

IPSWICH SELECT BOARD
Meeting of Tuesday, September 7, 2021

Pursuant to 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 Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 7:00 PM in Meeting Room A.

Board Members present: Dr. Tammy Jones, Chair; William Whitmore, Vice Chair; Linda Alexson; Kerry Mackin; Sarah Player

Also present: Tony Marino, Town Manager; Eileen Page, Recording Secretary

Executive Session

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's bargaining or litigating position regarding wind turbine lease agreement.

- *Vote: Mr. Whitmore moved to enter Executive Session. Ms. Alexson seconded. The motion carried unanimously via roll call.*

The Select Board entered Executive Session at 6:30 PM.

The Select Board adjourned Executive Session at 7:03 PM.

With a quorum present, Dr. Jones called the open meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Welcome/Announcements

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY

The Public Safety Facility Committee invites the public to attend information sessions about the proposed facility on September 14 at 7 PM at the Ipswich Bay Yacht Club; September 15 at 10 AM at the Council on Aging; September 21 at 7 PM at Our Lady of Hope Church; and October 5 at Agawam Village and Caroline Avenue simultaneously.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Crafty Ladies will hold a craft fair on Saturday, September 11 from 9 AM to 2 PM at Ipswich High School. The field hockey team will be holding a plant sale at the same time.

A 9/11 memorial service will be held on Saturday, September 11 at 9:30 AM.

PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board will hold public hearings regarding a proposal for sixteen (16) units at the Washington Street car wash on Thursday, September 9 at 7 PM.

Citizen Queries

Gary Champion (3 Palomino Way) stated that the Ipswich practice is to post meeting minutes on the Town website once they have been approved. He stated that many committees and boards have not posted meeting minutes.

Phil Goguen (Kingfisher Road) stated that it is difficult to hear the meetings televised via ICAM. Mr. Goguen asked the Select Board for twenty (20) minutes on an upcoming agenda to address the Board on a variety of matters. Mr. Goguen asked that the Town implement using Open Checkbook. Mr. Goguen expressed his displeasure with the Zoom platform for remote meetings. Mr. Goguen stated that once a Town Meeting warrant has been signed, its alteration should not be allowed. Dr. Jones clarified that once a warrant is signed, it is not changed. Dr. Jones offered to meet one-on-one with Mr. Goguen to address his concerns, but stated that it is not typical to allow a citizen a period of time to address the Board without being on an agenda. Mr. Whitmore noted that the Town implemented Open Gov software at Mr. Goguen's urging, which is available on the Town website. Mr. Goguen was advised to submit his concerns in writing so that the Select Board may properly investigate them.

Board and Committee Appointments

- I. John Sarni – New Appointment – Public Safety Property Re-Use Working Group
- II. Whitney Hatch – Reappointment – Electric Light Subcommittee

➤ *Vote: Mr. Whitmore moved to appoint Mr. Sarni to the Public Safety Property Re-Use Working Group, and Mr. Hatch to the Electric Light Subcommittee. Ms. Alexson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.*

2021 Mary Conley Award Posthumously Awarded to John Fiske

Gordon Harris (Chair, Historical Commission) appeared before the Board to present the 2021 Mary Conley Award. Mr. Harris read a prepared statement:

“It is a long standing custom for the Ipswich Historical Commission to present the annual Mary Conley Awards for historic preservation at a meeting of the Select Board. Mary Conley was the long-serving Ipswich Town Historian who died in 2001. Later this year, I will present the 2020 and 2021 awards to the owners of two historic houses, but this year we also recognize two outstanding volunteer public servants for the Town of Ipswich who are no longer with us. It was not long after I joined the Ipswich Historical Commission several years ago that I found myself in the unexpected position of Chairman, and seeking to add new members who had more than my rudimentary knowledge of Ipswich history. I met Ruth Strachan as I strolled along Summer Street and she was tending her flowers. We fell into a conversation about the street’s historic houses. A survey of historic houses by Ruth when she was Chair of the Marblehead Historical Commission 40 years ago was the basis for creating its Historic District. She had moved to Ipswich to live closer to her family, and I asked Ruth if she would consider joining the Ipswich Historical Commission, which she agreed to do. Ruth was also a founding member of the Ipswich Architectural Preservation District Commission, and was a passionate source of any information we needed about historic architecture and preservation. In fact, sometimes it seemed like every house, board, and window was historic to Ruth, and sometimes hers was the lone dissenting voice when we voted to allow a demolition. But everyone loved Ruth, and her friendship and mentoring was very special to all of us. Last summer we celebrated the life of Ruth Strachan after her sudden passing, the first of two terrible losses for the Historical Commission and Architectural Preservation District Commission. The second loss was John Fiske. At our June meeting, the Historical Commission unanimously voted to grant the 2021 Mary Conley Preservation award to John Fiske, our esteemed former chairman, for his exceptional service to the Town of Ipswich, and granted him the honorary title of Chair Emeritus. But in July, we sadly learned of his passing after complications from surgery. I met John about the same time I met Ruth, when I wandered into his shop on South Main Street full of post-medieval furniture. The shelves were lined with books he had written about antiques and historic architecture, all of this after he retired in 1990 as Professor of Communication Arts at the University of Wisconsin. John had a passion for the “humble history” that antiques offer in understanding the historic cultures of everyday life. I asked John if he would be willing to serve on the Commission, and he enthusiastically accepted. During that year the Historical Commission endorsed and developed the concept of an Architectural Preservation District as an alternative to a more restrictive Historic District. John owned a 1720s home on Water Street while mine is a ranch on Mill Road. He accepted my request that he become Chair so that I could accept appointment as Town Historian, following the death of Pat Tyler. John led our successful campaign for the adoption of the APD at Town Meeting, and during the subsequent years John and I worked closely together, he as Chair, and I as Vice Chair, in fulfilling the Commission’s mandate. We shared an enthusiasm for the town’s historic architecture, history, and stories, and we were of like mind that we should neither fail nor exceed the mandate given us by the Town. It is an honor, but with sadness, to present the 2021 Mary Conley Award posthumously to John Fiske. The plaque I hold in my hand will join others on the wall in the Mary Conley Room, downstairs in the Ipswich Town Hall. It reads as follows: ‘John Fiske, Ipswich Historical Commission, Chair Emeritus: On behalf of the residents of Ipswich for his exceptional service in preserving the Town’s rich history and historic buildings, benefiting generations to come.’”

Discuss Turbine Replacement Proposal With Green Development

Hannah Morini (Director of Business Development, Green Development) appeared before the Board with a proposal for the removal and reconstruction of Wind 2. Currently, Wind 2 has been unproductive for three (3) years, resulting in a loss of income to the Town as a renewable power source, and posing a safety hazard. Green Development proposes to decommission and remove the existing turbine at no cost to the Town, install a new, quieter turbine, and

provide Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) to the Town. Decommissioning the turbine is projected to take about two (2) weeks. The unit will be disposed of responsibly, with components recycled to the fullest extent possible, and the current foundation will be reused. It will take another two (2) weeks to stage new equipment on the pad site, build a converter system within the footprint of the existing foundation and stack towers, install a generator, rotor, and nacelle, wire the on-site medium voltage power system, and conduct testing. Green Developments would use a VENSYS wind turbine, which are currently used across six (6) continents and have a satellite office in Rhode Island. Ms. Morini noted that Green Development successfully completed a very similar project in 2016 in Portsmouth, Rhode Island. The Financial Summary presented showed Green Development covering the full costs of the decommission and removal of Wind 2, and entering into a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) in which the Town buys the energy produced at \$0.1185 per kWh for the next twenty-five (25) years. Upon expiration of the current contract, all RECs will be transferred to the Town of Ipswich. The proposed land lease agreement allows Green Development to utilize the land at \$1.00 per year, with two (2) five-year extension options.

Ms. Alexson asked about the Board's timeframe to make a decision on the partnership. Mr. Marino stated that a completed PPA and land lease agreement would be ready within the month for the Board to consider. Mark DePasquale (Chair and Founder of Green Development) stated that once the agreements were executed, Green Development would begin immediately dismantling the existing Wind 2. He anticipated that the project could be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2022.

Phil Goguen (Kingfisher Road) noted that the presentation claims that the broken turbine resulted in a loss of Town income, and asked how Green Development came to that conclusion. Mr. DePasquale responded that because the turbine isn't turning, power is not being produced, and cannot be sold. Mr. Goguen argued that this does not result in a loss of income, and stated that if the Town enters into a partnership with Green Development, it would lose \$2.5 to \$4 million. Mr. Goguen asked if the location of the turbine would be changed. Dr. Jones confirmed that the location will be remaining the same.

Ed Marsh (23 Woods Lane) noted that the VENSYS website states that it is majority-owned by a Chinese company, and that he believes it is unwise to rely on a Chinese company given the current geopolitical climate. Mr. DePasquale clarified that the wind turbine is manufactured in Germany in small batches, and not mass produced. Mr. Marsh argued that construction location does not matter if the infrastructure is technically owned by a Chinese company.

Ms. Alexson asked if turbines were available from any other companies. Mr. DePasquale stated that VENSYS sold shares that ended up being owned by Chinese and Indian companies, accounting for the majority ownership. He stated that VENSYS makes the most reliable turbines, and those are the only ones he would work with.

Vote on Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles

ARTICLE 1: Amend Town Budget (State Aid)

Submitted by: Select Board

Summary: The state budget has been finalized, and the Town will receive additional Local Aid. This appropriation will be used to offset unanticipated expenses during FY 2022. This sum includes the State's 75% reimbursement to the Town for veterans' benefits in FY 2020, as well as general government aid. These funds go back into the Management Transfer account, which then covers unforeseen shortages in veterans' benefits or other Town budgets each year. This article requires a simple majority vote.

Vote: Mr. Whitmore moved to recommend Article 1 for approval. Ms. Player seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

ARTICLE 2: Amend School Budget (State Aid)

Submitted by: School Committee

Summary: The state budget has been finalized, and the Town will received additional Chapter 70 funds. These funds will be used to offset the cost of school expenses. This article requires a simple majority vote.

Vote: Mr. Whitmore moved to recommend Article 2 for approval. Ms. Mackin seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

ARTICLE 3: Amend General Bylaws - Chapter 35, Add Government Study Committee

Submitted by: Select Board

Summary: This article recognizes the Government Study Committee in the General Bylaws and sets parameters for membership and guidelines for charter and bylaw review and how often it should be accomplished. The Government Study Committee is a valuable group in town and adding them to the General Bylaws will clearly define their mission and committee makeup.

Ms. Alexson asked that Paragraph B be amended to read "...on *any* matters" instead of "...on *such* matters." She also suggested, given the concerns raised by Craig Saline (Government Study Committee, Chair) at a previous meeting regarding the timeline of the decennial review, that the article be amended to instruct the Committee to submit their recommendations to the Select Board by the following year.

Mr. Whitmore stated that the Committee's timeline should be based on the nature of recommendations. He stated that if the recommendations are simply a list of items to explore, one (1) years should be sufficient, but if the goal is to present an issue accompanied by research and a proposed solution, two (2) years may be necessary. He suggested changing the language regarding the timeline to "as soon as is practicable."

Mr. Saline suggested making the start year of revamped Committee 2023 to better align with current term end years, and to prevent the launch of the Committee during significant turnover on the Tri-Boards.

Dr. Jones stated that the proposed article makes the Committee more project-based, functioning as an ad-hoc committee that convenes as necessary.

Gary Champion (3 Palomino Way; Government Study Committee) stated that there are too many questions surrounding the article, and asked that the Select Board step back from it. He argued that ongoing work should be the priority of the board, with annual and decennial reviews being secondary. He stated that the article also only addresses the charter, and not the bylaws. (Dr. Jones corrected Mr. Champion, noting that the article references "...Town Charter, and any applicable acts and bylaws.")

Dr. Jones agreed with Mr. Saline's suggestion to change that start year to 2023, noting that it will allow for more time to move an approved article through the Attorney General's office.

Ms. Player asked if the Committee could begin meetings sooner than 2023; Mr. Marino confirmed that as soon as the article had been confirmed by the Attorney General and membership established, the Committee could begin meeting.

Ms. Alexson asked if any projects currently underway by the Government Study Committee would be transferred to the new Committee. Dr. Jones stated that the Committee does not currently have any projects they are working on, and confirmed that the passage of this article would formally dissolve the Committee as it was created at the 1962 Town Meeting.

Vote: Mr. Whitmore moved to recommend Article 3 for approval, with changes to include that the beginning year be made 2023, that the Committee's recommendations be presented to the Select Board "within one (1) year, or as soon as is practicable," and change "such" to "any" regarding the submission of recommendations. Ms. Alexson seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

ARTICLE 4: Open Space Land Taking for Water Supply Protection Purposes - Symes Property

Submitted by: Select Board as Water Commissioners

Summary: In accordance with the agreement that the Select Board and Symes Development signed in 2018, this article will allow the Select Board to acquire 44.714 acres of land at no cost to the Town. The land will be under the control of the Water Department and the Select Board in their role as Water Commissioners so we can keep the land for water supply protection purposes.

Vote: Ms. Alexson moved to recommend Article 4 for approval. Ms. Player seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

ARTICLE 5: Amend Zoning Bylaws - Section VI, Footnote 11, Footnotes to the Table of Density & Dimensional Regulations

Submitted by: Planning Board

Summary: In the past few years, some applications of the multi-family provisions within the IR District have strayed from the original intent with respect to project size and unit density. In particular, a footnote to the Table of Dimensional and Density Regulations, Footnote 11, allows one to ask for a greater density for a multi-family project, which may be approved by Special Permit from the Planning Board. The Planning Board has been faced with applications for projects that are unsuitable for their lots and incompatible with their neighborhoods. It is worth noting that Footnote 11 has been applied in several visible and successful projects, including the conversion of the former Caldwell Nursing Home (in the IR District) and the former Town Hall/District Court (located in the CB District) buildings into multi-family housing. This article would eliminate the ability to use Footnote 11 in the IR District. It would not disallow multi-family housing, two-family housing, single-family housing, or any currently allowed housing type or other use within the IR District.

Mr. Parsons explained that the intent of the article is to decrease density. One of the proposed changes allows for accessory dwelling units, but in conjunction with the removal of footnote 11, the net change will not increase density.

Vote: Ms. Player moved to recommend Article 5 for approval. Mr. Whitmore seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

ARTICLE 6: Amend Zoning Bylaws - Revisions to Section IX.S & Section IX.P - Infill Housing and Accessory Building Conversion

Submitted by: Planning Board

Summary: The “infill” provision was established in 2003 to encourage development of single-family homes in the IR District as an alternative to multi-family development. Originally infill projects were allowed only on double lots in subdivisions of 5,000 square foot lots laid out around the early 20th century, decades before the Town's first zoning bylaws in the 1950s. The provision was expanded in 2017 to include all lots having 10,000 sq. ft. of area and at least 100 feet of frontage, with limitations on the size of the single-family house, and requiring a \$40,000 payment into Town's Affordable Housing Trust Fund. By multiple measures, the infill housing provision has been successful: multiple single-family homes have been built on lots in keeping with the size of existing lots in their immediate neighborhood, and also relatively comparable in size and design, and around \$300,000 has been deposited in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. However, the infill houses built over the past few years have sold at prices presumed to not be affordable to households earning moderate incomes. Also, there has been some concern that the current maximum floor area requirement may work reasonably well in certain areas of the IR District but less so in others. This article moves the inclusionary housing payment requirement to the Planning Board's Payment in Lieu Regulation and it limits the size of infill homes to be more consistent with the size of existing homes in their vicinity. The article also moves the payment in lieu amount for accessory building conversion projects to the Planning Board's Payment in Lieu Regulation.

Ms. Player asked what square footage is currently allowed under Paragraph C. Mr. Parsons responded that a 1,600 sq. ft. maximum is currently allowed. Mr. Whitmore stated that he found the article easiest to understand as follows: Currently, regulations allow for 20% development of a lot area, but some lots are smaller than others, which could result in a 1,200 sq. ft. house. The solution is to allow for 20% development, with room to grow if the resulting development is under 1,600 sq. ft. However, if 20% of a lot results in a 2,000 sq. ft. house, the building is capped at 2,000 sq. ft.

- *Vote: Ms. Player moved to recommend Article 6 for approval. Ms. Alexson seconded. The motion carried 5-0.*

Ms. Mackin left the meeting at 9:03 PM.

ARTICLE 7: Amend Zoning Bylaws – Section V. Table of Use Regulations – Revisions to Affordable Housing Incentives

Submitted by: Planning Board

Summary: The 2020 Housing Production Plan Strategy #6 is to “provide more flexibility to create Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) and allow the creation of tiny houses or other small detached accessory units.” This proposal aims to increase the supply of small, moderate and affordably priced housing within the IR District, close to the Town's center; and to promote development that is compatible with the character and development pattern of

its surrounding neighborhoods. The article would allow ADUs on certain IR District lots by Planning Board special permit.

- *Vote: Mr. Whitmore moved to recommend Article 7 for approval. Ms. Player seconded. The motion carried 4-0.*

ARTICLE 8: Amend General Bylaws – Chapter 193, Update Stormwater Management Bylaw

Submitted by: Department of Public Works

Summary: On April 4, 2016, EPA issued a final NPDES general permit for discharges of stormwater from small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) in Massachusetts under the Clean Water Act. This general permit became effective in 2018 and was updated in 2020. One of the many components of this new permit requires that municipalities strengthen their post-construction stormwater management standards for new and re-development projects by updating their existing ordinances, bylaws or other regulatory mechanisms. In particular, the permit requires that the regulatory mechanism include (among other requirements):

- Provisions that require Low Impact Development site planning and design strategies.
- The requirement that the design of stormwater management systems be consistent with, or more stringent than the Massachusetts Stormwater Handbook.
- Requirements that stormwater management systems on new development and redevelopment projects meet minimum average annual pollutant removal rates.

To assist communities in updating their bylaws or ordinances to meet the new permit requirements, two regional associations, the Neponset River Watershed Association and the Northern Middlesex Stormwater Collaborative worked with communities within their regions to develop tools, including bylaw templates, to assist communities in updating their bylaws. Both the EPA and DEP endorsed the use of these templates to ensure compliance with the permit requirements.

To develop the proposed new Stormwater Bylaw for Ipswich, both of the proposed templates were used for reference with slight modifications proposed to tailor the bylaw to Ipswich. In general, the permitting procedures are consistent with those required by the current stormwater bylaw, but the new version includes provisions necessary to meet the permit requirements, including those bulleted above. The proposed new bylaw meets the requirements of the 2016 MS4 General permit and adopting the new bylaw would ensure that the Town is compliant with the EPA's 2016 MS4 permit.

- *Vote: Ms. Alexson moved to recommend Article 8 for approval. Ms. Player seconded. The motion carried 4-0.*

ARTICLE 9: Adoption of the 2021-2036 Community Development Plan (CDP)

Submitted by: Planning Board

Summary: In early 2019, a Community Development Plan (CDP) Steering Committee was appointed and convened to guide the process to update components of the Town's 2008 CDP and develop a new 2021- 2036 Plan. The Town hired JM Goldson, LLC consultants to help with a Needs Assessment in 2019, and in 2020 to work with the community to identify goals and strategies to achieve the community's 15-year vision. The Planning Board and Steering Committee have been presenting the final plan to town boards, committees, and community partners over the past few months and are now bringing the plan to Town Meeting for adoption. Next steps will be to work with all partners in the community to develop and refine an implementation plan.

Dr. Jones expressed support for the CDP, but does not believe Town Meeting is the proper venue to ask questions about the plan. She suggested setting up a Tri-Board public forum where the plan can be properly presented and receive questions and comments from the public. Mr. Whitmore agreed.

- *Vote: Ms. Player moved to remove Article 9 from the warrant. Ms. Alexson seconded. The motion carried 4-0.*

ARTICLE 10: Public Safety Building Appropriation for Design and Construction Costs

Submitted by: Select Board

Summary: This article seeks funding to design and build a much-needed facility to adequately house all public safety departments and provide a safe and structurally sound building for staff, vehicles and equipment, and the community. The Public Safety Facility Committee has worked diligently for several years to conduct a

comprehensive feasibility study for these departments and to explore all options based on current and anticipated future programming needs and responsibilities based on the results of that study. At the October 2020 Special Town Meeting, the town acknowledged this vital need and indicated its support for a new combined facility with the first step of approving the land purchase on Pineswamp Road that will ensure the best emergency response times to all areas of town. However, the town opted not to approve the funding for building design at that time, preferring instead to know the total project cost, including design and construction. The \$27,500,000 requested in this article is the maximum amount to be expended on this project. Replacement of our current public safety facilities is long overdue and critical to the safety and well-being of every Ipswich resident, as well as those who work and visit here. This project is a top priority in the recent Strategic Planning Working Group's report, and is supported by the Select Board, the Finance Committee and the School Committee. This is a debt exclusion request and as such requires a 2/3 majority vote at town meeting and a successful ballot vote which will be held on Tuesday October 26, 2021.

- *Vote: Ms. Player moved to recommend Article 10 for approval. Ms. Alexson seconded. The motion carried 4-0.*

Discuss 161 Topsfield Road, Potential Uses

Ethan Parsons (Director of Planning and Development) reported that the property at 161 Topsfield Road holds great promise for small-scale affordable housing, as was discussed with the Board last year. Mr. Parsons reported that under the Select Board's direction, the Town hired a civil engineer to conduct soil testing and provide an analysis. It was concluded that the site could accommodate a two-family house, with four (4) to six (6) bedrooms total while still allowing for a significant amount of conversation area. Mr. Parsons asked the Select Board to support the Planning Department and its associated Boards and Committees in writing a Request for Proposals (RFPs) that would seek an affordable housing non-profit developer. The property would be transferred to the developer with the condition that it be used to construct affordable housing.

Ms. Alexson stated that she would be in favor of this plan if it were restricted to affordable housing, and did not allow the incorporation of market-rate dwellings. Dr. Jones agreed. Ms. Alexson asked if there were any other properties on Town inventory that might be appropriate for affordable housing, and Mr. Parsons stated that a property off of Town Farm Road has also been identified as having development potential.

Mr. Parsons noted that Ipswich recently gained Safe Harbor approval, which the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) may invoke if a 40B project is proposed that does not support the goals and needs of the Town. The Safe Harbor status will be in effect for the next two (2) years, and does not apply retroactively.

- *Vote: Ms. Player moved to allow the Planning Board to seek an RFP for affordable housing for 161 Topsfield Road. Ms. Alexson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.*

Class II License Change of Owner, Crash Clinic

- *Vote: Ms. Alexson moved to approve the change of owner. Ms. Player seconded. The motion carried unanimously.*

Consent Agenda

- I. One Day Wine and Malt License Applications
 - a. Bea Tiberi of Monarch and Rose Foods for Music Events at 1 N. Main Street, September 10 and 18 and October 2 and 16, 2021
 - b. Rob Hughes of Notch Brewing for Craft Beer and Cider Events at Appleton Farms, September 12 and 19, and October 2, 2021.
 - c. Keith Hardin of Far From the Tree LLC for Pizza Party Events at Appleton Farms, September 11 and 25, 2021
 - d. Keith Hardin of Far From the Tree LLC for October Fest at Appleton Farms, October 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2021
 - e. Paul Joseph Gentile of Gentile Brewing Co. LLC for Pizza Picnics at Appleton Farms, September 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2021.
 - f. Keith Hardin of Far From the Tree LLC for Farm Days at Appleton Farms on September 26, 2021

g. Joe Newman of True North Ale Co. for Farm Days at Appleton Farms on September 25, 2021

- *Vote: Ms. Player moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Alexson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.*

Town Manager Report

PERSONNEL CHANGES

The new Library Director, started today.

Paul Parisi has been selected as the new Ipswich Fire Department Chief. He previously served as the Fire Chief of Salem, New Hampshire, and currently works for the State Fire Marshalls Office. His first day will be September 27. Acting Chief Lee Prentiss will remain in his interim role until then. Dr. Jones thanks Acting Chief Prentiss for his service and leadership.

SHRED DAY

In October, the Town will hold its annual Shred Day, in which Town offices are closed to businesses to allow for cleaning and organization. Residents will be able to bring their sensitive documents to be properly disposed of at no charge by a recycling company.

STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKING GROUP

The Strategic Planning Working Group will meet in the coming weeks to finalize an executive summary for presentation.

Select Board Member Subcommittee Updates

CAPE ANN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Ms. Alexson and Dr. Jones attended a reception for the merger of the Ipswich Chamber of Commerce with the Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce at True North Ale last week and were able to meet several local business owners.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Waste Reduction Advisory Committee will meet Wednesday, September 8. The Committee is planning a hazmat disposal day at the Transfer Station, which typically coincides with the schools' annual electronics recycling event.

The Affordable Housing Trust Board will meet Thursday, September 9 at 7:30 AM.

The Water/Wastewater Subcommittee will meet Monday, September 13 at 7:00 PM.

The Electric Light Subcommittee will meet Wednesday, September 15 at 7:00 PM.

New Business

None.

Old Business

Ms. Alexson asked the Select Board to consider holding an off-cycle meeting as a public forum to hear citizen concerns regarding the Essex Regional 911 Dispatch proposal. She also noted that the Board was invited to tour the regional dispatch center, and in an effort to ensure due diligence, the Board should also request a tour of the Ipswich dispatch operations.

Dr. Jones suggested allowing a 1.5-2 hour period for public comment at the September 20 meeting.

Mr. Whitmore suggested encouraging residents to come with written remarks prepared to ensure comments stay on track and allow for comments from as many speakers as possible.

Miscellaneous and Correspondence

None.

➤ *Vote: Ms. Player moved to adjourn. Ms. Alexson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.*

The Select Board adjourned at 9:59 PM.

*Respectfully submitted by Eileen G. Page
09.21.2021*