

**Carver Select Board
Meeting Minutes
Town Hall- 108 Main Street
April 9, 2024 - 5:00pm**

In Attendance: Chair Mark Townsend, Vice-Chair Jim Hoffman, John Cotter, Sarah Hewins, Dan Ryan, Interim Town Administrator Elaine Weston and Shelby Roy

Also in Attendance: Finance Director, Karen Preval

Chair led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the community prayer.

Citizens Participation:

Judy Richards – 5 Lillian Way

Richards asked why the Town is spending so much money to keep the North Carver Water District Open if there are so many issues. Richards also asked why the Town is getting water from Middleboro.

Approval of the Election Warrant for April 27, 2024

Motion to approve the Election Warrant for April 27, 2024 by Ryan, second by Hoffman.

Vote 5-0

Discussion and possible vote to amend Town Financial Policy Statements #3F, 6 and 7

Finance Director, Karen Preval reviewed these sections with the Board and stated that she supports the idea of having reserve funds be allocated annually.

Preval asked the Board to revisit the policies once she reviews the FY25 budget.

Cotter would like to meet with Preval to go over the history for this.

Townsend stated the Board has come a long way with these and suggested that the new Town Administrator could help pull this together more.

Hewins agreed and explained that since Preval is still new she should focus on her duties for her job in the meantime. Once the budget is put together a working group can be put together for these statements to discuss further.

Ryan asked if this required an Annual Town Meeting vote.

Townsend stated that these are Select Board policies and not bylaws.

Superintendent, Scott Knief and Chief Operations & Finance Officer, Ron Griffin were present and did not have any input at this time.

Preval stated that she is looking forward to working on this and that her door is always open to help bring this process up to speed.

Preval reviews the School Budget FY25 Projections handout.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) projects update

Weston presented a Powerpoint to the Board for this update.

At the last Board meeting, Weston updated the Board that the Fiber network was submitted for reimbursement. The Town found out today that this project was rejected due to insufficient back up. This is the first and only project to date that has been rejected. Since the Town was notified today, there has not been time yet to look into this.

This project put \$211,000 back into available funds for Plymouth County. The Town is awaiting a few potential requests for funds.

The Plymouth County Commissioners are scheduled to meet on April 25th and the Town is anticipating that they will vote for the deadline on ARPA commitments to be extended from June 30, 2024 to sometime later in 2024.

Discussion and possible vote to select a Town Administrator (TA) and enter into contract negotiations

The Board discussed how the interview process went with the candidates. Each member gave their opinion and thoughts for each candidate: Charles Kokoros, Jason Silva & Glenn Cannon

Townsend & Hewins met with the Fire Chief, DPW and Police Lieutenant for Glenn's Town.

Ryan & Cotter met with the Fire, Police, DPW & Finance Director for Jason & Charles's Towns.

After discussing, the Board agreed to take Jason Silva out of the candidate pool due to his location.

The Board explained that they felt very strongly with Silva's great financial and personnel management skills, but the commute would be too difficult.

Each Member stated their #1 choice:

Ryan – Charles

Cotter – Glenn

Townsend – Glenn

Hoffman – Glenn

Hewins – Glenn

Motion to enter into contract negotiations with Glenn Cannon for the Town Administrator contract by Hoffman, second by Hewins.

Vote 5-0

Interim Town Administrator Update – Elaine Weston

- Operations & Maintenance installed the Turtle protection silt fencing around the pickle ball area today behind the Council on Aging. Some parking space will be lost as the fencing must encompass the entire work area. The fencing is buried 8” in the ground and must remain intact. The Certified Turtle Biologist will be inspecting the site weekly once work begins.
- Weston congratulated the Town Clerk, Cara Dahill who recently qualified for the Massachusetts Town Clerk’s Association Certified Massachusetts Municipal Clerk designation. She will be receiving her pin and certificate on June 6. Only about 1/3 Town Clerk’s hold this designation.
- Connie Kelly, Council on Aging Director is in the process of being a Certified Council on Aging Director.
- The School will be presenting their budget update at the Finance Committee meeting on April 22. The Select Board has been invited to attend.

Approval of Minutes: March 19, 2024 Open Session and Executive Session for release and March 28, 2024

March 19, 2024 Open Session

Motion to approve as amended by Ryan, second by Hewins.

Vote 5-0

March 19, 2024 Executive Session

Motion to approve as amended by Ryan, second by Hewins.

Vote 5-0

March 28, 2024 Open Session

Motion to approve by Ryan, second by Cotter.

Vote 5-0

Select Board Announcements

Hewins – Friends of the Carver Council on Aging (COA) is holding a fundraiser with Cupcake Charlies to benefit the seniors at the COA. This closes on April 12th and copies of the form that need to be filled out are on their website and in the Select Board office. Also reminded the residents of Shane Gives Thanks food pantry.

Hoffman – reminded the public of the Kane Strong Golf Outing on May 11th. They are still looking for raffle items.

Ryan – Stated that the process for searching for a Town Administrator (TA) went really well. Also, wished faculty and students to have a happy and safe vacation next week.

Cotter – Echoed the process of the TA search and thanked the candidates for their time.

Townsend – Also, stated that the hiring process went well for the TA. He also wanted to congratulate Town Clerk, Cara Dahill for qualifying for the Massachusetts Town Clerk's Association Certified Massachusetts Municipal Clerk designation.

Next Meeting: April 16, 2024

Motion to adjourn at 6:27pm and go into Executive Session Pursuant to General Laws, c. 30A, sec. 21(a)(2), to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel; Town Administrator Glenn Cannon, if discussion would have a detrimental effect on the negotiation position of the Town, and to not return to open session by Hewins, second by Ryan.

Roll Call: Affirmative – Hewins, Cotter, Townsend, Ryan, Hoffman

Exhibits: Town Financial Policy Statement #3F, 6 & 7, ARPA Update PowerPoint presentation, 3/19/24 Open & Executive Session Minutes, 3/28/24 Open Session Minutes