

TOWN OF WENHAM
Board of Selectmen
Meeting of March 5, 2019
Town Hall, 138 Main Street

Pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §§ 18-25, written notice posted by the Town Clerk delivered to all Board members, a meeting of the Board of Selectmen (BOS) was held on Tuesday March 5, 2019 at 5 pm in the Selectmen Chambers 1st floor.

The Town of Wenham has a three-member Board of Selectmen elected for three-year terms with one seat up for election each year. Jack Wilhelm (2019), Catherine Harrison (2020), John Clemenzi (2021)

The Board of Selectmen serve as the chief executive body of the Town. The board's duties include in part appointing the Town Administrator and other board/committee members, developing goals and policies, preparing the town report, the annual budget, and presenting the warrant for Town Meeting.

The Board typically meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm in Town Hall. The BOS meetings are posted on the Town calendar. All meetings are open to the public and may be viewed on local cable channels, HWCAM.org or You Tube HWCAM.

Call to Order - With a quorum present, Ms. Harrison called the BOS meeting to order at 5:12pm
Selectmen present: Catherine Harrison, Chair John Clemenzi, Vice Chair;
Also present: Peter Lombardi, Town Administrator; Catherine Tinsley, Recording Secretary

Public Information

- Ms. Harrison announced that Selectman Jack Wilhelm, due to distance, would participate remotely by telephone in accordance with Attorney General's Regulation 940 CMR29.10.

The Chair clarified the connection between all parties clearly audible and stated that all votes during the meeting would be by roll call vote.

- Meeting packet
- The meeting was recorded with permission by HWCAM

There was a brief discussion regarding the amendment of the agenda and when to reschedule the Wenham Museum executive session; date to be determined.

Executive Session - AFSME, Police Benevolent Association of Wenham, Wenham Call Firefighters Association

Vote: Ms. Harrison moved to enter into Executive Session under M.G.L. Ch. 30A, § 21 (3) To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the Town regarding Benevolent Association of Wenham, and to return to open session. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The Selectman returned to open session at 6:31 pm and Ms. Harrison reiterated Selectman Wilhelm was participating remotely in accordance with 940 CMR29.10.

Public Input - None

Announcements

- Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Plan Listening Session – Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 7:00pm
- Warrant Hearing – Monday, April 1, 2019 7:00 pm, Buker Elementary Multi-Purpose Room
- WVIS Luncheon – Saturday, April 6, 2019 12:00 pm, Buker Elementary Multi-Purpose Room
- Annual Town Meeting – Saturday, April 6, 2019 1:00 pm, Buker Elementary Perkins Auditorium - The Hamilton- Wenham Regional High School National Honor Society will again offer childcare at the library during Town Meeting.
- Annual Town Elections – Thursday, April 11, 2019 7:00 am – 8:00 pm, Town Hall - Voters must be registered by March 15th to vote in the Annual Town Election. Please contact the Town Clerk's office for information on absentee voting.

Reports

- Town Administrator Mr. Lombardi announced that the Wenham & Hamilton Joint Board of Health would hold a joint public hearing on March 13 at 8 pm in Wenham Town Hall to gather public input on regulations entitled "Prohibiting Tobacco Products in Schools". These regulations would include enforcement fines that could be levied against anyone using tobacco products including but not limited to cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and nicotine products on a school campus. This hearing notice was published in the Hamilton Wenham Chronicle.

New Business

- Appointment Board of Registrars: Daniel Curran
- Email regarding Board of Registrars Appointment from Dianne Bucco, Town Clerk, March 1, 2019
- Email regarding Board of Registrars Appointment from Dianne Bucco, Town Clerk, February 25, 2019
- Email regarding Board of Registrars Appointment from Dianne Bucco, Town Clerk, February 21, 2019
- Email regarding Board of Registrars Appointment from Dianne Bucco, Town Clerk, March 1, 2019

Vote: Mr. Clemenzì moved to appoint Daniel Curran to the Board of Election Registrars for a term beginning on March 5, 2019 for the purpose of the voter residency complaint hearing and resolution. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

- Vote to Reopen Town Meeting Warrant

Vote: Mr. Clemenzì moved to reopen the April 6, 2019 Annual Town Meeting Warrant. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

- Vote to Place School Operating Override Questions on April 2019 Ballot

The BOS voted unanimously by roll call vote to place the Proposed Form of Proposition 2 ½ Operating Override questions on the on the April 11, 2019 Ballot:

- Shall the Town of Wenham be allowed to assess an additional \$499,145 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the Town of Wenham's annual assessment for the FY 2020 Hamilton Wenham Regional School District operating budget as adopted by the Hamilton Wenham Regional School Committee?
- Shall the Town of Wenham be allowed to assess an additional \$116,119 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the Town of Wenham's annual assessment for the FY 2020 Hamilton Wenham Regional School District operating budget, particularly as adopted by the Hamilton Wenham Regional School Committee for Other Post-Employment Benefits and a School Resource Officer? The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Old Business

Ms. Harrison explained the following two agenda items were left on the agenda from a previous meeting in the event there was an update but there was no new information on the Appraisal Report for Maple Wood land, 65 Maple Street, or the Maple Wood project.

- Review of Property Appraisal Report of Maple Wood Project Land
- Maple Woods Senior Affordable Housing Project

- Discussion of Potential Back-up Dates for Town Meeting Continuance

In the event the Annual Town Meeting needs to be continued from April 6 to another date, the Buker School and participating officials were available Thursday April 25.

Ms. Harrison suggested to set the back update at the same time as the Town Meeting to have the dates closer together.

If Town Meeting needs to be continued, the BOS set April 25 as the backup date.

- Final Review of and Recommendation Votes on All Warrant Articles

The Selectmen made final votes to recommend to Town Meeting. **All votes were done by roll call.**

- Article 4 - Town Counsel added language to Article 4 to be consistent with the ballot question to call out that the operating override is to be used to fund School Resource Officer and Other Post-Employment Benefits. No action necessary.

- Article 12 – Community Preservation Act Appropriations

6) Motion for the Community House \$50,000, was amended by Town Counsel to include language to mirror Hamilton's wording that the project must commence by July 1, 2020 or the authorization would expire. The BOS has discretion to extend the deadline.

The Selectmen recommended favorable action 3-0-0

- Article 13 – Bylaw Amendment HD/HDC

The new "section one" of the HDC bylaw did not reference the HDC jurisdiction was specific to the Historic District(s). Language was added by Town Counsel and accepted by the BOS.

The Selectmen recommended favorable action 3-0-0

Approved April 30, 2019

○ Zoning Bylaw Amendment: Signs

Mr. Lombardi identified amended language and noted these were not substantive changes.

The BOS will have the ability to create a policy for non-municipal signs on public property and defining placement, size, duration, etc.

In 7.3 General Standards for Signs, the language for public way was replaced with *paved road way or sidewalk or adjacent public between paved road and sidewalk*.

The BOS voted unanimously by roll call to rescind the former motion relative to Zoning Bylaw Amendment Signs.

The BOS voted unanimously by roll call vote to place this article on the April 6, 2019 Town Meeting Warrant.

The Selectmen recommended favorable action to the amended motion 3-0-0

Associate Planning Board

The change to add an associate member to the Planning Board was confirmed as a Zoning Bylaw change and a Public Hearing is required in advance of the Town Meeting. Since there has not been a Public Hearing, this article may not be placed on the warrant and would be held for another town meeting.

○ Article 18 – Elections

There are 3 ballot questions in Article 18.

The order of the articles on the warrant was briefly discussed.

The financial articles were historically at the beginning of the warrant. This year the first 12 articles were financially related.

After a brief discussion the BOS settled on the following order of importance:

Article 14 - Acceptance of Settlers Lane

Article 15 - Zoning Bylaw: Site Plan Review

Article 16 - Zoning Bylaw: Signs

Article 17 - Zoning Bylaw: Penalties

Article 18 - Elections (no action by Town Meeting)

Regarding the Order of the motions in CPA Article 12, The BOS placed Harborlight/ Maple Woods as last.

Mr. Wilhelm noted he was absent from the meeting the BOS took a position on Harborlight and asked to revote this recommendation to Town Meeting.

Ms. Harrison moved to rescind the BOS vote to recommend favorable action on Harborlight and it was unanimous to do so by roll call vote.

Ms. Harrison moved to recommend favorable action to Town Meeting on Harborlight \$750,0000 grant and the motion carried by roll call vote with Selectmen Wilhelm and Clemenzj voted in the affirmative and Selectman Harrison voted in the negative. 2-1-0

● Vote to Close Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Vote: Mr. Clemenzj moved the BOS close and execute the April 6, 2019 Annual Town Meeting Warrant and to authorize such revisions as recommended by Town Counsel. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. 3-0-0

Executive Session – Interim Town Administrator

Vote: Ms. Harrison moved to enter into executive session under M.G.L. Ch. 30A, § 21 (3) To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares and the BOS not return to open session but adjourn directly from executive session. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote at 6 pm. 3-0-0

Respectfully Submitted By

Catherine Tinsley

4.8.19