

TOWN CLERK

MLD 5/19/21

MAY 13 2021



TOWN OF CHARLTON
Minutes of Regular Selectmen's Meeting
Tuesday, April 27, 2021, 6:30pm



COPY

Meeting held by ZOOM webinar, video participation: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87489442885>

Present: Chairman – Karen A. Spiewak, Vice-Chairman – Patsy Rydlak, Clerk – Stephen G. Koronis, Members – William Borowski and David Singer¹, Town Administrator – Andrew Golas and Student Selectman – Henry Weiland.

I. Call to Order:

Chairman Spiewak called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Due to COVID and meeting via ZOOM, all votes will be done by roll call vote.

II. Consent Agenda / Warrant Approval as Needed

- a. Reading of Agenda
- b. Minutes of Regular Meeting – April 13, 2021 at 6:30pm. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to approve the minutes of April 13, 2021, seconded by Mr. Koronis. Roll call vote: Mr. Borowski – aye, Ms. Rydlak – aye, Mr. Koronis – aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye.**

III. Community Relations, Announcements and Open Forum

- Chairman Spiewak read the announcements
- Mr. Borowski stated that this is Chairman Spiewak's last meeting. He also said it's the season to ride motorcycles and reminded everyone that grass clippings are like ice. Please do not put in roads. He asked Mr. Golas to remind the Highway Department as well that this is something we need to be on the lookout for.
- Ms. Rydlak thanked Chairman Spiewak for her work. She said she has been a role model to her and she will be missed. Mr. Koronis concurred.

IV. Appointments/Resignation:

- 1. Appointments – Old Home Day Committee – Mr. Golas stated that Kathleen Walker, Chairman of the Old Home Day Committee has asked the Board to appoint the following to the Old Home Day Committee:

James Pervier

Terri Gough

Gerry Doble

Craig Bellisario

Ex-Officio – Chief Dan Dowd

She had also requested that Selectman Rydlak be appointed but in reviewing the Conflict of Interest Law for Selectmen, it does not permit the appointment. He would recommend the board make the appointments. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to make the appointments, seconded by Ms. Rydlak. Roll**

¹ Mr. Singer entered the meeting at 6:39pm

call vote: Mr. Koronis – aye, Mr. Borowski – aye, Ms. Rydlak – aye, Mr. Singer – aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye.

2. Appointment – Conservation Agent – Mr. Golas stated as the Board is aware, Todd Girard recently retired from his position as Conservation Agent after an extended absence. Four applications were received for this position with one possessing the qualifications for the position. An interview for the position with the qualified applicant was conducted with Acting Conservation Agent Rose Conway, HR Director Lynn Dyer & myself. Following consideration of the candidates, we highly recommend the Board appoint Angela Panaccione to this position. This is a 40 hour per week salaried position at an hourly rate of \$30.18. He would recommend the Board make the appointment. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to appoint Angela Panaccione as the Conservation Agent, seconded by Ms. Rydlak. Roll call vote: Mr. Singer – aye, Mr. Borowski – aye, Mr. Koronis – aye, Ms. Rydlak – aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye.**
3. Appointment – Finance Director in Transition – Mr. Golas stated that as the Board is aware, Finance Director Donna Foglio has submitted her notice of retirement this upcoming September. In order to ensure a smooth transition of this critical office, we conducted an immediate search for her successor to train under her direction through to her retirement. Three applications were received for this position. Interviews were conducted with Finance Director Donna Foglio, Member of the Finance Committee Kristen Lemire, HR Director Lynn Dyer and myself. Following consideration of the candidates, we highly recommend the Board appoint Ashley Obrzut to this position. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to make the appointment, seconded by Mr. Singer.** Ms. Rydlak is concerned we don't have the municipal certification yet for this person. Mr. Koronis agrees and asked if she will be getting her certification. Mr. Golas said she will be getting her certification in May and the vote could be contingent upon that. After discussion, **roll call vote: Mr. Koronis – aye, Mr. Borowski – aye, Ms. Rydlak – aye, Mr. Singer – aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye.**
4. Resignation – Part Time Building Inspector – Mr. Golas stated that attached is a letter from William LePage resigning his position as Part Time Building Inspector effective May 30, 2021. A letter thanking him for his service has been prepared and is in your sign folder. The Board should accept his resignation. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to accept Mr. LePage's resignation with regret, seconded by Ms. Rydlak. Roll call vote: Mr. Koronis – aye, Mr. Borowski – aye, Mr. Singer – aye, Ms. Rydlak – aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye.**

V. Scheduled Appointments:

7:00pm – Blue Water Property Group & Bay Colony Property Group Public Information Presentation on Zoning Height Change Requests in the BEP and Industrial Zones on Town Meeting. Mr. Golas stated that Blue Water Property Group & Bay Colony Property Group representing a proposed development project at 53 Sturbridge Road have requested time on your meeting to provide public information relative to the Planning Board's proposed zoning height amendments in the BEP and Industrial zones on the Town Meeting warrant. The proposed amendments would allow for a building height up to 110' in the BEP zone and 75' in the Industrial zone. Heights higher than 50' up to the proposed heights would only be allowed on parcels larger than 75 acres, would be required to conform to 3 times the normal setback limits, and would be subject to a Special Permit from the Planning Board. Mark Donahue from Fletcher and Tilton representing Bay Colony and Blue Water will be presenting to the Board to advocate for the zoning height amendment. Mr. Donahue provided a presentation (attached) to explain what is being proposed. Mr. Singer said he hopes the Planning Board knows this is before the board tonight since this is under the complete authority of the Planning Board. He asked questions that were answered. He also reminded everyone that this is a citizen's petition and the Planning Board has not taken any action on this as of now. Other questions were answered. Chairman Spiewak thanked them for the

presentation and for explaining what they are doing.

VI. New Business:

1. 2021 Scholarship Awards – Mr. Golas stated that the scholarships awarded by the Board of Selectmen are Jessie Smith, Nehemiah Stone, and Edwin Phillips Cooking Fund. The Colby Scholarship recipient is chosen by the Colby family members. There are not enough funds in this scholarship at this time. Two scholarship applications were received for the Jessie Smith Scholarship and they both qualify as they are within the district guidelines of the scholarship. One scholarship application was received for Nehemiah B. Stone. As in the past, when the motion is made to award the scholarship, the students name is not revealed. The motion should be made to include the number of the applicant(s). The award is based on the interest earned for each scholarship. The scholarships will be awarded to the student directly which will help with the purchase of books and supplies. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to award the 2021 Jessie Smith Scholarship to applicant’s #1 and #2 in the amount of \$100.00 each and to award the 2021 Nehemiah B. Stone Scholarship to applicant #3 in the amount of \$250.00, seconded by Mr. Singer. Roll call vote: Mr. Borowski – aye, Mr. Singer – aye, Ms. Rydlak – aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye.**
2. Town Administrator Evaluation – Mr. Golas stated that at the last Board of Selectmen’s meeting, the Board was asked to conduct the annual Town Administrator evaluation for the period of April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021. He provided performance reviews by each member of the Board. The written evaluation was divided into seven categories with each item rated accordingly as follows:
5 – Excellent/Highly Commendable
4 – Strong Performance
3 – Satisfactory/Acceptable
2 – Needs Improvement
1 – Unsatisfactory

A summary of the ratings provided is as follows:

Board Relations	Personnel	Financial Management	General Management	Community				
Relations	Dept/Gov. Relations	Support BOS Goals	Overall					
K. Spiewak	4	5	4	4	5	5	5	4.6
P. Rydlak	4	3	4	4	5	3	5	4.0
S. Koronis	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	4.8
B. Borowski	4	4	5	5	5	4	4	4.3
D. Singer	5	4	5	5	3	5	5	4.6
Average	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.8	4.5

He would like to thank the Board for their support over this past year. He is very thankful to work for a board that exemplifies professionalism and is truly a pleasure to work with. Board members commended Mr. Golas.

VII. Old Business:

1. Four Score - Change in Ownership Consent – Mr. Golas said it’s still before legal counsel. He should have it for the next meeting.

VIII. BOS Committee Reports

1. CMRPC – Ms. Rydlak & Mr. Borowski – No update
2. Economic Development Commission – Mr. Koronis – They haven’t met but he would encourage any Economic Development members to watch the Planning Board meetings particularly the topics that we were talking about earlier.
3. Fire Station Building Committee – Chairman Spiewak said they aren’t meeting until tomorrow.
4. LNG Committee – Ms. Rydlak

5. Marijuana Advisory Committee – Ms. Rydlak & Mr. Koronis – Ms. Rydlak said there was a meeting right before this and it was only about Four Score. Green Gold is having steady sales and are doing good.
6. Sex Offender Bylaw Committee – Mr. Singer said it is still planned for the fall.
7. Stipend Advisory Committee – Mr. Borowski said this can come off the agenda after town meeting.

IX. BOS Policy Review

X. BOS Goals & Objectives

XI. Student Selectperson Report: Henry Weiland reviewed his report. Mr. Borowski said he would love to see the pro's and con's from Mr. Weiland on keeping a student representative from Shepherd Hill as opposed to someone from Bay Path.

XII. Town Administrator Report. Mr. Golas reviewed his report. He thanked Chairman Spiewak and said how much of a pleasure it's been to work with her. Mr. Singer said regarding Chief Dowd's comments, he would like to extend his gratitude to the personnel involved. He also wished Chairman Spiewak the best and that she would be missed. Chairman Spiewak thanked everyone.

XIII. Other Business (unknown at time of posting) – Mr. Golas asked the board if they wanted to hold the next meeting in person, via zoom or hybrid? Mr. Borowski recommended doing the next meeting via zoom as it's short and take it from there. The board agreed.

XIV. Next Meeting Announcement:

- BOS Regular Meeting – May 4, 2021, 6:30pm – via ZOOM or Hybrid

XV. Adjourn – **Motion by Mr. Borowski to enter into executive session at 7:46pm under M.G.L. c. 30A, Sec. 21(a), #3 – to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation (Lachance) if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares and to reconvene to open session for any other business if needed, and to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Rydlak. The chair so declares. Roll call vote: Mr. Borowski – aye, Mr. Singer – aye, Mr. Koronis – aye, Ms. Rydlak - aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye.**

Motion by Mr. Borowski to adjourn at 8:33pm, seconded by Mr. Koronis. Roll call vote: Ms. Rydlak – aye, Mr. Borowski – aye, Mr. Koronis – aye, Mr. Singer - aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye.

Submitted by:


Mary C. Devlin

Administrative Assistant


Accepted by:

Karen A. Spiewak, Chairman

Stephen G. Koronis, Clerk



Patsy Rydlak, Vice-Chairperson



David M. Singer, Member



William Borowski, Member

Charlton Board of Selectmen

April 27, 2021

Selectstudent Report

By: Henry Weiland

A. School Transition

- a. On Monday, April 26th 2021, the district completely returned to full, in-person learning for the entirety of the district
 - i. This includes all grade levels, even at the high school
- b. There are no more asynchronous online classes; every class is in person

B. Shepherd Hill

- a. Shepherd Hill begun its final transition after returning from April vacation this past week
 - i. Students have all 6 periods each day
 - ii. Lunch is held in the cafeteria, with individual desks spaced out to ensure social distancing
 1. Free lunches are provided to students throughout the end of the year
 - iii. Students are seated three-feet away in the classroom, the same system as was in place with the half-day models
 - iv. The school added a seventh period, returning to its traditional seven-bloc schedule
 1. Every senior has senior privileges last period, meaning they can leave earlier (1:17) to avoid parking lot jams at the end of the day
 2. This also allows teacher a prep period, as dictated under their contracts

b. Reactions

- i. Though weary of continuous transitions and a long year of adaptations, most are glad to see the most normal routine since the commencement of COVID last year
- ii. More teachers and students are vaccinated, so the COVID hesitation also seems to be receding

C. Senior Activities

- a. Administration is placing senior activities at the forefront at the end of the year agenda as Mr. Chaplin is presenting to the School Committee tomorrow, April 28th, about planned activities
 - i. There still remains much uncertainty as to the plausibility of events and capacity numbers, but a general framework remains in place
- b. Prom is back on and planned for Thursday, May 27th at the new Polar Park in Worcester
 - i. As of now, there is a 140 student limit, prompting the usage of a lottery to determine who can go
 1. Those who cannot go will be given priority to other senior events, such as the senior banquet
 - ii. Only seniors can attend, with no outside dates or students of any other grade level
 - iii. Dancing will be prohibited, but a meal will still be served
- c. Senior Banquet is slated for Friday, May 21st at Wachusett Mountain
 - i. The general framework is still being planned, and there is likely to be another capacity limit
- d. Liam Coleman, a local musician who is heading to Nashville next year, is performing in the school parking lot this Friday, April 30th to the entire senior class during the sunset
 - i. Food trucks will also be at the event
 - ii. Students will park their cars in staggered parking spots

- e. Graduation is still being planned for June 6th, all depending on state guidelines and capacity limits
- f. Separate from those paramount events, there is still the status quo senior BBQ along with a senior pep rally, breakfast, and parade

D. Extracurriculars

- a. As in-person learning returns, activities and extracurriculars are returning concurrently as students interact more with each other
- b. Spring sports started this Monday, April 26th, with spring track, wrestling, baseball, softball, and lacrosse beginning
 - i. Competitions are slated to begin in early May, and most are hopeful for end of the year state tournaments through the MIAA
- c. The music department continues to compete in virtual competitions, earning grand champions at one and best vocals at another
 - i. They have their first in-person competition on May 8th at Waltham High School
 - 1. The competition will be outside with ample safety measures in place

E. Miscellaneous

- a. The National Honor Society inducted its new sophomore members on Wednesday, April 14th with a drive-by induction at Shepherd Hill
 - i. They are also finishing their final end of the year fundraiser, along with planning a cornhole tournament slated for Thursday, May 13th
- b. Shepherd Hill is conducting AP exams the next two weeks, allowing students to earn credit for their college curriculum courses
- c. Though MCAS was waived for the junior class as a graduation requirement, Shepherd Hill is still hosting the test for juniors and current sophomores
- d. Be on the lookout for the senior yard signs throughout Charlton residences where parents are excited to honor their seniors!



Town of Charlton

OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Andrew M. Golas, Town Administrator

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Andrew Golas, Town Administrator
DATE: April 12, 2021
SUBJECT: Town Administrator's Report – for Selectmen's meeting of 4/27/2021

First of all, I would like to acknowledge two former public safety officials who recently passed away. Retired Charlton Police Officer Alvin Stone of Charlton and retired Charlton Fire Fighter Ronald Rivett also of Charlton. Both men served the community with pride and distinction and will be dearly missed by the departments that they left.

Chief Dowd has asked that Three Charlton Police employees be recognized for exemplary performance the other morning (04/17/21). An organized Ct street gang has been plaguing Ct. Mass and RI for almost 24 months. Young adults and older kids from Hartford routinely steal cars in Ct. and then drive to Mass . Once in Mass they target rural areas for unlocked cars and their contents. These crimes take place in the early hours, while victims are usually sleeping. Suspects will then steal a car while in Mass and head back to Hartford with any obtained pirate booty. These thefts have gotten more serious and brazen. Some firearms have been stolen from motor vehicles, so we know these suspects may have firearms. When pursued the suspects have little regard for the cars they're attempting to allude police with and often crash.

On April 17th at 5:01 am Dispatcher Shawna Tankersley, officers Brian Cardrant and Anthony Gribbons were working the overnight shift. They learned of a stolen car coming out of Brookfield within 5 minutes of being stolen. Officer Gribbons located the vehicle at a business on Rte 20 as the suspect was fleeing on foot.

Dispatcher Tankersley was instrumental in correcting some misinformation and getting officers to the scene. Sturbridge Police , MSP and Charlton Police then established a perimeter, while awaiting a K9 response. The MSP K9 was quickly able to locate the 17 year old responsible for this theft.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work, dedication and potential danger the Police Department personnel exposed themselves to. These men and women are deserving of recognition for a job well done.