

**Hull Select Board
Final Minutes
September 13, 2023**

The meeting of the Hull Select Board was held at 7:00 p.m. on September 13, 2023 at Hull Town Hall, 253 Atlantic Avenue, Hull, Massachusetts.

Present: Greg Grey; Irwin Nesoff, Vice-Chair; Jason McCann, Clerk; Brian McCarthy, Member; Jerry Taverna, Member. Also present were Town Counsel James Lampke and Town Manager Jennifer Constable.

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

APPOINTMENTS

Craig Wolfe, Nantasket Beach Car Show

Wolfe said the Car Show is to be held on Sunday, September 17th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. He said they have worked with DCR, the Hull Police Department and the State Police on the road closure. The proceeds will go to Cops for Kids with Cancer and the Veterans' programs of the Hull Lifesaving Museum. Wolfe said they are watching the potential for bad weather on Sunday due to Hurricane Lee and if they need to cancel the event, they will post it on their website.

War Memorial Commission re: Agent Orange Memorial

Commission Chair, Edward Burke, noted that it has been determined that Agent Orange, which was used extensively in the Viet Nam War, causes seventeen serious diseases, including eight different types of cancer, and that nationally over 300,000 veterans have died from exposure to Agent Orange, including eight veterans from Hull, and he is sure there will be more. He said that August 10th has been established as a national Agent Orange Awareness Day and the Commission would like to have a memorial stone placed at the War Memorial in time for a ceremony on August 10, 2024. He said they have asked two of the widows of deceased veterans to be on the committee that will decide what the memorial should look like and where it should be. They would like approval from the Select Board on this. He also noted that the third Friday of every September is POW/MIA Day, which will be this Friday, September 15th. They are planning a brief ceremony before the Hull High School football game on Friday night.

Motion	McCarthy	To approve the establishment of an Agent Orange Memorial Stone at the Hull War Memorial
Second Vote	Nesoff Unanimous	

APPROVALS

Armando Aguilar, 440 Nantasket Avenue, Hull Knights of Columbus re: One Day Liquor License on Saturday, October 14, 2023 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. for a Women's Softball League.

Motion	McCann	To approve a One Day Liquor License for the Hull Knights of Columbus on Saturday, October 14, 2023 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Second Vote	McCarthy Unanimous	

Armando Aguilar, 440 Nantasket Avenue, Hull Knights of Columbus re: One Day Liquor License on Sunday, October 29, 2023 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for a Birthday Party

Motion	McCann	To approve a One Day Liquor License for the Hull Knights of Columbus on Sunday, October 29, 2023 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
---------------	--------	--

**Second
Vote** Taverna
Unanimous

DISCUSSION

Hull Library Director Hiring Update & Interview Committee Selection/Appointment

Constable said that the position of Library Director is now vacant but they have received eight well-qualified applicants for the position. She said they will need to establish a selection committee to review the applications and narrow the field to a few final candidates who will be interviewed. She said that the Library Trustees have appointed Curt Miller as their representative, and she would like a representative from the Select Board. She will serve as well. McCann said he is very interested in serving on this committee.

Motion McCarthy To appoint Jason McCann as the Select Board's representative to the Selection Committee for the new Hull Library Director

**Second
Vote** Taverna
Unanimous

Massachusetts Area Planning Council (MAPC) Designee Appointment

Constable said that MAPC is Hull's regional planning agency and has been an exceptional resource for the Town. She said that each community has representation at MAPC and that Chris DiIorio is currently Hull's designated representative. Constable said she is currently serving as the agency's Vice President and would like to be able to continue in this role but in order to do so she would need the Board to make her the Town's designee and have DiIorio be the alternate designee. The feeling of the Board was that it is important to have someone from Hull representing the Town at such a high level in the organization.

Motion Taverna To appoint Jennifer Constable as Hull's Designee to the Massachusetts Area Planning Council (MAPC) with Chris DiIorio serving as the Alternate Designee

**Second
Vote** McCarthy
Unanimous

MBTA Advisory Board Committee – Appointment of Designee

Constable said the MBTA Advisory Board has recently obtained the right to a vote on MBTA matters. She said the new head of the Advisory Board has made a great effort to elevate the Board and make sure it is represented by as many cities and towns as possible. She noted that a town's designee is usually the Chair of the Select Board, but said she has served on the Board's Executive Committee and chaired the Ferry Committee and would like to continue that work, which would require that the Board name her the Town's Designee to the Committee. Taverna asked if her duties as Town Manager would leave enough time for this appointment but Constable said the commitment is not terribly heavy and is something she feels she would be able to handle. She said that representation on the Board and communication with other cities and towns about Hull's needs and priorities is important. McCann said he thinks communication with the public on service issues is essential. Constable agreed and said that perhaps they could have space for this in a potential newsletter.

Motion McCann To appoint Jennifer Constable as Hull's Designee to the MBTA Advisory Board Committee

**Second
Vote** Nesoff
Unanimous

Committee/Board Appointment Policy

Constable said she would like to have a discussion of the Board's policy for appointments and reappointments of Board-created committee members. She said it would be her recommendation that there be an ongoing posting of

committees on the town website and that citizens be encouraged to submit letters of interest for positions on these committees in on ongoing basis. These letters would be kept on file by the Town Clerk for a finite period (probably two years). Annually the Board would ask the Chair of each committee to reach out to any members whose terms were expiring to see if they were interested in continuing to serve on that committee. Members with expiring terms who are interested in continuing would automatically be reappointed and would not be brought in for an interview, assuming they have the support of the committee chair. These automatic reappointments could be made at a single meeting of the Board, making the process more efficient. If a member with an expiring term fails to respond to its chair, the position would be considered vacant. All committee vacancies would be posted on the town website and letters of interest on file with the Town Clerk could be pulled and those people brought in for interviews. Constable said she thinks that people would be more inclined to serve on a committee if they knew that they would be on for a significant period of time and that this would ensure that committees have experienced members who are up to speed on the mission and activities of their board or committee.

There was some discussion as to whether such reappointments should be made automatically or whether any person interested in serving on a committee should be interviewed. McCann and Nesoff said they feel that all vacancies should be advertised and that anyone interested in serving should be interviewed. Taverna said he was in basic agreement with this. Constable noted that reappointments would not be automatic and would only be made if the chair of a committee confirmed that the member wishing to be reappointed was an active and valuable member. McCann said he is concerned that such a policy might create a situation in which certain committees never had vacancies and new people were never appointed.

Grey said that the Board currently has approximately twenty-seven people to interview for open positions and feels that they should get through these and develop a more comprehensive policy at a later date. Constable suggested that this might be a topic for discussion at their annual retreat meeting. After discussion it was agreed that if a committee member's term is expiring and no one else has expressed an interest in the position, that person would be automatically reappointed without an interview. If another person has expressed an interest in the seat, both the current member and the new candidate would be interviewed. If there was more than one vacancy on a committee, the current member would be automatically reappointed and the new candidate would be interviewed for the additional vacancy.

Constable said she would go through the current list of vacancies with Lori West and determine who needs to be brought in for an interview. She suggested that the Board become familiar with the town software on town committees and think about establishing an appointment policy at their retreat meeting. She also said that the Board should evaluate the current committees to see if there are any that may no longer be needed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Andrew Grosso, Member, Permanent Sewer Commission re: Letter of Resignation

Grey read Grosso's letter of resignation to the Board. Constable said she would send Mr. Grosso a letter of thanks for his service on the Commission.

UPDATES

Grey said that due to delays caused by the Town Election and the Special Town Meeting it would be necessary for the Board to meet on both the 20th and 27th of September. He said that he is hoping that the Board can hold its Goal Setting Retreat on Saturday, October 14th. Constable explained that this is an opportunity for the Board to review the successes and challenges of the previous year, evaluate their existing goals and priorities, and set collective priorities and goals for the upcoming year. She said this also allows the Town Manager to align the Board's goals with those of the town departments and make sure there is adequate communication between them. The Board agreed to hold this meeting on the 14th, starting at 9:00 a.m.

Constable said she would like to add a "Town Manager's Report" to upcoming agendas which would give her an opportunity to give a general report on what is going on in the town. She said she had held an initial meeting with

all department heads and has scheduled one-on-one meetings with them to help determine their concerns and priorities. She said that on Friday she is meeting with the new Commissioner for DCR along with Rep. Meschino and Sen. O'Connor and they will be visiting the Point Allerton Seawall, Fort Revere, and the Front Beach area. She feels this will be an opportunity to meet the new commissioner and have him become acquainted with the town and with their projects and their needs/asks from DCR. She said the Town's relationship with DCR has improved over the past few years and she would like to see this continue. She will report back to the Board and the community on that meeting. She said she also attended her first meeting of the South Shore Regional Emergency Communication Center (SSRECC) which is a regional dispatch center for the towns of Hull, Hingham, Cohasset, and Norwell.

McCann said the Board of the Friends of the Paragon Carousel will have their main fundraiser, Derby Day, on Friday, September 22nd and encouraged people to attend. He mentioned that the Board has secured Goodwin Proctor as their "pro bono" counsel with respect to securing a lease from DCR and they are making good progress with these negotiations. He said the Endless Summer event was great.

Nesoff said that MAPC has a program called "Making it Public" which is a 5-week training program designed to help municipalities support, create, and promote public art. At the end of the five weeks the municipalities chosen to participate are awarded a \$15,000 grant to fund selected artists. He said that applications are due by October 13th and he would recommend that Hull apply for participation. He also thanked all those who put on the 9/11 Memorial event.

McCarthy said the owner of the XYZ property has started cleaning it up and that some progress has been made. He also said that in response to an email that he and Taverna had received he contacted the owner of a property on Manomet Avenue that has been abandoned since 2008. He said that the owner, who lives in Newton, has since been in Hull and is cleaning up the property. He said the Nantasket Beach Saltwater Club is holding their fish fry on Sunday the 17th from noon to 2:00 p.m.

Taverna said the 9/11 event was fantastic. He said he would like the Board to discuss bringing this back as a town-sponsored event. Lampke said it had been sponsored by the Town until last year. Constable noted that the Hull Fire and Police Departments had a small event to acknowledge the day.

Constable thanked Lisa Thornton and her staff for the "Summer Soiree" which she said was very well attended. She noted that the Home Rule Petition that was filed for the extension of certain town-owned property leases is going forward to its third reading and should go to the floor of the Legislature for a final vote soon. She said she is aware that there have been a number of inquiries about the Hampton Circle playground. She said this project is evolving and there have been some engineering design changes made. They are waiting to hear about final costs from the contractor. She said they will be holding a neighborhood meeting in the near future to address the changes and residents' concerns. Taverna asked about the status of the work on the Middle School and Constable said that this will be under the purview of the School Department.

Constable said she has been in contact with Hull's Emergency Response Team with respect to the upcoming weather event and said that National Grid will have two teams in Hull and Hull Light will maintain staff on extended hours. DCR is expecting to restrict parking in their lots in an effort to keep people from trying to view the storm when it is not safe to do so. She said the beach dune openings will be closed but will be reopened after the storm and that Police and Fire will increase staffing during the storm. She noted that DPW has free sandbags available for residents who might need them.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion	Grey	Move to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to litigation and that the Chair declare that an Open Meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the body; Move to go into Executive Session to comply with or act under the authority of the Attorney-Client privilege; Move to go into Executive Session to consult with legal counsel and obtain legal advice pursuant to the Attorney-Client privilege, and not to reconvene in Open Session. Subjects to include Devine v. Town of Hull, et al.
---------------	------	--

Second Vote	Nesoff Unanimous	Grey – Aye Nesoff – Aye McCann – Aye McCarthy – Aye Taverna – Aye
------------------------	---------------------	---

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the Open Session.

Recorded by Kathleen Fanning

Approved by:

Documents

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

- Agenda for Select Board meeting on September 13, 2023
- Applications from Hull Knights of Columbus for One Day Liquor Licenses on October 14, 2023 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. and on October 29, 2023 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Letter from Andrew Grosso resigning from the Hull Sewer Commission
- Information sheet about MAPC
- Information sheet about the MBTA Advisory Board