

AMENDED

Approved March 21, 2023

Select Board
Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
59 Main Street, Hatfield, MA

Present: Select Board Chair Diana Szynal and Members Brian Moriarty and Edmund Jaworski; Marlene Michonski, Town Administrator; Phil Genovese, DPW Director; Geralyn Rodgers, Director, Council on Aging; Shawn Robinson, Chair, Council on Aging Board; Robert Osley, Chair, Board of Health

CALL TO ORDER Chair Szynal called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS Selectman Jaworski announced that Brian Moriarty will not be seeking re-election. Selectman Moriarty has done a lot for Hatfield and whoever runs will have big shoes to fill. We have always agreed to disagree and thanked Selectman Moriarty for all the years on the Select Board and School Board. Selectman Moriarty thanked Selectman Jaworski but it's time to pass this on to the next generation. It is always a team effort for all boards and committees. Selectman Jaworski wanted to get the news out now to give people some time to think about running. Chair Szynal thanked the DPW for their hard work due to the recent snowstorms. Chair Szynal commended the Council on Aging for the recent newsletter - it is always phenomenal; the things being done for seniors are so helpful. Chair Szynal has been noticing comments made on Town employee personal Facebook pages saying insulting things about other town employees. This is unprofessional. Please be more respectful. Can we focus on being respectful and professional?

PUBLIC FORUM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Selectman Moriarty made a motion to approve the regular session meeting minutes from January 10, 2023 and the executive session minutes of January 10, 2023; Selectman Jaworski seconded; no discussion; all in favor – aye; motion approved.

POSTED BUSINESS

TOPIC 1 Proposed Zoning By-Law Amendment, 121 West Street: Asley Schafer and Amy McMahon appeared before the Select Board requesting a zoning by-law change for 121 West Street. They are interested in building a pickle ball facility on part of the property. Because of the light industrial zoning we would not be able to do that. Selectman Moriarty informed them after the Select Board approves this, it goes to Planning Board, they will have a hearing and then an article for Town meeting. Selectman Moriarty made a motion to approve the request from a Select Board perspective and forward to the Planning Board for the next phase of amending the Hatfield zoning laws; Selectman Jaworski seconded; no discussion; all in favor – aye; motion approved.

TOPIC 2 DPW REPORT: Proposed Water Abatement 3 Maple Street, Hatfield: Selectman Moriarty made a motion to approve the water abatement amount due to a faulty meter for 3 Maple Street in the amount of \$1,664.55; Selectman Jaworski seconded; no discussion; all in favor – aye; motion approved.

TOPIC 3 Proposed (DPW) HR Policies for Discussion: Chair Szynal made a motion to approve the clothing allowance expense for nonunion full time DPW superintendents and assistant superintendents as presented; Selectman Jaworski seconded; no discussion; all in favor – aye; motion approved. Chair Szynal made a motion to approve the call out for nonunion, full time DPW superintendents and assistant superintendents as presented; Selectman Jaworski seconded; no discussion; all in favor – aye; motion approved. Chair Szynal made a motion to approve the minimum call out for nonunion, full time DPW superintendents and assistant superintendents as presented; Selectman Jaworski seconded; motion made and seconded any further discussion – Selectman Moriarty yes. Selectman Moriarty stated the DPW minimum call out pay is being proposed a 4-hour minimum call out and that's where the employee worked anywhere between one or four hours. But the 4 hours is also at time and a half so it would be six hours. So, I would prefer that the employee get paid at the rate of 1 ½ times if they actually do get called out after hours versus a 4-hour minimum call out. I wanted to go on the record as stating that. There were positions that were elevated at what the responsibilities are and along with those responsibilities came salary increases. And so I feel time and a half is a fair way of being compensated should you get called out. Chair Szynal asked if that is just for the time work, not the 4-hour call out. Chair Szynal stated she is in favor of the way it is presented, the minimum 4 hour call out, it's standard. No further discussion; all in favor – aye; Selectman Moriarty opposed; motion approved. Chair Szynal made a motion that we vote the clothing allowance into the HR policy as previously discussed; Selectman Moriarty seconded; no discussion; all in favor – aye; motion approved. Chair Szynal made a motion that we vote the minimum call out time for nonunion superintendents and assistant superintendents into the HR policy as presented; Selectman Moriarty seconded; no discussion; all in favor – aye; motion approved.

TOPIC 4 Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Training: Ms. Michonski informed the Board MIIA provides coverage but also provides trainings and workshops. They provide training mostly by webinars. The benefit is people can do it at their convenience. MIIA offers trainings at different times at no cost.

TOPIC 5 Smith Academy Park Pavilion Contract for Design Services: Topic tabled.

TOPIC 6 FY2024 Budget Reviews with Departments @ 6:00 pm Joint Meeting with Finance Committee: Chair Szynal opened the kick-off to the FY24 budget meetings. Budgets presented tonight are Council on Aging, Board of Health, Historical Commission and DPW budgets were discussed. The listed Department heads appeared at the meeting explaining what they are requesting in FY24.

ADJOURN Selectman Jaworski made a motion to adjourn; Selectman Moriarty seconded; no discussion; all in favor – aye; meeting ended at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully,
Karen Brodeur
Executive Assistant