

**Hull Board of Selectmen
Final Minutes
January 5, 2022**

The meeting of the Hull Board of Selectmen as held at 7:30 p.m. on January 5, 2022 via the GoToMeeting platform as an alternate means of public access pursuant to an Order issued by the Governor of Massachusetts dated March 12, 2020 Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

Present: Jennifer Constable, Chair; Greg Grey, Vice-Chair; Donna Pursel, Clerk; John Reilly, Member; Domenico Sestito, Member. Also present were Town Counsel James Lampke and Town Manager Philip Lemnios.

Before calling the meeting to order Constable led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Joan Taverna, Director of Board of Health

Joan Taverna, Director of the Board of Health, was on the call to give an update on Covid. She reported that in the past two weeks the Town has had 161 new cases. She noted that the Omicron variant is much more transmissible than Delta but that its symptoms appear to be relatively mild and said that the CDC and Mass. Dept. of Public Health have issued guidelines reducing the quarantine and isolation period for exposed or positive patients from ten days to five, with an additional five days of masking. She acknowledged that it is very hard to get testing but said that the local pharmacy has been a huge help in getting tests distributed and getting people vaccinated.

Taverna said that using funds from a Public Health Excellence Grant the towns of Hingham, Cohasset, Scituate and Hull will be holding a drive-through clinic for booster shots on January 13th from 9 am to 1 pm at the South Shore Baptist Church on Main Street in Hingham. They are also looking at the possibility of coordinating a regional testing site and she hopes to have more information on this in the next week or two.

Reilly asked about the accuracy of the home kits. Taverna said they are fairly accurate if used properly but can give a false negative if used too soon. She noted that people are not required to report positive results from home testing and that these results are not put into the reporting system. Constable said it was her understanding that the State is no longer requiring contact tracing but Taverna said she does not know of any towns that have stopped contact tracing.

Lemnios said that this week the Town has started restricting access to public buildings and will reevaluate this policy in a few weeks. He noted that the Council on Aging has cut back on activities in the Center but is still delivering meals on wheels and is trying to help with shopping and medical appointments, etc., using a grant that allows seniors to call a local taxi company and be driven to a destination for free. He noted that the Library is going to a "porch service" model for the next few weeks. Grey asked about the School Department and Taverna said that they have been hit pretty hard in the past few weeks and are down some staff but they are handling it.

Minutes for Approval

Motion	Sestito	To approve the Minutes from the July 8, 2021 meeting of the Board of Selectmen
Second Vote	Grey Unanimous	Sestito – Aye Grey – Aye Pursel – Aye Reilly – Aye Constable – Aye
Motion	Sestito	To approve the Minutes from the July 28, 2021 meeting of the Board of Selectmen
Second	Grey	

Vote	Unanimous	Sestito – Aye Grey – Aye Pursel – Aye Reilly – Aye Constable – Aye
Motion	Sestito	To approve the Minutes from the August 4, 2021 meeting of the Board of Selectmen
Second Vote	Grey Unanimous	Sestito – Aye Grey – Aye Pursel – Aye Reilly – Aye Constable – Aye
Motion	Grey	To approve the Minutes from the August 18, 2021 meeting of the Board of Selectmen
Second Vote	Sestito Unanimous	Grey – Aye Sestito – Aye Pursel – Aye Reilly – Aye Constable – Aye
Motion	Sestito	To approve the Minutes from the November 17, 2021 meeting of the Board of Selectmen
Second Vote	Reilly 4-0-1	Sestito – Aye Reilly – Aye Grey – Abstain* Pursel – Aye Constable – Aye

*Grey was not at the meeting on November 17, 2021

Motion	Grey	To approve the Minutes from the December 15, 2021 meeting of the Board of Selectmen
Second Vote	Sestito Unanimous	Grey – Aye Sestito – Aye Pursel – Aye Reilly – Aye Constable – Aye

APPOINTMENTS

Beach Management Committee Appointments – 2 Vacancies for Term to Expire in 2023

Rhoda Kanet, Chair of the Committee, said that David McDougall will be resigning from the Committee after beach grass planting, which would result in three openings. Lemnios confirmed, however, that there would only be two vacancies, both with terms to expire in 2023. Reilly said that the Board of Selectmen had formed the Committee so they could change its makeup and suggested that they increase the number of appointed members. There was a brief discussion as to whether an increase in numbers would make it difficult to schedule meetings and achieve a quorum, but Kanet said there was a great deal of work to be done, that they needed help, and they had never had a problem

achieving a quorum. Constable said that they had received four letters of interest for positions on this Committee and asked those present on the call to speak.

Jeff Erickson and Jan Murray said they are full-time residents and have grandchildren that are in Hull every summer. Erickson is retired and Murray is a fitness instructor. They said that they have not yet been involved with the Committee but the future of the beach and the environment are very important to them. They would like to help and are willing to learn.

Peter Pyclik said he moved to Hull about five years ago and is recently retired. He is interested in engaging the community in the management of the beach and would like to explore the possibility of involving local high school students in the effort. He said he is committed to community work and has a great deal of professional experience managing large scale projects.

The fourth candidate, Jon Plotkin, was not on the call.

Motion	Reilly	To expand the Beach Management Committee by two additional members
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Second	Sestito	
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Vote	Unanimous	Reilly – Aye Sestito – Aye Grey – Aye Pursel – Aye Constable – Aye
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Motion	Sestito	To appoint Jeff Erickson to the Beach Management Committee with a term to expire in 2023; to appoint Jan Murray with a term to expire in 2023; and to appoint Peter Pyclik with a term to expire in 2023
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Second	Grey	
Vote	Unanimous	Sestito – Aye Grey – Aye Reilly – Aye Pursel – Aye Constable – Aye

Reilly asked Lampke for an update on the issue of adding student representatives to a committee and whether they would be able to serve if they were under the age of eighteen. Lampke said they are still looking into this but should have an answer by the next meeting.

Town Clerk/Board of Selectmen Office Manager, Lori West re: 2022 Initiatives

Lemnios said that this appointment was being rescheduled to the next meeting.

Special Officer, Michael Sampson re: Interview for Animal Control Officer Position

Reilly said he had disclosed to the Town Clerk that the proposed candidate is his nephew so he will be recusing himself from this discussion. The disclosure is on file. Reilly left the meeting.

Sampson said he is thirty-one years old and is married with two children. He graduated from Hull High School in 2008 and subsequently worked with several departments in the Town, which he enjoyed. For the past seven years he has been a Special Police Officer for the Town and since 2017 has worked as a Reserve Deputy for the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department. He loves the Town and the community of Hull and feels he has a good relationship with Town employees, the Police Department itself, and with the Police Chief.

Sestito said Officer Sampson comes very highly recommended by his fellow officers and those in command. He noted that this position is one that a lot of people want to see filled. Pursel asked Sampson why he wanted to fill this position. He said he has a passion for animals and would enjoy the change in environment that this job would bring.

Motion	Sestito	To appoint Special Officer Michael Sampson to the position of Animal Control Officer
Second	Pursel	
Vote	Unanimous	Sestito – Aye Pursel – Aye Grey – Aye Constable – Aye

CORRESPONDENCE

Jennifer Stone, Conservation Commission re: Letter of Resignation from Conservation Commission

Motion	Grey	To accept the resignation of Jennifer Stone from the Conservation Commission
Second	Sestito	
Vote	Unanimous	Grey – Aye Sestito – Aye Pursel – Aye Constable – Aye

REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL

Mohamed Zeidan dba Hajj Auto Dealer, 55 Whitehead Avenue re: Class II Wholesale (Renewal)

Motion	Sestito	To approve the renewal of a Class II Wholesale License for Mohamed Zeidan dba Hajj Auto Dealer
Second	Reilly	
Vote	Unanimous	Sestito – Aye Reilly – Aye Grey – Aye Pursel – Aye Constable – Aye

Diane Costagliola, Library Director re: Disposal of Surplus Property

Constable said that the surplus items were four wood picture book shelving units and two wood rocking chairs. Reilly said that usually they check with other Town departments to see if anyone had use for them

Motion	Grey	To approve the disposal of four wood picture book shelving units and two wood rocking chairs from the Hull Public Library with the stipulation that they be offered to any Town department that might be able to use them
Second	Pursel	
Vote	Unanimous	Grey – Aye Pursel – Aye Reilly – Aye Sestito – Aye Constable – Aye

UPDATES

Lemnios said that the Atlantic Avenue project is moving along and by the next meeting he should have the schedule for completion. They have opened bids for the seawall at the opening of Gunrock Beach which needs to be repointed and refaced. He also noted that they are in the middle of budget preparation, which they hope to present to the Board by mid-February, and said that they are looking at initiatives with respect to both the Community

Development and Conservation Departments. One thought is to move Chris Krahforst into a Hazard Mitigation Planning Director type of position as he has a great skill set on that and there are significant grant dollars that will be available over the next several years as hazard mitigation becomes more relevant, especially for coastal communities. He said they are also exploring the possibility of hiring an Assistant Planning Director to help Chris DiIorio manage the Community Development Department and assist with securing grants for housing and economic development. Lemnios said they will also be putting forth a bond article/request for the renovation of Fort Revere.

Sestito asked about progress with work on the Memorial School. Lemnios said it is moving along but they are a little short on funds and there have been some supply chain issues. Pursel asked about the work that is going on at Mezzo Mare. Lemnios said it is part of a grant that included exterior seating space for the restaurant, which is Town-owned property, and should change the appearance of that entranceway into Town.

Pursel also commented that the lights that are on the main street look great and asked if they were seasonal, which Lemnios said they are. Pursel said she has noticed that a lot of the telephone poles in Town have wires in boxes hanging from them and she wondered whose equipment it is and whose responsibility it is to clean them up. Lemnios said it would be the responsibility of the installer and it would be helpful to have specific locations so they can have the Light Department chase them down. Grey said this situation is everywhere in Town and he doesn't think they are town wires. Pursel also noted that DCR has taken away the trash barrels that they did have out so trash is piling up where the barrels were. Lemnios said he would talk to Kevin Conway on that but suspects they are removed because they might get damaged during snow removal and some of these barrels are solar barrels and are very costly.

Pursel said she has heard from many residents about the wonderful transformation at the library. She also wanted to remind everyone about the Road-Diet presentation on January 11th which will outline what the plans are for this project. She said anyone interested can log in on the Hingham town website. Lemnios said there was a trial of this in 2019 and the Town of Hingham is now pursuing state transportation grant money and construction money. Constable noted that this was initiated in Hingham and there was a corridor study done that extended down through George Washington Boulevard. She asked Lemnios if they could post it on the Town's website as this will have effects in Hull and they should start shifting the focus onto the Hull end of the roadwork. Reilly said that how they manage the rotary is key as backups there tend to go into Hull.

Constable said that Paul Dunphy, who is a member of the War Memorial Commission wanted to let the Board know that local residents, Brian and Matthew Hurley, have volunteered time to help make some repairs to the monument and the work has been completed. Reilly asked Lemnios if DCR has let the Town know about the balance in the Trust Fund and the receipts from summer parking. Lemnios said they have not heard yet but he has sent an email to Susan Kane.

Reilly also noted the passing of several people: Retired Police Sergeant James Muncy, Donna Gagne, who worked for the Town for a number of years and used to volunteer driving the shuttle bus at the Senior Center, and John Dunn, who was married to Anne Marie Dunn who is on the Park and Recreation Commission but has also helped out in the Selectmen and Town Clerk's office during busy times. He would like to thank their families for the time they have given to the Town.

On a motion by Grey, seconded by Sestito, the Board voted unanimously by roll call to adjourn.

Recorded by Kathleen Fanning

Approved by:

Documents

The following documents were included in the members' packets or were presented during the meeting and are available in the Board of Selectmen's office upon request:

- Agenda for Board of Selectmen Meeting on January 5, 2022
- Letters of Interest for position on Beach Management Committee from: Jeff Erickson, Jan Murray, Jon Plotkin and Peter Pyclik
- Letter of Resignation from Conservation Commission from Jennifer Stone
- Library Surplus Disposal Request
- Material regarding renewal of Class II Wholesale license for Mohamed Zeidan dba Hajj Auto Dealer