

**SUBJECT TO APPROVAL**

MEETING DATE: MONDAY, JULY 22, 2019  
7:00 P.M.

MEETING PLACE: TOWN CAMPUS ROOM A

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
MINUTES

7:00 p.m. Regular Session

First Selectman Banisch called the Regular Session of Monday, July 22, 2019 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were First Selectman Banisch, Selectman Goldberg, Selectman Murphy and Selectman Wilson. Selectwoman Ferris was not present.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.  
First Selectman Banisch led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Minutes.

**MOVED** by Selectwoman Ferris and seconded by Selectman Wilson to **APPROVE** the minutes of June 24, 2019 and July 11, 2019.

**VOTE:** the motion was approved unanimously.

3. First Selectman's Comments.

a. Public Information Session for Strategic Plan will be held on Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup>.

4. Public Comment.

Gus Horvath of Aylesbury Circle stated that he would like to give a presentation as part of the discussion of the Charter Revision Commission.

Tom Hansen of Princess Drive stated that in reading the contract between the Town and Complus, this agreement is between the Town for any/all parking tickets. If this is a correct analysis, he questioned if the parking system could be used for Main Street parking in the future.

Pam Greene of Tambourne Way stated that the beach pass system was implemented like a "train wreck" and one issue has been communication both online and in person at the beaches. A lot of the communication, after the March or April Beach & Recreation meeting felt that it was in "real time" instead of in advance. She stated that she appreciated that the Public Information Session was held last week but it would have been better if the Beach & Rec Commission had held this session in March or April. In the future, if contracts are delayed then Special Meetings should be held proactively. She further indicated that testing

and training by staff was not done well in advance, either. Additionally, in regards to the contract, she stated that she had never seen the contract during the review process. She stated that the commission in full should have seen the contract before it was signed by the Town. Also, she stated that the Town should hold discussions at the end of the beach season to determine changes for the next years' beach season.

Joan Walker of Stepping Stone Lane stated that as a former Board of Selectmen member, she had reviewed the contract process and hadn't seen that the Board had voted on the contract. She questioned if this fact changed the status of the contract approval.

### **New Business**

5. Discuss and take action to approve the hiring of Molly Fahey to the position of Administrative Assistant located within the Youth & Family department upon successful completion of a drug screening and criminal background check. The position is non-exempt. Rate of pay is Grade 4, Step 2 \$19.37 per hour. The position is budgeted, not requiring an appropriation of funds. The position vacancy was created by a resignation.

**MOVED** by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectwoman Ferris to **APPROVE** the hiring of Molly Fahey to the position of Administrative Assistant located within the Youth & Family department upon successful completion of a drug screening and criminal background check.

**VOTE:** the motion was approved unanimously.

6. Discuss and take action to award the contract, and to authorize the First Selectman to sign the same, between the Town of Madison and Firematic Supply Company, for the purchase of a Peterbilt/Pierce Tanker in the amount of **\$1,470,000**; the purchase is through the Sourcewell.

**DISCUSSION:** The Board reviewed the request in the proposal and the process of moving from the proposal to the contract process and that the Board would request that Madison Hose Company 1 forward a copy of the contract prior to the First Selectman signing the contract document.

**MOVED** by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to **APPROVE** awarding the contract, and to authorize the First Selectman to sign the same, between the Town of Madison and Firematic Supply Company, for the purchase of a Pierce Ladder Truck in the amount of **\$1,470,000**; the purchase is through the Sourcewell, contingent upon the final review by the Board of Selectmen of the contract document.

**VOTE:** the motion was approved unanimously.

7. Discuss and take action to approve a Donation in the amount of **\$5,000** the Madison Foundation Neighbor to Neighbor for providing supplementary funding for individuals and families in need of financial assistance with the cost of summer camp for children ages five to fifteen.

**DISCUSSION:** the Board expressed their gratitude to Neighbor-to-Neighbor.

**MOVED** by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to **APPROVE** a Donation in the amount of \$5,000 the Madison Foundation Neighbor to Neighbor for providing supplementary funding for individuals and families in need of financial assistance with the cost of summer camp for children ages five to fifteen.

**VOTE:** the motion was approved unanimously.

8. Discuss and take action to appoint Doug Minges and Craig Taylor as Tree Wardens for the Town of Madison for terms to expire December 31, 2021.

**MOVED** by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectwoman Ferris to **APPROVE** appointing Doug Minges and Craig Taylor as Tree Wardens for the Town of Madison for terms to expire December 31, 2021.

**VOTE:** the motion was approved unanimously.

9. Review proposal for ban on single use bags with Conservation Commission representatives.

**DISCUSSION:** Fran Brady, Conservation Commission Chair, provided a PowerPoint presentation which detailed a “Bring Your Own Bag” policy which has been adopted by other states. Mr. Brady reviewed current Town policies and campaigns as well as State bans that will be in effect on August 1, 2019.

A copy of the full presentation can be found at <https://www.madisonct.org/971/My-Green-Home> .

To move forward, the commission has made a business survey to all Town businesses through the Chamber of Commerce, they have drafted an Ordinance and invited the Board to a Public Information Session September 5, 2019. The Commission was asking that the Board of Selectmen determine what they needed to move to a vote on September 9, 2019 banning all single-use bags (plastic and paper) in Madison.

The Board reviewed the costs of plastic and paper bags as well as alternatives to single-use bags. First Selectman Banisch stated that this was a great initiative for the kids to get involved in and he agreed with the proposal of the Conservation Commission.

Selectman Wilson stated that he agreed with the proposal as well, but that the Town could also consider how to bring reusable bags to the public, including by having the Town sell them. Selectman Murphy stated that he agreed, but that the Town should “walk before they ran” and that the first step would be to ban single-use bags. Selectman Wilson stated that the initiative works if the consumer can purchase reusable bags as an alternative to single-use bags. He also asked if there were other towns who were imposing a fee on paper bags.

The Board reviewed that they were in favor of the ban, but that the draft Ordinance would need legal review and public input and also to follow approval rules as set forth in the Town Charter.

10. Discuss and take action to approve a recommendation from the Beach & Recreation Commission to revise hours of parking at the Surf Club.

**DISCUSSION:** Rob Card, Beach & Recreation Commission Chair stated that the Commission met earlier this evening and that there was a unanimous recommendation to return enforcement back to 5:00 p.m. at the Surf Club (versus 8:00 p.m.). The rationale being that many organizations meet after 5:00 p.m. as well as the restaurant business sees increased foot traffic after 5:00 p.m.

The recommendation is only to move enforcement back to 5:00 p.m. for the Surf Club and not at East or West Wharf. The Board reviewed the traffic at all beaches since the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and whether changes might need to be made to all beach hours; Selectmen Murphy stated that he felt foot traffic was less after 5:00 p.m. at all beaches. He added that he didn't feel comfortable with the message that was being sent to non-residents as well that they are not "welcome" within Madison's walls.

Scot Erskine stated that enforcement was always stopped at 5:00 p.m. at all beaches in past years. The Board reviewed whether 5:00 p.m. enforcement cut off was also appropriate at East Wharf and asked the Beach & Recreation Commission to weigh in on this proposal. Commission members commented on the validity in changing hours at the Surf Club and East Wharf but also commented that beach passes will allow residents to park regardless of the hours.

Mr. Card added that last week's public information session was very informative and that decisions made and recommended have been done so with the available data. Now that the public information session has brought forth more public discourse and personal data of residents and visitors has prompted this change. He added that the Commission would be reviewing the enforcement at East Wharf and West Wharf beaches at their upcoming meetings as well.

**MOVED** by Selectman Murphy and seconded Selectman Wilson by to **APPROVE** a recommendation from the Beach & Recreation Commission to revise hours of parking at the Surf Club to 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and to also move hours of enforcement to 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at East Wharf Beach as well.

**VOTE:** the motion was approved unanimously.

11. Review Beach Pass System contract process and possible future actions.

**DISCUSSION:** Scot Erskine stated that the current system is now under Passport which acquired Complus. The Passport system portal allows for easier use and will provide enhancements for residents and visitors in the online portal. First Selectman Banisch stated that the Town should receive new proposals for how this years' bugs would be fixed for next year and then the Town could determine how / if to move forward with a contract for next year. Selectman Wilson stated that the probation period of the contract should be stretched out until next Spring so that the Beach & Recreation Commission and Department could decide whether to move forward or walk away and go back to the sticker pass system.

Selectman Goldberg stated that the Board should ensure that policies of the Charter are adhered to in the future and also that gate guards and lifeguards should be re-established at all Town beaches. The Board also reviewed the process for cancelling the contract in this season or in future seasons, prior to the three-year cycle.

The Board reviewed that future contract review should be done by the Board and that contracts for a service of this magnitude should be brought to the Board for review, even if they fall under the monetary threshold for full Board approval as set forth in the Board of Selectmen Policies.

12. Discuss the formation of a Charter Revision Commission.

**DISCUSSION:** Gus Horvath stated that he has brought the issue of a Charter Review to the Board for some time after the 2016 Charter Revision failed. He provided an overview of the Town's use of Home rule since the first Charter in 1970. He also stated that neighboring Town, Clinton, has instituted a Town Manager form of government, moving away from the Town Meeting / First Selectman form of government. He stated that Madison has an executive committee with a Chairman and not a truly executive position. He stated that the Board should institute a Charter Revision Commission to incorporate alternatives to allow for the possibility of a Town Manager, and/or a Town Council / Representative Town Meeting form of government. He suggested a Town Council of 13 and Representative Town Meeting of 25 members. He also suggested that a Board of Finance should still continue to preside over budget / fiscal matters within the Town. He stated that the Committee should be established by August in order to get the item on the ballot for the 2020 election cycle (if approved in 2020, a change in the form of government would not take effect until 2021). The Board also reviewed the Chief Administrator position which was dropped in the 2006 Charter.

First Selectman Banisch stated that he was in favor of convening a Charter Revision Commission and the Board reviewed that they could make recommendations to the commission of what to focus on, but that the Commission would be empowered to make any revisions they deemed necessary and then to make these suggestions to the Board to move to a vote.

Joan Walker commented on the process that was followed during the last Commission which met between 2014 and 2016.

First Selectman Banisch stated that he felt the Board should publicize that they were looking for volunteers for a Commission and the Board should meet again for a Special Meeting to charge the Ad-Hoc Commission.

13. Tax Abatements / Refunds.

None.

14. Public Comment.

Tom Hansen stated that the Complus agreement is between them and the Town of Madison. There is not an indication of specific areas to which this contract applies.

Wendy Hansen of Princess Drive stated that regarding the single-use bag ban, some grocery chains do not provide them and therefore Stop & Shop could implement the same ban.

Joan Walker stated that the Board has approved contracts for services under the \$25,000 threshold so the Board could have reviewed the Complus agreement prior to its signing as well. She also commented on the data storage of those who have used the online system to register for a beach pass.

Nancy Leckerling from BYO-Madison thanked the Board for listening to proposals regarding banning single-use bags in Madison.

Lynn Charles of Nickels Hill Drive stated that it behooves the Town to move quickly on a ban for single-use bags in Town. She stated that the Board should review the ban and the Ordinance should move to public input and establishment by the Board.

15. Adjourn.

There being no objections, First Selectman Banisch adjourned the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Rhines  
Executive Assistant