9. Discuss and take action to call a Budget Public Hearing on **Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Auditorium of the Walter C. Polson Middle School for the purpose of a budget presentation by the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Education conducted by the Board of Finance in accordance with the Town Charter (10.5.A).

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to **APPROVE** calling a Budget Public Hearing on **Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Auditorium of the Walter C. Polson Middle School for the purpose of a budget presentation by the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Education conducted by the Board of Finance in accordance with the Town Charter (10.5.A).

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

10. Discuss and take action to award the RFP for the 2019 Small Cities Community Development Program Application process for the Concord Meadows rehabilitation project.

DISCUSSION: Elaine Reitman of the Concord Meadows Board of Directors thanked the Town for applying for this grant on behalf of the residents of Concord Meadows. She stated that the new application process would hopefully include heating upgrades for the 72 units.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Wilson to **APPROVE** a awarding the RFP for the 2019 Small Cities Community Development Program Application process for the Concord Meadows rehabilitation project to the Housing Development Team, LLC.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

11. Discuss and take action to authorize the First Selectman to sign an Environmental Review Record pertaining to the Concord Meadows rehabilitation project.

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to **APPROVE** authorizing the First Selectman to sign an Environmental Review Record pertaining to the Concord Meadows rehabilitation project.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

12. Discuss and take action to approve designating the First Selectmen as the Trustee of the Fire Pension plan.

DISCUSSION: Selectman Goldberg confirmed that this step was required by the bank before the account could be created.

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to **APPROVE** designating the First Selectmen as the Trustee of the Fire Pension plan.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

13. Discuss and take action to approve the resignation of Travis Gulick as the Madison Hose Company #1 Liaison to the Fire Pension Committee.

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to **APPROVE** the resignation of Travis Gulick as the Madison Hose Company #1 Liaison to the Fire Pension Committee, with thanks from the Board.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

14. Discuss and take action to approve the appointment of Bill Carroll as the Madison Hose Company #1 Liaison to the Fire Pension Committee.

MOVED by Selectwoman Ferris and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to **APPROVE** the appointment of Bill Carroll as the Madison Hose Company #1 Liaison to the Fire Pension Committee.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

15. Discuss and take action to approve a contract with Colliers International to provide consultation services to provide project management/owner's representation support for the Community Center Study of the Academy School parcel.

DISCUSSION: First Selectman Banisch Stated that Colliers International had worked with the prior Ad-Hoc Committee to present information on the costs associated with various projects using the Academy School building. Colliers therefore has indicated that they are able to continue this work and create a clearer cost and plan for the Community Center concept in order to provide this information to the public prior to the vote.

Selectman Wilson provided an overview of the process to-date and also the reason for the three items on this Agenda for discussion and action.

Selectman Murphy confirmed that Colliers International is able to complete their work and present information for a May referendum date.

Selectman Goldberg questioned if Colliers would be strictly limited to the details in the contract document and First Selectman Banisch stated that the contract would provide the services needed for the Town to bring the question to referendum in May.

The Board also reviewed the architect who will be used as a subcontractor by Colliers to provide oversight on the Community Center concept.

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to **APPROVE** a contract with Colliers International to provide consultation services to provide project

management/owner's representation support for the Community Center Study of the Academy School parcel.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

16. Discuss and take action to approve releasing \$10,000 from the Planning Reserve to fund a contract with Colliers International to provide consultation services to provide project management/owner's representation support for the Community Center Study of the Academy School parcel.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Wilson to **APPROVE** the releasing \$10,000 from the Planning Reserve to fund a contract with Colliers International to provide consultation services to provide project management/owner's representation support for the Community Center Study of the Academy School parcel.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

17. Discuss and take action to adopt the Charge of the Ad-Hoc Academy School Community Center Design Committee.

DISCUSSION: Selectman Wilson stated that the Charge might need modifications per some concerns from the Board. He stated that leading up to this Charge, the poll provided a clear indication of what use was preferred by the poll takers. He stated that the Board expects that the public will get two "bites at the apple" on this project. The first being for the public to approve making this project a priority in the capital plan; and then the second to approve a bonding package with building design. This is not a rush to get a bonding question in May 2019; the Board is looking for legislative affirmation from the Town in order to get the project started.

Selectman Goldberg stated that he felt that the Board did not need to bring two items to a vote; instead the one referendum much later on with the bonding/design information is all that was needed.

Selectman Murphy stated that he agreed with sentiments of Selectman Goldberg to create a more detailed design process with one referendum vote much later on in the timeframe.

First Selectman Banisch stated that he didn't disagree with the comments made, however, as the building has been vacant for 14 years and the Board should let the Town have an opportunity for an official vote on this matter sooner rather than later.

Selectman Wilson stated that he struggles with the idea that the Board might be rushing or might not be doing the responsible "thing"; instead he stated that the Ad-Hoc Committee was able to craft a question on the poll with the costs associated with the Community Center project. He stated that this next step was fine-tuning the information that was presented with the poll; and that this could be done in a shorter amount of time to bring the project to the public and to let the taxpayers have the chance to echo the results of the poll.

Selectman Murphy stated that the public will not have enough information to make an informed decision at May referendum; and Selectman Wilson stated that if this were true, then the public did not have enough information at the poll to make the same informed decision and it would invalidate the poll results.

Selectwoman Ferris stated that the Ad-Hoc Committee presented detailed information for the costs associated with the Community Center initiative that was only missing operating costs and now the new Ad-Hoc Committee could deep-dive into these other types of costs and also funding mechanisms. This is not a starting-over point, this is a continuation of a project. She stated that she supports moving forward with the Charge and timeline.

First Selectman Banisch stated that in conjunction with this; the Board had already discussed asking Dick Passero to serve on this Ad-Hoc Committee.

Selectman Goldberg stated that as the public has approved the concept of a Community Center, the actual offerings and spaces allowed inside of the building need to be considered. He stated that the poll has indicated that the public supports a Community Center and that the Board should bring a comprehensive Community Center design and cost to the public and that might take a significant amount of time.

Selectman Wilson stated that if the project had “started from scratch” that he would be concerned about the timeline, but since this is a long-standing item, the timeline is not rigorous.

Gus Horvath stated that the target is important; and that the Board may realize from Public Hearing input that the public wants significant architectural changes not considered.

Maureen Lopes stated that she agrees that there are many ideas floating around town of what the Community Center concept encompasses. She stated that the town should be careful to make sure that the Community Center is not duplicating the programs offered by the Senior Center and Arts Barn. She added that this is only one piece of the Town’s future.

The Board reviewed that the draft should be approved at this meeting or if a Special Meeting should be held at a later date.

The Board also reviewed the committee composition.

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectwoman Ferris to **APPROVE** the Charge of the Ad-Hoc Academy School Community Center Design Committee.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

- 17a. **MOVED** by First Selectman Banisch and seconded by Selectman Wilson to **APPROVE** opening the agenda for Item 17a. to Discuss and take action to set the first Public Information Session and the first Public Hearing.

DISCUSSION: The Board reviewed dates and times for both of these events. The Board reviewed calling the Public Information Session for the week of February 18th and calling the Public Hearing on March 6, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to **APPROVE** calling a Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

18. Update on the Strategic Planning Process.

DISCUSSION: Project Manager, Lauren Rhines, reviewed a draft which had been provided to the Board and stated that the draft encompasses all changes suggested by the internal stakeholders to the document. She cautioned that the document was not wordsmithed and was clearly created by different voices. She suggested that the Board should move forward by heavily workshopping the draft, perhaps by creating a subcommittee of the internal stakeholders. The Board discussed and agreed that they should hold a workshop of their membership to work on the draft.

19. Citizens comments.

Gus Horvath stated that he has reviewed the Town's Coastal Resiliency Plan to compare the oversight of other coastal towns. Mr. Horvath stated that whoever was responsible for implementing the plan should consider where other governing bodies should consult this plan.

20. Liaison Reports/Selectmen Comments.

None.

21. Adjournment.

There being no objections, First Selectman Banisch adjourned the meeting at 9:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Rhines
Executive Assistant