

**Hull Select Board
Final Minutes
January 3, 2024**

The meeting of the Hull Select Board was held at 7:00 p.m. on January 3, 2024 at Hull Town Hall, 253 Atlantic Avenue, Hull, Massachusetts.

Present: Greg Grey, Chair, Irwin Nesoff, Vice-Chair, Jason McCann, Clerk, Brian McCarthy, Member, Jerry Taverna, Member. Also present was Town Manager Jennifer Constable.

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

APPOINTMENTS

John Struzziery, Director of Wastewater Operations/Assistant Director of Public Works re: Road Paving Plan Update

Struzziery said the Paving Management Plan was started in 2018 and despite delays they have made a lot of progress and hope to complete the planned work this year. He said that \$10million was approved for this work and it was intended to be a five-year project. He said there are about fifty miles of roadway in Hull and the 2018 plan allowed for about twenty-eight miles of road to be improved. He said that approximately 12 miles of roadway were to be covered under the initial \$10million bond and the intent of the plan was to address roads in poor condition and roads with heavy traffic, as well as roads near places such as schools, and to distribute the work through various areas of the town. He said that an additional 8.5 miles were completed under the plan through funding sources that were not part of the \$10million bond and as a result they have been able to complete work on about 47% of the town roads, which he thinks is remarkable. He noted that to date they have spent about \$8.7million from the original bond but have completed almost \$23million in work.

Struzziery said that when the road bond was first appropriated there was no cost allocated for drainage improvements and other unforeseen complications but said they will be very aware of these contingencies going forward. He also noted that inflation has been a big factor over the past two years. He said that in the coming year they plan to complete work on Kenberma and Revere Street and Nantasket Avenue from Draper to Revere Street. If money and time are available, they will move to Allerton Hill, targeting Standish Avenue.

Struzziery said that in the coming year they hope to begin an assessment of work that needs to be done on Samoset and Manomet Avenues and he understands that there is now a Citizens Petition regarding Beach Avenue so this area may be included in that assessment. He said that decisions will need to be made as to how work on these roads will be funded and said it would be possible to apply for Transportation Improvement Project (TIP) funding as they did with the Atlantic Avenue project, but this would make it a multi-year project and the town would need to comply with all state criteria for roadways. He said they do not need to make an immediate decision on this but should be thinking about the best way to move forward.

Grey asked about the length of roadway on Samoset and Manomet Avenues and whether they would need massive repairs. Constable said the two roads would be about 2 miles and she assumes there would be numerous issues including drainage and utilities that should be addressed when the work is done. DPW Director, Chris Gardner, and Struzziery agreed and said there are drainage issues on these roadways as well as potential problems with the sewer and gas lines. Struzziery said that \$500,000 in the original bond had been allocated for an assessment of this area and they will be using a small portion of this to do an assessment and see how they want to move forward on this project. He said that if they do pursue TIP funding, they will need to consider issues such as traffic patterns, travel lanes, bike lanes, and signage. He said the project might take as long as five to ten years but that all the construction costs would be covered and the result would be much better. Grey asked about the Citizens Petition regarding Beach Avenue. Constable said that stretch of roadway clearly needs repair but is not in the original road paving plan. She said they are considering having it as part of the assessment on Samoset and Manomet as they will need to coordinate the utilities underneath this roadway as well as consider the impact on the dunes.

McCann asked if the Town should be thinking about potential funding sources or whether they should consider a potential new bond for an additional five-year roadway plan. Constable said the town currently has multiple needs and some projects have steep price tags and that as part of the Capital Improvement planning process they are looking at which projects have opportunities for grant funds. She said roadway work has the potential for significant funding from the state and that although the timeline for the project would be longer the cost burden would be shared with the state.

Anne Murray from Summit Avenue asked if work will be completed on roadways that were part of the original plan that have not currently had any work done. Constable said that not all the proposed improvements will be possible with the money from the initial bond, but that once the money is expended assessments and decisions will be made as to which roads are still in need of work. Struzziery said that the initial plan provides a good framework and if there is any money left from the original bond it will be used to assess where the greatest needs are.

David Irwin, re: Letter of Interest to serve as a full member on the War Memorial Commission.

Joseph Grieco, re: Letter of Interest to serve on the War Memorial Commission

Irwin said he is a fifty-three-year resident of Hull and has served on numerous boards and committees in the town. He said he is currently an alternate member of the War Memorial Commission but would like to become a permanent voting member.

Constable said that currently there is one permanent and one alternate spot open and Irwin and Grieco are the only applicants. She said that due to a work commitment Joseph Grieco was not available for this meeting.

Motion	Nesoff	To appoint David Irwin to a one-year position on the War Memorial Commission
Second Vote	McCarthy Unanimous	
Motion	McCann	To appoint Joseph Grieco as an alternate member on the War Memorial Commission
Second Vote	McCarthy Unanimous	

Joseph Grieco, re: Letter of Interest to serve on the Veteran's Council

Motion	McCarthy	To appoint Joseph Grieco as a member of the Veteran's Council
Second Vote	Nesoff Unanimous	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion	McCann	To approve the minutes of the Select Board meetings on September 27, 2023, October 11, 2023, November 15, 2023, November 29, 2023, and December 6, 2023
Second Vote	Nesoff Unanimous	

DISCUSSION

Boards and Committees

Constable said she has provided a chart of Town boards and committees that is grouped by those that are elected, those that are appointed by the Select Board but exist either by the Town Bylaws or by statute, and those that are

Select Board-created. She said it is her understanding that the Board wanted to appoint liaisons to the Select Board created and Statutory/Bylaw committees that do not currently have one. She said that at present Nesoff serves as the liaison to the Affordable Housing Committee, the Beach Management Committee, and the Zoning Bylaw Committee and that McCann is the liaison to the Economic Development Committee.

Constable suggested that the Board establish criteria as to what the expectations are for the liaisons. Nesoff said he feels it is important for a liaison to attend a meeting of the designated committee to introduce himself, and determine with the committee how often he would attend meetings. He said it is important that the Chair of each committee knows that there is a point of contact on the Select Board when issues arise. McCann suggested that Board members give brief updates on their various committees as part of the regular update section of Select Board meetings, and if they feel there is an important issue, they could place it on an agenda for further discussion. It was decided that liaisons would serve for the duration of their tenure on the Select Board unless a change needed to be made sooner.

After discussion the following liaisons were appointed to the Select Board-created Committees:

Motion	Nesoff	To appoint Jerry Taverna as the Select Board's liaison to the 100% Clean Energy Climate Action Committee
Second Vote	McCarthy Unanimous	
Motion	Taverna	To appoint Jason McCann as the Select Board's liaison to the Hull Cultural Council
Second Vote	McCarthy Unanimous	
Motion	McCann	To appoint Greg Gry as the Select Board's liaison to the Hull No Place for Hate Committee
Second Vote	Nesoff Unanimous	
Motion	McCann	To appoint Brian McCarthy as the Select Board's liaison to the Veteran's Council
Second Vote	Nesoff Unanimous	
Motion	McCann	To appoint Jerry Taverna as the Select Board's liaison to the Weir River Estuary Commission
Second Vote	Nesoff Unanimous	

The following appointments were made to the Bylaw/Statutory committees (Grey said he is currently the liaison to the Council on Aging):

Motion	McCann	To appoint Jerry Taverna as the Select Board's liaison to the Park and Recreation Commission
Second Vote	Nesoff Unanimous	
Motion	Nesoff	To appoint Jason McCann as the Select Board's liaison to the Historic District Commission and the Historical Commission
Second Vote	Taverna Unanimous	
Motion	McCann	To appoint Brian McCarthy as the Select Board's liaison to the Board of Health
Second Vote	Nesoff Unanimous	

Motion	Taverna	To appoint Greg Grey as the Select Board's liaison to the Community Preservation Committee
Second Vote	McCarthy Unanimous	
Motion	McCarthy	To appoint Jerry Taverna as the Select Board's liaison to the Conservation Commission
Second Vote	Nesoff Unanimous	
Motion	Nesoff	To appoint Brian McCarthy as the Select Board's liaison to the Permanent Sewer Commission
Second Vote	McCann Unanimous	
Motion	Nesoff	To appoint Jerry Taverna as the Select Board's liaison to the War Memorial Commission
Second Vote	McCann Unanimous	
Motion	McCann	To appoint Jerry Taverna as the Select Board's liaison to the Zoning Board of Appeals
Second Vote	Nesoff Unanimous	

Constable said she would put together a listing of the Chairs of each committee and suggested that the Select Board liaison reach out to them personally.

Constable noted that there are several inactive town committees that have either completed their charge or have not met. She said those who have completed their charge are: 375th Anniversary Committee, Cable Television Commission, South Shore Vocational Exploratory Committee, Town Manager Semi-Finalist Search Committee, and the Website Committee. She recommended that the Board vote these Committees as inactive so they can be removed from the Town website.

Motion	Nesoff	To designate the 375 th Anniversary Committee, the Cable Television Committee, The South Shore Vocational Exploratory Committee, the Town Manager Semi-Finalist Search Committee and the Website Committee as inactive
Second Vote	McCarthy Unanimous	

Constable said there were also several committees with incomplete missions, which means that they either never met or have become inactive. She said that if the Board wants to reactivate any of these committees, they should post something on the website.

Grey said that he has heard from residents who would like to see the Beautification Committee brought back to life. Steven Greenberg said this was initiated by the Chamber of Commerce several years ago and there is a strong sentiment in the town for such a committee. McCarthy and Taverna agreed that it should be reactivated and McCarthy said he would be happy to serve as liaison if this were to happen. Constable suggested that she, McCarthy, and a member of the Chamber of Commerce and/or the Garden Club have a discussion on this.

Constable said the Capital Outlay Committee has become inactive but she feels that this is an important committee. She said the state has a statute related to Capital Improvement Committees and she would like to do some research to determine the charge of the town's committee and see if it meets the requirements of the statute. She will report back on this but feels this committee should remain in place.

Constable said the Canine Control Committee is a Bylaw committee that was established at Town Meeting when the town did not have an animal control officer, which they now have. She said that unless there is a “sunset clause” in the bylaw relating to this committee they would need a vote at Town Meeting to remove it as a Town committee.

McCarthy said he has been approached by several people who would like to see the Hull Hero Award Committee reactivated. Grey noted that there are substantial expenses and time involved with this. McCarthy said he would follow up on this and get more information.

Constable said she would reach out to David Carlon regarding the Logan Airport Committee since he represented Hull in its efforts to divert air traffic away from Allerton Hill. She said the committee is defunct but its mission is incomplete. She noted that Carlon had represented the town well.

McCann said that many towns have a Traffic and Parking Advisory Committee and this is something he would like to explore as he thinks that people would like a forum in which to air their feelings about traffic issues in Hull. Constable said she would be curious to know which towns have such a committee and who is on it, and Nesoff said it would be good to know what the charge of these committees is. McCann said he would do some research and would also speak with the Police Chief to determine his feelings on having such a committee. Taverna said he thinks that the Select Board should revisit the issue of raising the parking limit in the HRA lot back to 1,000. Grey said they have had a request from the HRA for a meeting because they are considering installing a kiosk in their lot and would like to know the numbers before the end of January so they can get their bid out. Grey said this will be coming before the Board soon.

Constable said that the Public Land Use Committee was formed but she does not believe they ever met. She thinks their first task was to identify public access ways throughout the town but said that some of this work is now being done by other town committees. McCann asked if there was a CPA grant to do an inventory of public lands. Grey said he thinks the town did have a grant to study access points in Hull and Constable said she would investigate this as she feels it would be the best place to start on an inventory of public lands.

Constable said a previous Select Board had voted to establish a 250th United States Anniversary Committee in anticipation of 2026 and she will bring it to the Board for composition and appointments. Nesoff noted that they will need to put out a Public Notice on this and Grey said he feels a lot of people will be interested.

McCann said the Board had discussed forming a new Fort Revere Committee and said he had put together a potential charge and composition for such a committee. Grey said he feels that such a committee is long overdue but is not sure of the committee composition that McCann has suggested (representatives from Historic Commission, DPW, Police, Planning, Select Board, and two citizens at large) as he feels that fewer staff and more citizens at large should be included. Constable agreed that it would not make sense to have so many staff members on the committee and noted that the property is a patchwork of state and town ownership so coordination with DCR would be needed. She also said it is possible that Fort Revere would come under the umbrella of one of the other town committees. Taverna agreed that more citizens and fewer staff would be a better way to go and suggested having DPW and Police liaisons to the committee so that they could be kept informed and could attend meetings when necessary. Taverna asked Constable where they stood in terms of the funding that the Town had voted for Fort Revere. Constable said it has gone out to bid and it is the town’s intention to move forward with that work. McCann said he was going to take more time to formulate the charge and composition of a committee and they can vote on it at a future meeting.

Town Manager: Presentation of Memorandum of Agreement by and between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Department of Conservation and Recreation) and the Town of Hull

Constable said that in late November the Town received a Memorandum of Understanding from DCR that outlines the formation of a DCR and Town of Hull working group that will meet quarterly, and more frequently if needed, to create an Annual Work Plan, review budget allowances and commitments, review and make recommendations on DCR access permits, and discuss long-term planning and construction initiatives. She said that this Agreement has taken several years to complete, partly due to the frequent turnover of DCR Commissioners. She said the Agreement would be in effect for five years and the working group would be comprised of designees from DCR and from the Town of Hull.

Constable said that under the Agreement the Town is required to provide \$250,000 in secured ARPA funds for immediate improvements and emergency repairs to the Nantasket Boardwalk area, and to identify funding sources and to cooperate with DCR in securing additional grants for work agreed upon in the Nantasket Beach Reservation Plan, the Unified Work Plan, Local Rapid Recovery Plan, and/or the Two-Way Roads Plan. She noted that due to the nature of the ownership of the land both DCR and the Town of Hull are required to sign off on applications for funding. She said that the Town's designated representatives shall attend all quarterly meetings and that the Town is required to inform DCR of any work or plan development in the vicinity of the Nantasket Beach Reservation area.

Constable said that DCR is responsible for preparing, updating, and managing the Annual Work Plan to accurately reflect the condition of and the work performed within the reservation area and to cooperate with the Town in efforts to obtain grants for agreed-upon work. DCR also agrees to meet representatives from the Town on a quarterly basis to discuss projects and to provide timely responses to inquiries from the Town regarding ongoing roadway design work. She said that all access permits for DCR land shall be forwarded to the working group for review and recommendation to DCR as the permitting authority. Constable said that in the past the permits have been an issue as they were not always reviewed in a timely manner. DCR is also required to provide yearly reporting regarding the Nantasket Trust Fund which would include information on previous year expenditures, proposed expenditures, budget projections and potential future expenditures.

Constable said she thinks this Agreement is an excellent first step in establishing communication and building a relationship with DCR and would recommend that the Board authorize either her or the Select Board Chair to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Town and the Board.

Nesoff said he does not think the Town should enter into this Agreement as currently written because it does not contain any provision for DCR to clean up the derelict properties on Nantasket Avenue. Constable said it has not been defined yet what the projects are that will be addressed by the working group and that this Agreement would solidify communication between DCR and the Town. The other Board members understood Nesoff's passion about the issue, but felt that this Agreement is an excellent starting point in forming a working relationship with DCR and addressing existing problems. Constable said that part of the issue with the property involves environmental concerns and said that DCR has presented some revisions to their Master Plan that contains placement of green, resiliency features on their land because of sea level rise. She said that the new Commissioner visited the area several months ago and recognizes that there are problems that need to be addressed. She feels this Agreement will help to begin a collaborative conversation with DCR.

Motion	McCann	To authorize Select Board Chair, Greg Grey, and/or the Town Manager, Jennifer Constable, to sign the Memorandum of Agreement with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Town of Hull subject to any further internal legal review
Second Vote	McCarthy 4-0-1*	*Nesoff abstained

APPROVAL

William Simmons re: Livery Badge for Bayside Coach Livery Service

Motion	Nesoff	To approve the Livery Badge for William Simmons for Bayside Coach Livery Service
Second Vote	McCarthy Unanimous	

TOWN MANAGER REPORT AND BOARD UPDATES

Constable gave a brief update on the status of Hull's settlement from opioid litigation. She said that during FY23 the town received \$86,438.24 and this fiscal year they have received \$15,004.37. She said that in the fall she started a subcommittee of staff members from Public Safety and the Board of Health to discuss uses for these funds, which

need to be directed toward a response to the crisis. Constable said the funds from this settlement will be paid out over a period of up to fifteen to twenty years and will probably average about \$15,000 annually.

Nesoff reminded everyone that Hull No Place for Hate will be sponsoring a Day of Service and Remembrance for Wellspring on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 15th, from noon to 2:00 p.m. He said there be a program with poetry, and a slide show, and they are asking people to bring non-perishable food items for Aunt Dot's Kitchen.

Constable said the next scheduled meeting of the Board is January 17th but they will have a full agenda and asked if the Board would like to meet on the 10th to have a discussion of Select Board goals and priorities and policies and procedures. The Board agreed to meet.

On a motion by McCarthy, seconded by Taverna, the Board voted unanimously 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 Select Board's office upon request:

- Agenda for Select Board Meeting on January 3, 2024
- Pavement Management Plan Update
- Letter from David Irwin re: permanent position on War Memorial Commission
- Applications from Joseph Grieco re: positions on the War Memorial Commission and the Veteran's Council
- Listing and information on Town Boards and Committees
- Memorandum of Understanding between DCR and the Town of Hull
- Application from William Simmons for a Livery Badge for Bayside Coach Livery Service