

TOWN OF IPSWICH
Select Board Meeting as Water and Sewer Commissioners
March 6, 2023 at 7:00 PM
Ipswich Town Hall, Meeting Room A
25 Green St. Ipswich, MA

Pursuant to Open Meeting Law M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §§ 18-25, a written notice posted by the Town Clerk and delivered to all Board members, a meeting of the Select Board was held on Monday, March 6, 2023, 7:00 PM at Town Hall, 25 Green Street.

Select Board Members present: William Whitmore, Chair, Sarah Player, Vice Chair, Linda Alexson, Kerry Mackin

Also present: Stephen Crane, Town Manager, Sarah Johnson, Finance Director

With a quorum present, the Chair called the meeting to order.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Announcements – W. Whitmore

- Sarah announced the MBTA 3A Task Force is having its first public forum on Wednesday, March 22nd at 6:30.

3. Citizens Queries – W. Whitmore

- Jane Mosco, 24 Meadowview Lane, expressed concern about the School Committee’s decision to eliminate theater classes at the high school. She understands that the Select Board does not look at line items in the budget, but she feels it is important for the board to do so in this budget. Ipswich has students that go on to study theater in college and pursue careers in theater. It would be a grave disservice to eliminate that opportunity for future students. Jane also noted the district’s reason for eliminating the classes, which was low enrollment. However, many students claim they would have taken a theater class if they were able to fit it in their schedule. Jane also said the savings from cutting this class is \$37k, which is a very small portion of the school budget. William clarified that the Select Board can look at line items if they want to, but they don’t have any decision-making power over the school budget.
- Mark Allman, 68 High St., discussed the process and rationale for the theater class being cut. He encouraged the board to ask probing questions and follow-up questions when presented with the school budget.
- Kathleen O’Sullivan-Fortin, 6 Buttonwood Lane, addressed some of the responses from the school committee regarding this topic. One response was that it can always be added back, which Kathleen commented that it is unlikely that the school would have extra money to do so. Another response was that students can participate in theater after school. Kathleen noted that not all students are able to participate in an after-school theater programming due to other activities, after-school jobs, or family obligations.

4. Boards and Committees – W. Whitmore

a. Alan Thibeault, New Appointment Cultural Council

Alan Thibeault, 12 Ipswich Woods Drive, moved to Ipswich 3 years ago. He was drawn to Ipswich because of the beach, the cultural community, and arts. Alan said he would like to contribute to the community and give back.

- Motion to appoint Alan Thibeault to the Cultural Council, made by Sarah, seconded by Linda.

→ *Motion passed unanimously, 4-0*

b. Haley Mosher, Current Associate Requesting Regular Membership on Zoning Board of Appeals

- Motion to appoint Haley Mosher as a regular member of the ZBA, made by Linda, seconded by Sarah.

→ *Motion passed unanimously, 4-0*

5. Change of Officers/Directors Application for Annual Off-Premise Package Store Wine and Malt License from Cumberland Farms of Massachusetts 6681, 66 Turnpike Rd. – W. Whitmore

Tyler Henseler, associate from Upton, Connell & Devlin, LLP in Boston, represents Cumberland Farms, and said he is here today for a change of officer. Tyler summarized the change, they are removing George Fournier as president and director, and adding Caroline Taitelbaum as the president. They are also removing John Daily as assistant treasurer, and replacing him with Mark Rudnick. Nothing here in Ipswich will change.

- Motion to accept the proposed change, made by Linda, seconded by Sarah.

→ *Motion passed unanimously, 4-0*

6. Shade Tree Beautification Committee Native Plant Policy Draft Presentation – W. Whitmore

Janet Craft, 62 East Street, Chair of Shade Tree and Beautification Committee, presented a new policy for native plants to the Board. The tree subcommittee has worked to research all of the trees and created a template to help anyone who is interested in planting trees in Ipswich. They also have a document that lists the state's invasive trees that are not recommended for planting. Janet read the document and the recommendation, and requested that the board adopt the policy.

Sarah asked if these lists are available somewhere to the town, Janet said that is the hope and she believes if the Select Board supports it, it will be on the town website. Sarah also asked about the exceptions mentioned in the document and asked who would decide when an exception should be given. Janet said some of the towns they researched have very prescriptive policies and the committee would like to steer clear of being too strict for two reasons; they don't have a large staff in town to enforce the policy, and there are some circumstances where a non-native species of tree would be okay. Janet said they see it as their responsibility to educate homeowners and encourage people to make good decisions for the town. Linda asked if they could circulate this to the Planning Board and the Zoning Board so this can be kept in mind for their projects as well. Stephen also thought that nurseries in the area should know about this, too. William asked how comprehensive the list is. Is it just some ideas, or are the trees on this list the only ones that are acceptable native species? Janet said this is it for now, and they are trying to focus on native New England trees. Linda expressed concern about protecting the trees and also safely eradicating invasive vines. Janet said they are working on that next. They are also working on installing rain barrels to be able to take care of the trees during droughts.

- Motion to approve the Shade Tree Beautification Committee's Native Plant Policy made by Sarah, seconded by Linda.

→ *Motion passed unanimously, 4-0*

7. School Committee Request for Ballot Question – K. Eliot

Kate Eliot, Chair of the Ipswich School Committee, and Emily Cannon, Vice Chair, request the support of the Select Board on a non-binding ballot question regarding the elementary school building project. The School Committee has spent a lot of time gathering data and listening to the community regarding the new elementary school. They commissioned a demographic study to look at future enrollment, and have looked at a lot of other MSBA projects in surrounding communities to look at costs and timelines. They also held two workshops to create a focused list of necessary elements for a new school, and to gather ideas for community collaboration and involvement. They will be submitting two statements of interest this April to the MSBA.

Kate then discussed the ballot question, which will ask residents which of four possible scenarios they would prefer. This will give the School Committee another data point to help guide their decisions. Limitations to this ballot question are that there are no costs or timelines associated with the options. The School Committee was very intentional with the language and had the town clerk and town counsel take a look and help with wording and formatting. Stephen noted that the statement of interest to the MSBA has to come to the Select Board first to approve, Kate said it will be ready soon.

Linda asked why there will be two statements of interest vs. just one, Kate explained they are for the two different schools. Sarah asked if it would be better to have the non-binding ballot question once we have the cost information, and warned that voting on the options with no cost information could weaken the data point. Emily said they want to get a feel for this now and then once they have feasibility and cost, they can ask another ballot question. This is just their way to tease out what people are interested in. Sarah expressed concern that there is not a choice for “none” or “all” which could muddy the waters and make the data point not as valuable. William said they are not voting on this tonight, and commented that he doesn’t want to go against what the School Committee wants to do. However, he doesn’t necessarily like the idea and although they are trying to gather information, getting someone’s ideal option with no cost or background information could be detrimental. The way to not have bad data used against you is to not accept bad data. Kate said she will update the School Committee with this feedback when they meet on Thursday. William asked when the deadline is for this and said it might be a good idea to discuss this at the Tri-Board meeting if it is possible. He stressed that they are all supportive of the school project and just want to make sure everything is done the right way to make it go smoothly.

8. Winter Rates and Use of the Rate Stabilization Fund – J. Blair

Jon Blair, Electric Light Department, gave a brief update on the winter rates. Last winter, they were facing some of the highest wholesale costs for electricity, which was concerning. They discussed using funds from the rate stabilization account which exists to help smooth some of the unforeseen volatility in the wholesale power market. It was a good use for it and it was warranted based on the market. Fortunately, they came through the year with lower rates than expected because they had a warm winter. They had asked for \$1.5M, they were authorized \$900k, and they have only needed to use \$300k so far. They won’t know the true cost for February until later this month, but John said he does not expect that they’ll need to draw any more from rate stabilization. Sarah asked, since the authorization is there, will we replace that \$300k? John said they don’t want to pull money out and then put it back, so right now they will progressively step down their wholesale component of the rates. They will come back in May for a formal vote to restore it back to rate stabilization.

9. PUBIC HEARING 2023 Annual Town Meeting Warrant

William read the legal notice.

- Motion to open the Public Hearing made by Linda, seconded by Kerry.

→ *Motion passed unanimously, 4-0*

Stephen said the two citizens petitions that are being sponsored by students will be earlier than usual just to respect the time.

Article 12: The Empower Act

This article allows any citizen who is 16 years of age and older and meets the qualifications to vote, to participate and vote in all town elections, meetings, town caucuses, and to sign any petitions. David Seaton, junior at Ipswich High School, introduced the citizens petition to lower the voting age for town votes to 16 years of age, and discussed reasons for this citizens petition. Young people ages 16 and 17 are able to drive on the roads, work in the town without restricted hours, and can legally determine the future of their education. Youth voting is far more common than people think, in

roughly 1/3 of the towns in MA, 17-year-olds are able to vote in primary presidential elections. Studies conducted in places that have youth voting have found that the towns' culture in civic literacy can be revived, and they also see increases in participation in town government. Allowing 16- and 17-year-olds to vote would allow them to elect the town's executive body and would allow for them to vote at town meeting and have a say in the town bylaws and the budget. This is an opportunity to guide the community forward and David asked the Select Board for their support.

William asked why this was submitted by Molly Smith, and asked who she is. David said Molly is a history and social studies teacher at Ipswich High School who has been helping David with this process. David is unable to submit it himself because he is under 18. Sarah said they will discuss this again at the hearing when they vote. William asked if this were to pass, would it take effect or is it not yet legal in MA. David said in order for this to officially go into effect, the state government would also have to vote on this. Linda asked if the state has granted this to any other communities in Ipswich, David said not yet but they are considering it.

Article 23: Town Government Study Committee Report to Town Meeting

Gary Champion, 3 Palamino Way, Chair of the Government Study Committee, presented the warrant article. This warrant article is a citizen's petition signed by 13 citizens that would like the GSC to make a report at the annual town meeting. This is also intended to allow town meeting to fulfill the requirement that town meeting will refer topics to the GSC, which is in the GSC bylaw.

William asked if this is a citizen's petition and not submitted by the GSC, Gary said correct. William asked if there is a report yet, Gary said they are working on one but it is in draft stage. Linda said she thought there was a report they wanted to present at town meeting. Gary said this article is encouraging and asking the GSC to make a report at this meeting in May. Gary is presenting this as a private citizen, not as a member of the GSC.

The second part of the article is for town meeting to refer topics to the GSC. William asked how Gary expects this to go at town meeting and expressed his confusion by this. William said the concept of the GSC going out to town meeting and soliciting work to do is not how it was intended and doesn't make sense. Sarah said it is not the GSC seeking that, it is a citizen's petition. Stephen said someone could submit a citizen petition to suggest a topic for the GSC, but they can't just shout it out. Topics have to be on the warrant. Gary said he does not agree with their interpretation of the bylaw, and he is not suggesting that this warrant article could lead to changing the bylaw of the warrant article. It stays within the four corners because it says that town meeting will refer topics. That's why the petitioners feel that this is a way for town meeting to participate. William said Gary is suggesting that a person can ask the GSC to work on something and they will automatically do it. But other people could say the opposite. A vote needs to take place before the GSC will work on something, and a vote can't take place if it's not on the warrant article.

Jim Engel, 362 Linebrook Rd, said he signed the citizen's petition because he thought there was something missing in regards to the process with the GSC. He paid close attention to the redefining of the GSC and was always concerned with one aspect of it. In years past, committee reports were part of the process. There was a separate warrant article that called for committees to give reports. They have gotten away from hearing committee reports at town meeting and the GSC seemed to have enough interest that it was a committee that should have an opportunity to report what they are doing at town meeting. It's just a report that tells the town what the GSC has been doing. The fact that the report is not ready right now is immaterial, because they never were prepared ahead of time. When the GSC bylaw was adopted, what it failed to do was describe a process in which town meeting could assign the GSC topics for discussion. The bylaw says "will", not "shall". This is a verb that is not compulsory. Jim said if he were the town moderator, he would simply first call for the report and ask that it be timely and pointed. Then as the moderator he would ask the town meeting if there is any member of the town who would like to suggest a topic for the GSC. Then he would put it to a vote. Someone would make a motion to assign a topic to the GSC, look for a second, and call for a vote. The action is anticipated in the article.

Sarah said without Article 23, no other topics can be presented to the GSC unless they are on the warrant. Sarah asked if we need to have an article like 23 moving forward at every town meeting. Jim said yes, he believes so in order to fulfill the bylaw. How else is the town able to fulfill this if it is not already on the warrant? This article warns the citizens that there is an opportunity and a possibility that some work assignment may be given to the GSC. Jim said not only is it appropriate but it is necessary to fulfill what we voted on for the bylaw. Stephen said he does not agree with this and

would like to know what the town moderator thinks, and noted that this is not his experience. William said what he does not like about this is that it is a town GSC report coming from not the GSC. It is not okay that it's a citizen's position. William said he does agree that the GSC should present a report to the town, but that should come from the GSC. It's confusing because it's a work around.

Linda said she thinks the way that town meeting would give work to the GSC is that it would be from an article on the warrant that we couldn't come to a consensus on. Linda also said she noticed that committee reports are buried in the consent agenda and most of the consent agenda is financial. Maybe we could take that out and make committee reports a separate article. Stephen said one of the things he has discussed is that having it in the consent agenda is kind of like a receipt of a report. But if town meeting votes to accept the report, often times it means the report and all of its findings and actions, and people don't know what's in it. There is some unintended consequence for voting that we accept the report. Town counsel has suggested we use the terms that we have received the report vs. that we accept the report. Accepting the report and the findings could mean that the town is required to act on something. Sarah said a citizen's petition could put forward a topic for the GSC to study. The problem with this is it's wide open. Gary said they know for a number of months that the GSC has been working on a report, but there is nowhere in the warrant that states they can present the report. The incentive for this is for the GSC to advise town meeting. Everything the committee has presented to the town for the last 10 years has been approved. But for the last 7 months they haven't done anything because they have gotten no topics referred from the Select Board. This is intended to make sure the GSC stays active in town government. William said their group believes in the GSC, the issue is that this is not from the committee and they haven't heard from the committee yet. They have not heard from Gary on the behalf of the committee. William said he would be happy to hear a report from the GSC if the committee all agrees on giving a report. Stephen said the GSC did send a warrant article seeking the article to receive the report. They tried to do this in the normal means but Stephen couldn't find the vote in the notes, so he said they would put it in the consent calendar. That was not satisfactory by the chair of the GSC, so they received the citizen's petition then.

Diane Halverson, 3 Palamino Way, said the citizens who signed this petition are citizens and are asking that the report be read. They are also asking that they ask at town meeting if anyone has any suggestions. It's not to pass anything, it's just for a study and a report.

Article 1: Consent Calendar

Stephen said he is working closely with Mary, Leah, and Sarah Johnson on preparing articles. The articles and the order can be decided by the Select Board, but this is the four corners of what will be decided at town meeting. This is a working draft document and the draft is working until the moment it gets signed, posted, and sent to the printer. There are 25 articles total, including 5 citizens petitions. The Consent Calendar has two revolving funds that are being proposed for modest increases. The town wharf is going from \$12k to \$17k and the food inspectional services fund is going from \$25k to \$27k, both due to increased expenses. Chapter 90 may be increasing slightly.

There was a revolving fund for Crane's Beach to fix the walkway that was set up under a previous consent calendar and there were issues with how it was set up, so they are eliminating the fund. It will instead be funded through capital. It was just a clerical issue with how it was proposed to be structured, but they still want to fund the work. Linda asked how much money was put into it over the last few years. Sarah Johnson said the intent was to put in \$50k but it wasn't in the motion last year, and it wasn't put on the recap so that money hasn't been levied. It was just an error of the towns. So therefor without a motion, you can't act on it. Since the inception, nothing has gone into this. We created an account improperly and we are rectifying it.

Linda said based on the prior discussion, in number three she would like to add the GSC report. William asked if Gary didn't want this, Stephen said he received a request form Gary and he thought it was submitted on behalf of the GSC, but perhaps he was confused. Linda said it would be good to provide the opportunity for committees to provide reports, and they can consider whether or not they want to produce a report. Stephen said committees can always ask to submit a report. William said he has no issue with the GSC presenting a report.

Linda said she thought part of the fees for the beach stickers were going to the fund Crane's Beach fund, and would like to see an accounting of what happened since it was first enacted. Sarah Johnson said the annual town meeting

of 2019 was when the bylaw language was put in. At that time, they hadn't saved any money but they were going to put a policy in place for it. Then Covid hit so they didn't do it. Then in 2021 they decided to add in \$50k, but it didn't get put on page four for appropriations. So, the money was not levied and people were not taxed on it, so the money doesn't exist. The original policy was to take the money from beach stickers, but the policy was never created. William said we should make a mental note to do this. Stephen said the repairs should be paid for from the capital plan.

The next issue is bills from prior years. Sarah said there are some, they found out today that there is a deficit in the reimbursement account from a grant. Jon Hubbard has worked diligently fighting with FEMA trying to get our Covid costs covered and they keep pushing back. He is still fighting for our final reimbursement but there might be an \$11k deficit. We spent the money from a grant account hoping that FEMA will pay us back. We thought it was all grant eligible and FEMA is saying it wasn't. Stephen also discussed chapter 90 for the consent calendar, which will be updated with the new number that they received today.

Article 2: Amend FY 2023 Municipal Operating Budget

Article 2 is an amendment to the FY23 municipal operating budget. Sarah Johnson explained that there was an issue that came up with the tax recap, so she looked back at last year's town meeting articles and noticed that when they started the budget, she thought they would be using stabilization money. But when she looked at the revenue, she didn't see the stabilization. She then added up all of the funding sources and what was listed in the town meeting minutes didn't add up. The line that had stabilization wasn't there. Technically, the list in the document adds up to \$20,779,913, and it should have been \$20,914,070. The other thing she noticed was the waterways budget had the previous year's number. Two actions need to be taken. We need to vote \$131,303 from stabilization, and an additional \$2,854 from waterways to fund the current year budget and the harbormaster budget. Linda asked if these were funds we were going to do last year. Sarah said it was voted for this year's budget. The total was listed correctly, but the stabilization was missed. This is just an edit, we are not raising any more money. It is a technical correction from last May's annual town meeting.

Article 8: Transfer of FY23 Appropriated Budget Funds to Educational Stabilization Fund

Linda asked if these two articles might change because we don't have exact numbers. Sarah said they won't know until next fall but it's a good estimate.

Article 10: Other Post-Employment Benefits Funding

Stephen said this number is blank because later on there is an article where they propose to use free cash for the Hammatt Street lot, they don't know that number yet and that number effects this number.

Article 13: Resolution in Support of Changing the State Flag & Seal of Massachusetts

Linda asked if this should be a state legislative action. Stephen said things like this can be put forward at town meeting and then it will be passed to the state. Linda said she is confused because if town meeting adopts this resolution, what are we doing. William said it would be the town raising awareness.

Article 14: Ipswich River Ecological Restoration Permitting

The town is engaged in a permitting process that is funded in part by NOAA. If this passes, it doesn't mean the outcome is foretold. It's just to find out where the support is for the permitting for the project. Linda said she was concerned about the wording of this because it says "including the removal of the dam" but the Select Board didn't vote to remove the dam. William said he thinks the purpose is to support the Select Board's pursuit of the restoration project. Linda said she wants to be on the record that she does not support removing the dam.

Article 15: Grant of Easements for 69 South Main Street

This is a private property that has been owned by the family for a long time. They did conveyance and they discovered that what really constitutes their front yard and driveway is town-owned land. Under the law, you can't have an adverse possession claim on town land. This article authorizes the Select Board to grant the easement subject to terms and conditions. They have a letter from the seller's attorney about this, but Stephen said he thinks they need a little more time to look at this. It is a property right and that is a big deal so they want to look into it thoroughly. If the Select Board grants the easement, it allows them to make sure they do this properly.

Article 16: Acquisition of Hammatt Street Parcel

National Grid is interested in selling the Hammatt Street parcel to the town. There are restrictions to reuse because of the environmental conditions there. They have "activities and use" limitations. We would potentially use this for parking. An appraiser is working on this now and once we get the appraisal, Stephen can plug in either the assessed value or appraised value, whichever is less. We should have that information in a week.

Article 17: Authorize Select Board as Water Commissioners to Enter into Lease of Farm Field at 16 Mile Lane

Stephen said the farm lease for Marini farm was submitted and Vicki is going to talk about this.

Article 18: Middle/High School Roofs

There is a need for new roofs at both Doyon and Winthrop schools and the middle and high school. Stephen said he split it into two articles for three projects. The amount has been left blank because we have a choice between standing seam and asphalt shingle roof. Sarah said they are also still investigating solar. Stephen asked if the board has a preference, William said it is the School Committee's decision. Stephen said most facilities are under the town manager. The solar discussion is for the middle school/ high school. The asphalt roof is \$440K and the metal roof is \$1.8M. William said we should look at the options in regard to life and solar as well. Linda said we need to consider whether the tax payers can afford to pay for this. The school just had an override and now we are considering a roof that is much more expensive than the asphalt option and people may not be able to afford it.

Article 20: Water Department Infrastructure Improvements

Stephen said this is for the Dow Dam project by the water treatment plant.

Article 21: Waste Water Department Infrastructure Improvements

Stephen said this would require a ballot vote because it's for \$7.2M. Linda asked if this would only happen if the grant money goes through. She asked, what happens if this goes through with the town but the grant doesn't go through? Stephen said if the authorization falls apart, then you do not borrow the money. You cannot borrow the money for another purpose.

Article 22: Authorize Select Board as Electric Commissioners to Borrow \$5M From USDA ELD

This is a rural energy savings program which is more like a line of credit. William said we should have Jon Blair come to the next meeting to explain it better. Sarah said it's a grant program through the USDA and it allows the ELD to help citizens make some energy efficient improvements on their property. The town borrows the money and then pays it back interest-free. William read the email response from Jon Blair, which said they would access \$5M in working capital. Funds would be provided to the ELD on a yearly basis to pay for qualified capital improvements. Customers repay the ELD over 10 years and the ELD repays the USDA on the same schedule. Linda asked if it is interest-free for the customer as well. William said he isn't sure and they can ask. Stephen said they should charge something for it because administering this program is an additional expense and work to the ELD. Sarah said the town could also pursue this through other departments. Linda asked if the ELD can use these funds for ELD-related progress, Stephen said no, they have to lend it out. Linda said it sounds similar to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund program for people to do projects

on their home. Sarah said yes, but there is an income requirement for that program. Linda asked if there is a limit per homeowner, Stephen said they haven't worked that out yet.

Linda said she is a big proponent of a building moratorium under the right circumstances, but she is concerned that this citizen's petition doesn't offer a plan under the moratorium. Linda suggested the Select Board make an amendment to this article at Town Meeting to add additional criteria. William said he is not interested in this and he voted no for all of the moratoriums. It mentions extreme droughts which don't happen often. It also bans all new housing in Ipswich, which he thinks would be a huge mistake given the housing shortage. Stephen said he thinks this is more to get a sense of the meeting than to create an actual moratorium. Even if this is approved, it doesn't give the town the legal standing to turn away new construction. Stephen said he will confer with town counsel on this. Linda said she liked the moratorium that she proposed previously because there was a set of criteria included during the moratorium. Sarah Johnson said there is \$25.6M in current building permits pulled that are already in the pipeline.

Article 25: Amendments to the Noise Control Bylaw

This changes the times allowed for construction, demolition, and commercial landscaping activity. It also includes changes to hours that domestic power tools can be operated.

- Motion to close the Public Hearing made by Linda, seconded by Sarah.

→ *Motion passed unanimously, 4-0*

10. Consent Agenda – W. Whitmore

- a. One Day Wine and Malt License Application from Karen Morad for a Well-being Event for Women at Gathr, 42 Market Street on March 9th, 2023

Stephen said they changed the date from March 9th to April 7th. Linda suggested the Board vote on this the next meeting with the correct dates.

11. Approval of Minutes – W. Whitmore

1. March 26, 2022 Bean Counting Minutes

Linda said they should not vote on this because it was FinCom minutes.

2. January 23, 2023
3. February 21, 2023

- Motion to approve minutes from January 23, 2023 and February 21, 2023 made by Kerry, seconded by Linda

→ *Motion passed unanimously, 4-0*

12. Town Manager Report – S. Crane

- Stephen presented the town manager's report. The town has 5 new call firefighters, which is a great addition to the department. This will decrease the call time and will help with sick and vacation leave.
- The town received a request from a number of groups to rename the park at 54 County Rd. to Jenny Slew Park, and Stephen had wanted to do some research to make sure it was a naming and not a re-naming. Stephen asked the library to go through historical records to make sure it has not been named, and they are in the process of doing that.

- The water department is doing a project to study water use. This could help us learn more about consumption patterns and could help create additional efficiency measures in the future.
- There are a few public forums coming up. Recreation and culture have a lot of great events coming up. They sorted out the insurance so they can have coverage for the year which allows use of the hall.
- Last week the police made an arrest for a vandalism issue with a town building. Stephen was pleased they were able to make an arrest because most times these crimes go unsolved.
- The MA Municipal Managers Association has committees that managers can volunteer for, Stephen signed up to be a part of the diversity equity inclusion committee and the legal assistance funds committee.
- We will have an acting shellfish constable. Currently we have a deputy shellfish constable who is filling in, but he does not have the appropriate certification. The harbormaster does have this certification so he will be helping out while we figure out where things are at.

13. Select Board Member Sub Committee Update – W. Whitmore

Sarah said the 3A Task Force met last week to plan out the structure of the public forum and to continue to work on gathering information and drafting an FAQ sheet. The group will roll out the public forum and also coffee conversations and a lecture series.

William said the Shade Tree Beautification Committee worked very hard on the form they presented tonight. They also presented it to the garden club last week. The Pedestrian Cycle Advisory Board has been active and they are doing good work with the DPW. They are happy with the cooperation they are getting with the DPW, and they have a few projects in the works. They endorsed and liked the idea of the four-way intersection with a light at 5 corners. The 1A project is about 25% designed and they are very happy with what DPW is proposing. They are also trying to come up with some bigger picture things such as finding safe routes to schools, creating some special speed zones, and a more cohesive plan for signs on sidewalks. They are asking for more leadership support in that realm of things.

13. New Business – W. Whitmore

- We have a tri-board meeting on the 14th and will also have a Select Board Goal Setting meeting on March 16th at 5pm.

14. Old Business – W. Whitmore

- Linda said she wants to keep our eyes open for an opportunity for a dog park.

15. Miscellaneous and Correspondence – Sarah Player

- None
- Motion to adjourn made by Kerry, seconded by Linda.

→ *Motion passed unanimously, 4-0*

Respectfully Submitted By
Alyson von der Esch
3-9-23