

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

MEETING DATE: MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2020
8:00 A.M.

MEETING PLACE: TOWN CAMPUS ROOM A

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

8:00 a.m. Regular Session

First Selectwoman Lyons called the Regular Session of Monday, March 9, 2020 to order at 8:00 a.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.
First Selectwoman Lyons led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of minutes

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to **APPROVE** the minutes of February 21, 2020, February 24, 2020 and February 27, 2020 with the following changes to the Minutes of February 24, 2020:

6b. **MOVED** by Selectman ~~Wilson~~ Goldberg and seconded by Selectman Murphy to **APPROVE** the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen are considering the procedures necessary for the approval of appropriations and bond authorizations for improvements to school facilities of the Town and for renovations to the Academy building for the use as a community center (the "Projects").

BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the Board of Selectmen's intent to take all actions necessary to present the Projects to the voters of the Town at a referendum, anticipated to be held during the first full week of October, 2020.

VOTE: the motion was approved with three votes in favor, one vote opposed (Wilson) and one abstention (Duques).

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

3. First Selectwoman's Updates

First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons provided updates which are attached to this agenda.

4. Liaison Reports / Selectmen Comments

Scott Murphy	Women's Celebration, VIBE, MY&FS
Al Goldberg	Government Study Committee, Island Future Use Committee
Bruce Wilson	Beach & Recreation Commission

5. Citizen comments

None.

6. Executive Session

a. Lease Negotiations – Island Avenue

TABLED

7. Discuss and take action to request Board of Finance Review on March 18, 2020 of a Lease Modification and Extension Agreement between the Town of Madison and Our Lady of Mercy Preparatory Academy as it pertains to the leasing of the Island Avenue School.

DISCUSSION: First Selectwoman Lyons stated that the Board of Finance does not have authority to the Lease, but the precedent set last year was to ask for their review of the lease.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to **APPROVE** request Board of Finance Review on March 18, 2020 of a Lease Modification and Extension Agreement between the Town of Madison and Our Lady of Mercy Preparatory Academy as it pertains to the leasing of the Island Avenue School.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

8. Discuss and take action to approve calling a Public Hearing on Monday, March 30, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of Brown Middle School to hear comment on a Lease Modification and Extension Agreement between the Town of Madison and Our Lady of Mercy Preparatory Academy as it pertains to the leasing of the Island Avenue School.

DISCUSSION: Selectman Wilson provided an overview of the process that requires a Public Hearing for public comment about the lease draft document prior to a Town Meeting vote.

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to **APPROVE** calling a Public Hearing on Monday, March 30, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of

Brown Middle School to hear comment on a Lease Modification and Extension Agreement between the Town of Madison and Our Lady of Mercy Preparatory Academy as it pertains to the leasing of the Island Avenue School.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

9. Discuss and take action to approve calling a Special Town Meeting on Thursday, April 2, 2020 in the Auditorium of Brown Middle School to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLVED: That the Lease Modification and Extension Agreement granting Our Lady of Mercy Preparatory Academy of Madison a one year extension of the existing lease of the former Island Avenue School, at an annual rent of \$400,000, and an option to renew the lease for an additional year with Board of Selectman approval, be and hereby is approved, and that the First Selectman be and is hereby authorized to execute the same on behalf of the Town.

DISCUSSION: First Selectwoman Lyons stated that she undertook this second lease option in order to avoid another vacant building in Town.

Selectman Wilson stated that the Board spent a lot of time discussing the potential lease and compromising on aspects that the Board feels are beneficial to the Town and the renter. The Board feels this is the best deal that could be negotiated and now it is time for the public to come out and give their comments.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to **APPROVE** calling a Special Town Meeting on Thursday, April 2, 2020 in the Auditorium of Brown Middle School to approve the above Resolution.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

10. Update on the 2020 Beach Season recommendations – Beach & Recreation Director, Scot Erskine.

DISCUSSION: First Selectwoman Lyons stated that the cost of staffing the beaches has almost doubled, but the resident beach pass rates have been in effect for 12 years. The rates for residents were not recommended to be increased this year, instead, the Town will focus on rolling out the beach pass system for summer 2020 and an online purchasing component for summer 2021 and this implementation next year may impact the rates for resident beach passes in future years.

Beach and Recreation Director, Scot Erskine, confirmed the comments above and Selectman Murphy stated that since the Town was adding services and staff for summer 2020, some of these increased costs should be passed on to the pass holders.

Selectman Wilson stated that the Town is in the business of providing services, not making revenue and since this is an asset that is funded through taxes, he would like to see a time where everyone who pays taxes in Madison (e.g. vehicle taxes) they are

allowed to use this town asset without cost. As the Town moves into the next budget cycle for Fiscal Year 2021-2022, Selectman Wilson stated that he hoped this could be part of the conversation.

For summer 2020, the public will be able to purchase a beach pass in person at the Beach & Recreation Department or at the Surf Club; or, by mail. Stickers will be issued again this year beginning April 1, 2020.

11. Discuss and take action to approve the hiring of Emily Eckenroth to the position of Assessment Tech II located within the Assessor's Office. The position is non-exempt. Rate of pay is Grade 6, Step 5 - \$29.65 per hour. The position is budgeted, not requiring an appropriation of funds. This position vacancy was created by a resignation.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Wilson to **APPROVE** hiring of Emily Eckenroth to the position of Assessment Tech II located within the Assessor's Office.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

12. Discuss and take action to approve a Special Appropriation request from the Health Department in the amount of **\$6,240.00**, pending Board of Finance approval.

DISCUSSION: Trent Joseph, Health Director, provided an overview of increased costs for hazardous waste removal that has created the need for this request.

MOVED by Selectman Goldberg and seconded by Selectman Wilson to **APPROVE** a Special Appropriation request from the Health Department in the amount of **\$6,240.00**, pending Board of Finance approval.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

13. Discuss and take action to approve a Special Appropriation request in the amount of **\$102,080** to fund health and transportation services for Our Lady of Mercy Preparatory Academy, pending Board of Finance and Town Meeting Approval.

DISCUSSION: First Selectwoman Lyons provided an overview of the requirements to provide these services to private schools, however, the Town did not budget revenue or costs because the lease was not signed by the budget approval last year.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to **APPROVE** a Special Appropriation in the amount of **\$21,080** for health services and a Special Appropriation in the amount of **\$81,000** for transportation services for services provided to Our Lady of Mercy Preparatory Academy, pending Board of Finance and Town Meeting Approval.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

14. Discuss and take action to add to the call of the March 23, 2020 Special Town Meeting as follow:

2. Discuss and take action to approve a Special Appropriation request in the amount of **\$102,080** to fund health and transportation services for Our Lady of Mercy Preparatory Academy, pending Board of Finance approval.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to **APPROVE** adding to the call of the March 23, 2020 Special Town Meeting as follow:

2. Discuss and take action to approve a Special Appropriation request in the amount of **\$81,000** to fund transportation services for Our Lady of Mercy Preparatory Academy, pending Board of Finance approval.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

15. Discuss and take action to approve a request from the E.C. Scranton Memorial Library to release funds set aside by the Town of Madison for the Scranton Library's additional budget needs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

DISCUSSION: the Board reviewed that this was a process step and was not a request for additional funding.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to **APPROVE** a request from the E.C. Scranton Memorial Library to release funds in the amount of **\$150,000** set aside by the Town of Madison for the Scranton Library's additional budget needs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

16. Appointments / Resignations:

Discuss and take action to approve the resignation of Virginia Raff from the Salt Meadow Park Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Wilson to **APPROVE** the resignation of Virginia Raff from the Salt Meadow Park Advisory Committee, with thanks from the Board.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

17. Tax Abatements / Refunds.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Wilson to **APPROVE** Tax Abatements/Refunds in the amount of **\$10,572.51**.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

18. Citizen Comments.

Amy Stefanowski of Boston Post Road stated that Madison is lucky to have many women in leadership in Madison.

19. Adjournment.

There being no objections, First Selectwoman Lyons adjourned the meeting at 8:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Rhines
Town Services Coordinator / Risk Manager

First Selectwoman Update

- Madison Cable Access Group piloting livestreaming of BOS meeting today
- Town and Schools closely monitoring Coronavirus situation
 - Holding regular planning sessions with Town health department, emergency management, schools
 - Following national, state and local guidelines
- Public Information Session regarding Summer 2020 Beach plans held on March 4th
- Attended regional events: CCM Legislative update, Tent Town Transit Breakfast on local transit, Women's Day Panel in Hartford

First Selectwoman Update (cont.)

- Public Hearing held March 4th on BOS Recommended 2020-2021 Budget
 - \$87.5M budget: \$58.7M Education, \$28.8M Town
 - Anticipated 2.2% mill rate increase
 - Board of Finance to review; Public vote planned May 19th
- Town budget encountered challenges this year due to number of factors:
 - Impact of new Scranton Library
 - Continued challenges with Ambulance service model
 - Changes in pension funding requirements
 - Implementation of new operational software MUNIS
 - Anticipated pipeline of capital needs

Resolution on Lease

RESOLVED: That the Lease Modification and Extension Agreement granting Our Lady of Mercy Preparatory Academy of Madison a one year extension of the existing lease of the former Island Avenue School, at an annual rent of \$400,000, and an option to renew the lease for an additional year with Board of Selectman approval, be and hereby is approved, and that the First Selectman be and is hereby authorized to execute the same on behalf of the Town

