

IPSWICH SELECT BOARD
Meeting of Monday, June 4, 2018
Ipswich Town Hall, 25 Green Street

Pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §§ 18-25, written notice posted by the Town Clerk and delivered to all Board members, a meeting of the Select Board was held on Monday, June 4, 2018, at 7:00pm in Meeting Room A.

With a quorum present, Nishan Mootafian called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
Selectmen present: Nishan Mootafian, Chair; Linda Alexson, Edward Rauscher, William Whitmore
Also present: Anthony Marino, Town Manager; Kimberly Nolan, Recording Secretary
Not present: William Craft

Abbreviations used: SB – Select Board; TM – Town Manager; DCR – Department of Conservation & Recreation;
DMF – Department of Marine Fisheries
Public Information: Agenda; Meeting Packet

Welcome/Announcements *(Section of video 00:09:25 – 00:11:27)*

Update on dam repair: report from DCR is expected by end of week
Voluntary water restrictions in are currently in place

Citizen Queries *(Section of video 00:11:27 – 00:26:10)*

No queries.

Consider Adopting Complete Streets Policy

Ethan Parsons of the Planning Office asked the SB to adopt a Complete Streets policy. He describes the policy as a “movement” that promotes access, exclusivity, and good design principles in relation to infrastructure, transportation, and urban design. The Complete Streets policy would be integrated into the planning and design of all public projects, and private projects that require Town approval. This would include new construction, reconstruction, and rehabilitation of transport facilities, especially those impacting public property such as sidewalk extensions and major corridor reconstruction.

Vote: Mr. Mootafian moved, and it was seconded by Mr. Rauscher to adopt the Complete Streets Policy. The motion carried unanimously.

Bond Anticipation Notes *(Section of video 00:26:20 – 00:47:10)*

Treasurer/Collector Kevin Merz presented that the town must borrow money to finance upcoming projects. The town has received several competitive bids for a bond anticipation note of \$700,000, and a bond issue for \$4.7 million. Century Bank was the winning bidder, with an interest rate of 2%. Raymond James & Associates was the winning bidder on the bond issue, with a true interest rate of 2.83%. The winning bid included a premium of \$388,000, which will go towards insurance costs, the underwriter’s discounts, and allow reduction of the principal amount of the bond from \$5 million to \$4.7 million. Projects financed through the bond anticipation note include the School Feasibility Study, town bridge work, and work related to the Riverwalk. Projects financed by the bond issue include the purchase of the Pony Express Farm, construction of Linebrook Road, and equipment for the Water Department. Ms. Alexson inquired as to how these bonds would impact next year’s tax rate. The Pony Express purchase and Linebrook Road construction would total approximately \$472,000 in debt exclusions, or 16 cents on the tax rate. Mr. Merz asked that the Board approve the bond note and bond issue sale.

Vote: Mr. Rauscher moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Whitmore, the SB voted unanimously.

Review of Meeting Agenda for 2019 *(Section of video 00:47:16 – 00:50:44)*

The Select Board discussed goals and dates regarding the meeting schedule for Fiscal Year 2019. The Annual Town Meeting date will be May 14, 2019.

Annual Reappointments to Boards and Committees *(Section of video 00:50:55 – 00:51:07)*

The Board moved annual reappointments to later in the meeting.

Commercial Shellfishing Discussion (Section of video 00:51:09 – 01:07:50)

Ms. Alexson recused herself from this discussion because her husband has a commercial shellfish permit. Chief Paul Nikas reported that early March yielded significant rainfall for the Town. Due to a miscommunication between the Shellfish Constable and the DMF, the clam flats were accidentally opened from March 14th through March 26th. Most of the clams were sold to market. The flats were closed on March 26th. The Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) and the Department of Environmental Protection went to area shellfish places and confiscated clams that had remained in coolers, preventing them from going to market. Two clambers requested reimbursement for clams lost at \$1.80 per pound. No incidents of sickness were reported; the confiscation was cautionary. The flats cannot reopen until the DMF tests the water, and the DMF is legally responsible for telling clambers that flats are closed. Chief Nikas recommended sending a letter of acknowledgement that there was a protocol missed, the situation has been rectified with the DMF, and protocols have been amended.

Vote: Motion to approve by Mr. Rauscher, seconded by Mr. Whitmore the Board voted 3-0 to accept Chief Nikas's recommendations.

Lord Square Discussion (Section of video 01:11:54 – 01:26:51)

Chief Nikas raised the possibility a speed study with the goal of lowering the speed limit in Lord Square, but expressed doubt at the practicality of a three-month process and the amount of resources needed. The Town did conduct a study in 1968, determining the area to be a 30mph zone. He reported that because the area is not adjacent to a park or trail, it cannot be designated as a safe zone. Discussion followed regarding which streets were involved. Concerns include a blind spot occurring in the crosswalk at Dunkin Donuts, making it dangerous for pedestrians. It was discussed whether the addition of a warning sign, indicating a dangerous turn, may be helpful in lieu of changing the speed limit. Chief Nikas will pursue adding warning signs to the area.

Annual Reappointment of Boards and Committees (Section of video 01:27:00 – 01:39:34)

Ellen Rose, New Feoffees Committee

Vote: Ms. Alexson moved, and it was seconded by Mr. Whitmore to reappoint Ms. Rose to the New Feoffees Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Heather Pillis, Waste Reduction Advisory Committee

Vote: Ms. Alexson moved, and it was seconded by Mr. Whitmore to reappoint Ms. Pillis to the Waste Reduction Advisory Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Linda Riley, Design Review Board

Vote: Ms. Alexson moved, and it was seconded by Mr. Whitmore to reappoint Ms. Riley to the Design Review Board. The motion carried unanimously.

Ann Wright, Shade Tree & Beautification Committee

Paula Jones, Shade Tree & Beautification Committee

Janet Craft, Shade Tree & Beautification Committee

Pat Beirne, Shade Tree & Beautification Committee

Vote: Ms. Alexson moved, and it was seconded by Mr. Whitmore to reappoint Ms. Wright, Ms. Jones, Ms. Craft, and Pat Beirne to the Shade Tree & Beautification Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Jim Graffum, Cemetery & Parks

Vote: Ms. Alexson moved, and it was seconded Mr. Whitmore to reappoint Mr. Graffum to Cemetery & Parks. The motion carried unanimously.

Larry Pszenny, Board of Library Trustees

Vote: Ms. Alexson moved, and it was seconded by Mr. Whitmore to reappoint Mr. Pszenny to the Board of Library Trustees. The motion carried unanimously.

George Richard Gray, Board of Library Trustees

Vote: Ms. Alexson moved, and it was seconded by Mr. Whitmore to reappoint Mr. Gray to the Board of Library Trustees. The motion carried unanimously.

Whitney Hatch, Electric Light Subcommittee

Vote: Ms. Alexson moved, and it was seconded by Mr. Whitmore to reappoint Ms. Hatch to the Electric Light Subcommittee. The motion carried unanimously.

Keith Carlson, Council on Aging

Vote: Ms. Alexson moved, and it was seconded by Mr. Whitmore to reappoint Mr. Carlson to the Council on Aging. The motion carried unanimously.

Michael Schaaf, Finance Committee

Michael Schaaf of 1 Shagbark Woods was in attendance. The Board spoke towards Mr. Schaaf's trustworthiness, sound judgement, and open-mindedness. The Board inquired about what Mr. Schaaf believes the Town should focus on in the next 18-24 months. Mr. Schaaf recommended a focus on a more rigorous capital budgeting, economic development activity, and long-term environmental condition adaptations relating to how rising sea levels will affect the Town in the coming years.

Vote: Mr. Whitmore moved, it was seconded by Ms. Alexson, to reappoint Mr. Schaaf to the Finance Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Bialek Park Committee (Section of video 01:39:47 – 02:18:38)

The Bialek Park Committee was in attendance. Discussion of plans to improve the park took place. Improvements would take place over three years, in three phases. A survey was sent to the community regarding park improvements. Results from 471 respondents included requests for a skateboarding park, public bathrooms, picnic areas, ice skating, a gazebo, a performance area, and additional parking. The total cost of improvement plans would be \$332,000. The skateboard park is reported to be one of the larger line items, and would cost \$85,000. The potential of a grant opportunity for the skateboard park was discussed. It was reported that initial seed money would total \$15,000 and be used for drafting design plans. Discussion followed regarding Open Space money and if it would be applicable to Bialek Park projects. The Board announced that the next time they will be able to allocate \$15,000 would be in October 2018.

Approval of Minutes (Section of video 02:18:49 – 02:19:51)

Ms. Alexson moved to approve minutes of the May 7, 2018 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Whitmore and carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda (Section of video 02:19:53 – 02:20:18)

Mr. Whitmore moved, Mr. Rauscher seconded to approve the one-day liquor licenses for the Masonic Temple, Old Planters Brewing Co., and Monarch and Rose Foods. The Board voted unanimously to approve these and a one-day Sunday entertainment license for Ipswich Ale Brewery.

Town Manager Report (Section of video 02:20:19 – 02:23:57)

Mr. Marino gave an update regarding the downtown parking task force. He has been working with Glenn Gibbs of the Planning Department, and should have an appointment letter soon. They are expecting the task force to be appointed before the next SB meeting. Mr. Marino is also working on a plan surrounding the Hammatt Street parking lot, collaborating with business owners on ways to clean up the lot. Additionally, Mr. Marino is working with Ethan Parsons of the Planning Office on a Community Development task force. They are currently in the

process of filling spots on the committee. There was a discussion on the possibility of a combined Payroll & Benefits office, which would involve the public schools. Mr. Marino has been meeting with various department heads, and will be meeting with Senator Bruce Tarr on June 5, 2018.

New Business (*Section of video 02:24:00 – 02:24:04*)

None.

Old Business (*Section of video 02:24:05 – 02:27:01*)

Mr. Rauscher moved, Mr. Whitmore seconded to grant a utilities easement at 62 Central Street. The motion passes unanimously. There was a discussion of upcoming banner requests for the Greek Orthodox Church, Crane Estate, Ipswich Youth Football, and Old Ipswich Days.

Miscellaneous and Correspondence

None.

Mr. Mootafian moved, and it was seconded Ms. Alexson to adjourn at 9:35 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by
Kimberly Nolan
Eileen Page
06.24.18