Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Select Board  
Tuesday, October 6, 2020  
Remote Online Meeting (Zoom 869 3602 7682)  
Called to Order at 12:00 p.m.

Remotely participating were Board members Harvey Boshart, Christopher Houston, and Laurie Bent, Chair. Also present were Town Manager Leon A. Gaumond, Jr., Assistant Town Manager/Human Resources Director Lisa Yanakakis, and Recording Secretary Kara Fleming.

Ms. Bent called the remote meeting to order and read the following:  

Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order concerning imposition on strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, meetings in the Town of Weston will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. We will strive to provide access to such meetings via a link to call in, or other similar option. In the event we are unable to accommodate the same, despite best efforts, we will post recorded sessions of the meeting as soon as possible following the same. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings.

Executive Session Exemption 2: discussion with respect to non-union personnel; and Exemption 3: discussion with respect to collective bargaining

MOTION: Ms. Bent moved that the Select Board vote to go into executive session for the following purposes: Exemption 2, to discuss strategy with respect to non-union personnel, and Exemption 3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining. She declared that an open meeting will have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Board. And further, that the Board will resume in open session.

Roll call vote: Mr. Boshart, Mr. Houston and Ms. Bent voted in the affirmative. Approved unanimously

Resident Comments
There were none.

Fall Special Town Meeting and 2021 Annual Town Meeting Cycle
Mr. Gaumond reported that he and Finance Director Susan Kelley were able to get information from the state Department of Revenue to help determine if any adjustments to the Recreation Enterprise Fund would be needed before setting the tax rate by the end of the calendar year. He said nothing needs to be done that would require a fall Special Town Meeting. Ms. Bent asked if the Community Preservation Committee had received any applications for Community Preservation Act funding, to which Mr. Gaumond said the committee received two applications but neither would require any action before the Annual Town Meeting.

The Select Board discussed the timing of the Town Caucus, the Town Election, and the Annual Town Meeting. With uncertainty surrounding the ongoing coronavirus public health emergency, the Board was hesitant to set the dates for 2021 events; however, developing the operating budget is a five-month process that begins in late October with the annual Financial Summit. The Board discussed this timing but did not decide on the date other than holding off until November.
Fiscal Year 2021 Non-Union Compensation Plans
Lisa Yanakakis, Assistant Town Manager/Human Resource Director

Ms. Yanakakis reminded the Board that five of the six municipal contracts were settled this past year through fiscal year 2022, with the Library contract expiring in fiscal 2020. The fiscal 2021 cost of living adjustment for four of the five contracts was 2.25 percent and the fifth was 2 percent. Ms. Yanakakis informed the Board that the consumer price index for the Boston area has slowed from the previous year, from July 2019 at 2.0 percent to July 2020 at 0.8 percent; however, there is an equity issue with setting the non-union cost of living adjustment. She reminded the Board that non-union members cannot collectively bargain, but they do have the right to unionize. The approximate cost of the proposed 2 percent increase is $130,000.

MOTION: Mr. Houston moved to establish the fiscal year 2021 compensation plans, effective retroactively to July 1, 2020, with an increase of 2 percent over the fiscal 2020 amounts. 2nd by Mr. Boshart.
Roll call vote: Mr. Houston, Mr. Boshart and Ms. Bent voted in the affirmative. Approved unanimously

Consent agenda

MOTION: Mr. Boshart moved to approve the consent agenda, as follows:
Approve Select Board Minutes: September 10, 2019 regular session, May 7, 2020 regular session, May 12, 2020 regular session, July 28, 2020 regular session, and July 31, 2020 regular session.

Accept a gift of stocks from the Helen Zolla Estate with an undetermined value with half of the proceeds going to the Council on Aging to be spent under the direction of the Town Manager and the other half to the Weston Public Schools to be spent under the direction of the School Committee.

Approve the Regional Housing Services Office Intermunicipal Agreement effective October 1, 2020 to June 30, 2023.

Approve a request from the Council on Aging to accept a gift of $100 from Linda Stantial and $250 from William R. Ebsworth and Anandi Pratap, both to be applied to the Miscellaneous Gift Account.

2nd by Mr. Houston
Roll call vote: Mr. Boshart, Mr. Houston and Ms. Bent voted in the affirmative. Approved unanimously

MOTION: Ms. Boshart moved to adjourn. 2nd by Mr. Houston
Roll call vote: Mr. Boshart, Mr. Houston and Ms. Bent voted in the affirmative. Approved unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

Harvey R. Boshart
Clerk

Note: A copy of all documents, explanatory material, and exhibits presented to and used by the Select Board as part of this meeting are attached to the approved minutes