

The following Meeting was video and audio recorded for Airing on Channel 9

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, June 22, 2022 6:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting

Old Town Hall, 111 Somerset Avenue, Dighton, MA

And via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Chairman Hull.

Chairman Hull gave the Zoom login information and information for submitting public input.

Roll Call:

Selectman Pacheco, present.

Selectman Caron, present.

Selectman Hull, present.

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was **VOTED** to enter into Executive Session, under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3)(7)

3. To discuss strategy with regard to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares

a. Rachel Rose vs. Town of Dighton

b. Dighton Firefighter's Local 4332

7. To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.

Selectman Caron, aye.

Selectman Pacheco, aye.

Regular Meeting-Called Back to Order

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it **VOTED** to call the meeting back to order at 6:27 P.M.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.

Selectman Pacheco, aye.

Selectman Caron aye.

Proclamation for LGBTQ Month

Chairman Hull read the Proclamation.

TOWN CLERK
DIGHTON, MA
BY *pyt*

2022 AUG -8 PM 2:30

RECEIVED

Public Input

None.

Announcements

Announcement were read by Selectman Pacheco.

Town Administrators' Report

Town Administrator Mullen said the last few weeks have been focused on year-end closeout efforts.

He said we are also in the process of closing out the \$151,000.00 ADA Grant. He said we found out we were awarded the grant in December. Mr. Mullen said Jim Aguiar Jonathan Gale, Kevin Smith and Tom Ferry. He also thanked the Highway Department employees. Mr. Mullen said we are on track to meet the June 30th deadline.

Mr. Mullen said over the last few weeks, we have been moving forward with the acquisition of 207 Main Street. We expect to close on the property the week of July 18, 2022.

Old Business

Massasoit Homeowners Association Update

Chairman Hull said last night we had an informal meeting between Homeowner's Association members, town officials and the public. He said we all came out with a to do list and we will meet again in a couple of weeks.

Chairman Hull said going forward it would be a joint effort. He said the Water Commissioners will meet this Friday to discuss this. He said the Fire Chief has given his blessing on the possibility of a gate.

Chairman Hull said one of the concerns we had was land. He said there were a couple of possibilities. Chairman Hull said we want to be sure all of the i's are dotted and the t's are crossed with regard to the landowners and it appears that the Homeowner's Association will have to take some ownership of that.

Selectman Caron said he was looking forward to some spirited discussions with regard to that subject.

Chairman Hull attended the Water District monthly meeting. He said due to the inability of the suppliers to provide materials in a timely fashion, the Main Street project will not begin until September.

Chairman Hull said with regard to the D-R High School Graduation, it was a beautiful ceremony. He thanked Dr. Azar, Principal Gould, and the Police Departments in Dighton and Rehoboth. Chairman Hull said Sheriff Hodgson and his team also came to the graduation and their presence was appreciated. He thanked Chief MacDonald, Lt. Shawn Cronin and their staff as well.

New Business:

Rachel Rose vs. Town of Dighton

Attorney Matt Costa said Chapter 111F governs payment to public safety officers when they are injured. He said after reviewing all of the possible outcomes, we were able to reach a position that is acceptable to both sides. Attorney Costa said, as legal counsel to the Town, their office was recommending that the settlement be accepted. He felt it was a reasonable resolution.

Chairman Hull said he thought the board was ready to make a recommendation.

Selectman Pacheco said he was involved in the case from the beginning. He thought it was fair and he was glad it was being settled.

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was **VOTED** to approve the proposed settlement agreement between the Town of Dighton and Rachel Rose in the amount of \$25,000.00.

Mr. Mullen said as a follow up there is a transfer request to fund the settlement,

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was **VOTED** to go to agenda item 2b. Police Department Transfer Request.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.

Selectman Pacheco, aye.

Selectman Caron, aye.

End of Year Budget Transfer Request

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was **VOTED** to approve the inter-departmental transfer request from the Police Department Personnel Account Salary – Overtime Officers #010-0-210-0000-50-5106 to the Settlement Account #010-0-940-0000-70-5762 in the amount of \$25,000.00.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.

Selectman Pacheco, aye.

Selectman Caron, aye.

Inter-Departmental Transfers

Board of Health

Board of Health \$500.00 from Professional and Technical to Overtime, to cover overtime expenses resulting from CARES ACT funding deficit.

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was **VOTED** to approve the transfer in the amount of \$500.00 to the Overtime Additional Hours budget.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.

Selectman Pacheco, aye.

Selectman Caron, aye.

Collective Bargaining Agreement Between Town of Dighton and Dighton Firefighter's Local 4332

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was **VOTED** to table the item.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.

Selectman Pacheco, aye.

Selectman Caron, aye.

Vacation Carryover Requests

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was **VOTED** to approve the vacation carryover requests as presented and requested this evening.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.
Selectman Pacheco, aye.
Selectman Caron, aye.

Appointments

Mr. Mullen said there is a typographical error in the Cannabis Policy Advisory Committee. The appointment of Robert Woods should be valid through June 30, 2024.

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was **VOTED** to reappoint Robert Woods to the Cannabis Advisory Committee from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.
Selectman Pacheco, aye.
Selectman Caron, aye.

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was **VOTED** to table the appointment of Stormwater Committee members and allow current members to continue in their current positions.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.
Selectman Pacheco, aye.
Selectman Caron, aye.

Selectman Pacheco motioned to re-appoint all board members and committee members as presented this evening.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.
Selectman Pacheco, aye.
Selectman Caron, aye.

Appointment of Charlene Bonefant

Board of Health Chairman Barbara Catabia said many were interviewed. Ms. Bonefant has a long list of credentials on her resume. She is a Dighton resident who is employed by the City of Taunton. She has experience in grant writing and budgeting as well.

Chairman Hull read the letter of recommendation from the Board of Health.

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was **VOTED** to appoint Charlene Bonefant to the Board of Health Commencing July 1, 2022.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.

Selectman Pacheco, aye.

Selectman Caron, aye.

Dighton Trails Feasibility Study Contract Between Town of Dighton and Horsley Witten Group

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was VOTED to table this item.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.

Selectman Pacheco, aye.

Selectman Caron, aye.

Facilities Request-Second Annual Firecracker Festival

Chairman Hull read the flyer with details of events planned for July 9, 2022.

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was **VOTED** to approve the Facilities Reservation Request for Karl Spratt field as presented by Parks and Recreation Chairman Kevin Smith, Jr.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.

Selectman Pacheco, aye.

Selectman Caron, aye.

Recognition of Town Accountant Janelle Vining

Chairman Hull congratulated Janelle for all of her hard work in achieving this award. He also announced that Janelle Vining would be resigning from her position with the town. Chairman Hull read the letter of resignation.

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was **VOTED** to accept the resignation with thanks and regret.

Selectman Pacheco said she will be missed. He said we were fortunate to have her in the town.

Selectman Caron agreed.

Chairman Hull said Ms. Vining has helped us to update the Accounting Department.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.

Selectman Pacheco, aye.

Selectman Caron, aye.

Correspondence

Letter from D-R School Superintendent Dr. Azar to Dighton residents regarding FY21 Excess and Deficiency was read into the record by Chairman Hull.

Selectman Pacheco said we have already paid this money.

Mr. Mullen said this money would be coming in the form of a check that is anticipated to turn into Free Cash. He said the FY23 assessments were already approved within the budgets.

Mr. Mullen said Town Meeting approved funding the Feasibility Study in the amount of \$150,000.00 from Stabilization to be backfilled to the stabilization account. That will be the first order of business at fall town meeting.

Chairman Hull said It will be Mr. Runey's mission to continue the work of Dr. Azar to make our schools safe. He will be looking into systems for increased security

Warrants

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was **VOTED** to approve Warrant #50A-22 in the amount of \$113,771.16 and Warrant #50B-22 in the amount of \$123,747.25 both dated June 15, 2022.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.

Selectman Pacheco, aye.

Selectman Caron, aye.

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was **VOTED** to approve Warrant #51A-22 in the amount of \$110,165.39 and Warrant #51B-22 in the amount of \$191,408.31 both dated June 22, 2022.

51A-51B

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.

Selectman Pacheco, aye.

Selectman Caron, aye.

Public Input

David Marvill, 102 Forest Street, said Nathan Conti's last day was today with the Cable Committee. He wished Nathan well.

Nathan Conti, 234 Lincoln Avenue, said it was interesting to see how town government works. He thanked his co-workers for showing him the ropes.

Adjournment

Selectman Pacheco motioned, Selectman Caron seconded and it was **VOTED** to adjourn at 7:28 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Hull, aye.

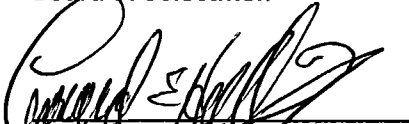
Selectman Caron, aye.

Selectman Pacheco, aye.

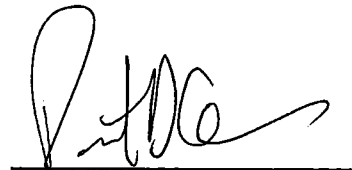
Respectfully submitted,

Karin L. Brady
Executive Assistant


Board of Selectmen



Leonard E. Hull, Jr., Chairman



Peter D. Caron, Clerk



Kenneth J. Pacheco, Member

Documents Reviewed:

Police Department Transfer Request

LGBTQ Proclamation

Household Hazardous Waste Day Flyer

Vacation Carryover Requests:

James Aguiar
Lisa Caledonia
Leeanne Kerwin
Todd Pilling
Stephanie Schecter
Janelle Vining
Mark Carr
Lisa Dagesse
Christina France
Rosalind Grassie
Rebecca Mello
Nancy Pinto
Nicholas Reynolds
Pamela Tenglin
Lisa Tetreault
Valerie Wilson

Letter from Michael Mullen regarding Stormwater Appointments

List of Boards and Committee Appointments

Recommendation Letter from the Board of Health for Charlene Bonefant

Facility Reservation Request for Karl Spratt Field from Parks and Recreation

Recognition of Janelle Vining for CGA Certification

Letter from Superintendent Anthony Azar regarding Excess and Deficiency

Letter of Resignation from Janelle Vining as Town Accountant