



WAKEFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, April 09, 2018

6:30 P.M.

WCAT Studio

24 Hemlock Road, Wakefield, MA. 01880

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Selectman Peter J. May, Vice-Chair
Selectwoman Mehreen N. Butt
Selectman Edward F. Dombroski, Jr.
Selectman Brian E. Falvey
Selectman Anthony Longo
Selectwoman Ann McGonigle Santos

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:
Stephen P. Maio, Town Administrator
Sherri A. Dalton, Executive Assistant
Thomas A. Mullen, Town Counsel

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:
Selectman Paul R. DiNocco

----- TOPICS OF DISCUSSION -----

Call to Order	Vice-Chair May called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and stated that there is no need to go into Executive Session.
Public Participation	Aimee Purcell of 53 Eunice Circle addressed the Board regarding the School Department Budget.
Approval of Minutes – Regular March 26, 2018	Selectman Falvey motioned to approve the minutes of March 26, 2018 as presented. Selectman Longo seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.
Appointments	Selectman Longo motioned to appoint James DeCola of 6 Roach Circle, North Reading, MA 01864 as the vacation replacement Building Inspector. Selectman Falvey seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0. Selectman Longo motioned to appoint Joseph Ellis of 16 Priscilla Road, Lynnfield, MA 01940 as the vacation replacement Plumbing/Gas Inspector. Selectman Falvey seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.
License / Permits	Selectman Dombroski motioned to approve the One Day Liquor License request from Amy Wall for May 6, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Americal Civic Center. Selectman Longo seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.
Presentation / Action Items – Food Drive	Richard Stinson, Director of the Department of Public Works and Maureen Miller from the Wakefield Interfaith Food Pantry appeared before the Board regarding the Fill-A-Public Works Truck Annual Food Drive. Mr. Stinson stated that the Wakefield Department of Public Works is partnering with the New England

Chapter of the American Public Works Association and the Wakefield Interfaith Food Pantry during National Public Works Week, May 21, 2018 and May 25, 2018 to collect food for the Wakefield Interfaith Food Pantry during the first annual Fill-A-Public Works Truck Food Drive. All food collected will be donated and delivered to the Wakefield Interfaith Food Pantry. During National Public Works Week, food can be donated by drop off at Town Hall during normal business hours and on Thursday, May 24, 2018 the DPW will be picking up food donations through pre-arranged appointments. The Selectmen thanked Mr. Stinson and Ms. Miller for all that they do. Selectman Longo stated that there is also a drop off box for food in the basement of the Americal Civic Center.

**Presentation
/ Action Item
- Warrant**

Selectman Falvey motioned to approve the Annual Town Election and the Annual Town Meeting Warrant and all the Articles as presented. Selectman Longo seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

**Presentation
/ Action Item
– 28 Redfield
Road**

Town Administrator Stephen P. Maio reminded the Board that the Town went out with a minimum bid on the property known as 28 Redfield Road a while ago. The Town received one bid which was way under so the Town went out to bid again with no minimum. The Town received a bid of \$151,000.00 which was the highest bid. Selectman Falvey motioned to approve the high bid of \$151,000.00. Selectman Longo seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

**Presentation
– Action Item
– 138 New
Salem Street**

Town Administrator Stephen P. Maio stated that the Town went out to bid on the property known as 138 New Salem Street where it is a small piece of land with a garage on it. The Town received one bid of \$12,000.00. Selectman Falvey motioned to approve the bid of \$12,000.00. Selectman Longo seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Selectwoman Santos joined the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

**Presentation
/ Action Item
– Letter
Regarding
Ballot
Question**

Town Administrator Maio stated that the draft of the letter regarding the ballot question went out to the Board ten (10) days ago and he received input from Selectwoman Santos, Butt and Selectman Longo. Selectman Falvey motioned to approve the letter. Selectwoman Santos seconded. Selectman Falvey said the letter was great, that is was well done. Sending out the letter is smart and it lets the citizens know what the Board wants. Selectman Dombroski stated that he doesn't believe that the Board of Selectmen in their official capacity should be in the business of writing advocacy letters on any issue and it has nothing to do with this particular issue, it has to do with precedence this potentially sets. He is not comfortable setting this precedent and this is not the role of the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Dombroski made the motion to have the name change and said this has nothing to do with the name change as he supports it. He went on to say that the people will be deciding this in two (2) weeks and feels that if Board Members want to write letters they should do it on their own. Selectwoman Santos utterly disagrees with Selectman Dombroski by saying that the Board of Selectman has done so in the past and advocating for a name change is good for the Board. Selectwoman Santos stated that if Selectman Dombroski does not want to have his name on the letter, he can remove it. Selectman Dombroski asked Selectwoman Santos then why can't she write a letter on her own. Selectwoman Santos stated that she does not want to do that, that the letter is going to come from the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Falvey agreed that when you are a political body you need to be careful but we are

talking about the name of our Board and people are probably interested in knowing what we as Board Members want to be called. Selectman Falvey stated that he ran for Board of Selectmen because he wants to make things happen. He doesn't want to wait for things to happen. Selectman Dombroski stated that many people want the name changed and many people do not want the name changed and we as a Board need to be respectful of everyone's opinions not just the opinions that certain people share. Selectman Dombroski feels part of what makes the Board of Selectmen important is governing but then presenting these matters to the people to ultimately vote on and he feels the Board of Selectmen has done that. Selectwoman Santos stated she feels that the Board of Selectmen has a right to advocate for ballot questions and said again that Selectman Dombroski can take his name off of the letter. Selectman Longo said that the Board of Selectmen are the governing body of the Town and Steve is the CEO but Steve answers to the Board of Selectmen and it is important that we show a united front for this and let the people decide and move on. Selectman May suggested that letters be sent in individually. Selectwoman Santos answered no that the letter will be from the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Falvey said that he is comfortable in taking a vote of the Board. Selectman Dombroski stated that he is fundamentally opposed in advocating on any issue. Selectwoman Butt said that she fundamentally disagrees with Selectman Dombroski that the Board has the power to take positions on issues and that there are a lot coming on the ballot in November on State Elections and National Elections and she hopes the Board will weigh in on those issues. Selectman Dombroski asked Selectwoman Butt if she expects the Board of Selectmen to weigh in on National Election questions. Selectwoman Butt answered on State issue ballot questions she does and she said she will be asking the Board at the next meeting to weigh in on the transgender vote that we as a Town vote yes. Selectman Dombroski stated that his objection has nothing to do with the name change, this is clearly policy. Selectman May agreed with Selectman Dombroski stating that policy issue is clearly a big deal and that at a prior Board of Selectmen meeting Board Members voted unanimously for the name change and that he will be voting with Selectman Dombroski. Selectman Falvey withdrew his motion and suggested to change the beginning of the letter to "The undersigned members..." instead of "As members...". Selectman Falvey motioned to accept the letter with the change as stated and for the Board Members to have their names listed on the bottom of the letter. Selectman Longo seconded. Motion passed 4-2-0 with Selectman Falvey, Selectman Longo, Selectwoman Santos and Selectwoman Butt voting in favor. Selectman Dombroski and Selectman May voting against the motion.

**Presentation
/ Action Item
– Board of
Selectmen
Resolution**

Town Administrator Stephen Maio thanked Selectman Longo, Selectwoman Butt and Selectwoman Santos for weighing in on the Board of Selectmen Resolution regarding gun control. Mr. Maio stated that the Resolution was somewhat modeled after another community. Selectman Longo stated that he was the one who suggested that the members of congress be added because they are the ones that represent us in Washington. Selectman Falvey motioned to adopt the Resolution and send it to those addressed. Selectman Longo seconded. Selectwoman Butt pointed out the Senator Moulten's name be corrected. Selectman May suggested that something be mentioned regarding mental illness. Selectman Falvey stated that he thinks just because mental illness is not mentioned it is not missing but he has no issue with it being added. Selectman Dombroski's understanding of a Resolution is an issue that is almost universally

supported and this is a very complicated issue. He is absolutely concerned with not only the safety of school children here in Town but the residents here in Town. Looking at the Resolution presented tonight it looks like the language in essence is saying these are the answers to this problem, and Selectman Dombroski doesn't know that to be the case. We need to find better ways in which we can have better control over these incidents so that they diminish in number when talking about banning guns said Selectman Dombroski. I am not sure this Resolution is the answer. We have resources in Town for example the Police Chief who speaks with other Police Chief's across the country on this subject and they are the ones who are able to communicate with the administration what the issues are as they see them. I know enough to know that I don't know enough about this issue stated Selectman Dombroski. Selectman May suggested that since this Resolution does not have a timetable the Board can wait. Selectman Falvey suggested to send the Resolution as is because this Board needs to show leadership. Selectman May added that he is fine with the Resolution if a clause can be added about mental health. Selectman Longo said that this Board is the governing body of the Town and he can't believe that the Board is having this debate. Selectman Dombroski said yes we are the governing body but we also represent all of Wakefield and this is a very controversial issue. Half of the Wakefield students did walk out of school that day, but half did not because they were opposed of the walkout. He just wants to make sure that if the Board is going to be inclusive in this community that they are inclusive. He agrees that something needs to be done but what steps the government needs to do to achieve that is above his paygrade. He suggested that the language be much broader and not prescribe what needs to be done. Selectman Dombroski asked if the Police Chief has weighed in on this and suggested if he had not that the Board run this by him. Selectwoman Santos stated that she has had many conversation on every one of these points with the Police Chief and he agrees with her on every one of those points. She stated there is a motion and a second on the floor and to stop nickel and diming this and just vote. Selectman Dombroski said that Wakefield has a Chief of Police that is literally at the forefront of this issue and asked why he hasn't been involved with this Resolution is beyond him. Selectwoman Santos stated that she had a detailed conversation with him about all of these issues. Selectman Dombroski added that is not his understanding as he spoke with the Police Chief before the meeting and he stated that he has not spoken with any Board member. Selectwoman Santos replied that the Chief Smith has clearly forgotten the conversation. Selectwoman Butt added that part of the Resolution was there are students asking what can be done and this was a response to them. Town Administrator Maio said that if the Board approves he will add in to the Resolution "including expanded review of those suffering from mental illness". Selectman May agreed. Selectman Dombroski said that the Board is missing the bigger issue. The bigger issue isn't mental health in connection with being able to acquire a weapon the issue is proactively addressing issues of mental health so that there aren't people with mental health issues not getting treatment that they need and then going out seeking weapons. He went on to say that mental health should be in the forefront of the Resolution. Selectwoman Butt and Selectwoman Santos disagreed stating that this is a gun Resolution. Selectman May agreed with Selectman Dombroski that not addressing the mental health issue is only address half of the Resolution. He went on to say that it is not just about guns it is about mental health. Selectman Falvey withdrew his motion and Selectman Longo with the second. Selectman Falvey motioned to add the mental health

language as suggested by the Town Administrator to the as written Resolution and send it out. Selectman Longo seconded. Motion passed 6-0-0.

Selectman Falvey left the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

**Presentation
/ Action Item
– Article 2 –
Capital
Planning**

Shaun Margerison, Chair of the Capital Planning Committee appeared before the Board and presented a PowerPoint regarding Article 2 of the Annual Town Meeting of April 30, 2018. Mr. Margerison Shaun stated that the Capital Planning Committee started with 8 million dollars' worth of requests and the committee was able to get it down to 2 million dollars.

Selectman Falvey rejoined the meeting at 7:48 p.m. during the presenting of Article 2.

Selectman May left the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Selectman May rejoined the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

**Presentation
/ Action Item
– Debt
Service Fund
Article**

Town Administrator Stephen P. Maio presented the Debt Service Fund Article in the amount of \$4.5 million dollars (approved with the approval of the warrant).

**Presentation
/ Action Item
– Municipal
Gas and Light
Department
Article**

Town Administrator Stephen P. Maio presented the Municipal Gas and Light Department Article in the amount of \$891,145.00 (approved with the approval of the warrant).

**Presentation
/ Action Item
– Public
Safety
Building
Article**

Town Administrator Stephen P. Maio presented the Public Safety Building Article in the amount of \$8,000,000.00 (approved with the approval of the warrant).

**Presentation
/ Action Item
– Fire
Department
Deficiency**

Town Administrator Stephen P. Maio presented the Fire Department Deficiency Article in the amount of \$165,000.00 (approved with the approval of the warrant).

**Presentation
/ Action Item
– Senior Tax
Exemption**

Town Administrator Stephen P. Maio presented the Senior Tax Exemption Article in which this would allow seniors to remain in their homes as long as they meet the State criteria and the Town criteria for this program.

**Presentation
/ Action Item
– Rail to Trail**

Town Administrator Stephen P. Maio presented the Rail to Trail Article stating that this article will allow the Town to go forward and enter into an agreement with the MBTA before the Massachusetts Department of Transportation will

proceed with the completion of the design phase.

**Presentation
/ Action Item
– Northeast
Vocational
Budget**

Selectman Longo motioned to accept the Northeast Vocational School Budget in the amount of \$1,285,821.00 as presented by Town Administrator Stephen P. Maio. Selectwoman Santos seconded. Motion passed 6-0-0.

**Presentation
/ Action Item
– Wakefield
Public
Schools
Budget**

Superintendent Kimberly Smith appeared before the Board to present the Wakefield Schools Budget. The Selectmen thanked Ms. Smith for her years of service to the Town as she will be retiring at the end of the school year.

**Warrant
Review and
Signing**

Selectman Longo signed Warrant #36 dated March 6, 2018; Warrant #37 dated March 13, 2018; Warrant #38 dated March 20, 2018; Warrant #39 dated March 27, 2018 and Warrant #40 dated April 3, 2018.

**Matters Not
Anticipated
By The
Chair Within
48 Hours of
Meeting**

Selectwoman Butt – Albion Cultural Exchange had a great Arts in Bloom; on Saturday there was a bench dedication for domestic violence; this week is National Library Week

Selectwoman Santos – we can be non-unanimous in a vote and still be a complete Board

Selectman Dombroski – The Gator Gallop was this past Saturday and congratulations; there was a dedication of a bench on Saturday for domestic violence and it was very moving

Selectman Longo – had a great time at the International Festival at the Galvin Friday night; giving credit to the first timers running for Election

Selectman Falvey – Brightview has a great facility; the Town does a great job in representing the whole population

Selectman May – this is a great Board; FOLQ Spring Cleanup is April 14, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.; Earth Day is April 22, 2018; the Annual Dinner Meeting at Bear Hill is May 23, 2018

Town Administrator Maio – there is an Age Friendly Survey that is online and that can be picked up at the Senior Center and Town Hall; the AARP may have some grant opportunities; talking with surrounding communities regarding Remote Participation and he will bring this back at a future meeting; thank you to the Board for putting the hours in during budget time

Town Council – has the Town Administrator's Contract that needs to be signed by the Board

**Next Board
Meeting**

The next regular Board of Selectmen meeting is scheduled for April 23, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the WCAT Studio, 24 Hemlock Road

Adjournment At 9:12 p.m. Selectwoman Santos motioned to adjourn. Selectman Falvey seconded. Motion passed 6-0-0

Respectfully submitted,



Sherri A. Dalton
Sherri A. Dalton, Executive Assistant