

**MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Willard J. Boulter, Jr. (Chairman), Arthur P. Boyle, Jr. (Vice-Chairman), John G. Brown, Jr. (Clerk), Daniel W. Trabucco (Selectman), Jessica M. Rushing (Selectman), Edwin J. Thorne (Town Manager), James Gallagher (ZBA Clerk), Michael Buckley (Town Accountant), Gordon Martin, Stephen Curley, Tracy Marino, Sabrina Chilcott (Assistant Town Manager), and others.

At 7:30 pm, Mr. Boulter opened the meeting.

**PEMBROKE BOARD & COMMITTEE COLLABORATION – ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

James Gallagher, Zoning Board of Appeals Clerk was present before the Board on behalf of the ZBA and thanked the Board for his reappointment. Mr. Gallagher stated there are six main issues that the Zoning Board of Appeals addresses on behalf of the Residents of Pembroke. It is the ZBA's job to hear and weigh input from abutters to projects and to take their concerns into consideration. The ZBA hears all matters on non-conforming lots that require variances to Zoning Bylaw prescribed road frontage, front, rear or side setbacks, area or heights of structures in an attempt to make the non-forming less non-conformant. Many applications concerns additions or in-law apartments or other significant structural residential changes. The ZBA sees new businesses of whom they are big supporters; they must consider location, layout and hours of operation. They see many applications for a variety of new housing types and layouts, and finally they hear appeals which can be very time consuming. Mr. Gallagher concluded by stating that this is a three member board with three alternates, one of whom is active, and they need help from the Selectmen recruiting more alternate members to serve. Mr. Trabucco noted that communication between the ZBA and Planning Board is much improved and commended the Zoning Board for their efforts.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Simple Recycling (Waste Zero) Curbside Textile Recycling Program to Begin October 21, 2019

Free Curbside Textile Recycling Service Coming to Pembroke. Beginning on October 21, 2019, Pembroke residents will be able to recycle unwanted textiles and small household items simply by bagging them and leaving them at the curb on their regular recycling collection day. Pembroke is providing the new service in partnership with Simple Recycling and the service is free to residents and the Town of Pembroke. Textiles make up more than 6% of all the residential and municipal trash in the US. Simple Recycling ([www.simplerecycling.com](http://www.simplerecycling.com)) aims to change all that by providing free curbside collection and recycling of unwanted textiles and housewares to communities across the United States. Currently, Simple Recycling serves over four million households across eight states and will soon be serving residents here in Pembroke. In the week before the program's October 21st launch date, Simple Recycling will send informational mailers to homes that receive recycling collection from the Town. The mailers will contain free Simple Recycling bags. When cleaning out closets or disposing of unwanted items, residents can place them in the bags. If a resident doesn't have enough bags, then it's OK to use regular trash bags that are clearly marked for Simple Recycling. Residents can then place the bags at the curb on their normal recycling collection day. Simple Recycling's trucks will pick them up, free of charge, and leave behind additional bags. The company will accept a wide range of used textiles and small household items. The list of accepted items includes all types of used or new clothing, boots and shoes, belts and ties, handbags, hats and gloves, toys, towels, sheets and blankets, small kitchen appliances, and more. The Simple Recycling service is not meant to compete with local charities. Its purpose is to provide a convenient curbside collection option for residents who want it. Ultimately, it's about keeping those items out of the trash. For more information about the Simple Recycling program, residents can call 866-835-5068, email [info@simplerecycling.com](mailto:info@simplerecycling.com) or visit [www.SimpleRecycling.com](http://www.SimpleRecycling.com). Residents are asked to note that this is an additional service being offered - there is no change to the Town's Curbside Trash and Recycling Collection Program or Bulky Item Pickup Program currently serving Pembroke residents. Mr. Martin was present to congratulate the Board on what he called the first step in improving recycling in town. He opined that dual stream collection, while expensive to step up and maintain initially, would ultimately save the town by diverting tons (at \$93/ton) of valuable recycling annually from the rest of the material. Discussion ensued on the Recycling Committee and its dormancy. Ms. Rushing stated that she would be willing to work with the Committee; Mr. Martin recommended the Committee be tasked with exploring alternate recycling options at the curb. Mr. Thorne

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explained the financial data that goes into reviewing these changes including but not limited to the cost of another Toter per household at \$35-\$75 x 6800+ or roughly \$240-500,000 plus the cost of another truck from the hauler each day. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Thorne recommended that the Board charge the Committee with the task of evaluating the costs of bringing dual stream to Pembroke to determine whether the residents want it, determine its affordability and whether or not it is a good fit for the town. Ms. Rushing requested that the vacancies on the Committee be advertised for this purpose.

### **DISCUSSION, VOTE TO RELEASE OCTOBER 22ND AS FALL TOWN MEETING DATE**

Mr. Brown moved that the Selectmen release the date of October 22<sup>nd</sup> for a fall town meeting date but reserve the right to call for a Special Town Meeting if necessary. Mr. Trabucco seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

### **VOTE TO APPROVE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2019**

Mr. Brown requested a change to the minutes under Old Business as he was referring to a sign at the traffic lights at the end of the off ramp, not the sign on Route 3. Mr. Brown moved to accept the minutes as amended and Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Brown asked if there was an update from MassDOT on the sign application from Outlook Media, and Mr. Thorne advised that there is not.

### **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

#### Review of Solid Waste Contracts

Mr. Thorne provided copies of budget worksheets and templates distributed to department heads annually by the Town Accountant as the beginning of the budget process. Ms. Rushing asked when they are distributed and Mr. Thorne stated after the Budget Subcommittee meeting October 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **ASK THE SELECTMEN**

Mr. Trabucco stated that he wants to ensure that the DPW will be reviewing or monitoring the current punch list for the Route 53 project as the town's peer review entity. Mr. Boyle stated that he is requesting an agenda item next week to vote to go after Brockton's Vendor's Bond if they have failed to make the repairs on Route 27 caused by the damage they did repairing their waterlines. Mr. Trabucco recommended that the Town Manager call the Brockton Water Commissioner in advance of the meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Brown updated the Board on the Council on Aging meeting he attended earlier in the evening; they expressed desire to be a part of the new Council on Aging Director recruiting process, they want High School students to perform community service hours at the Center and they want to promote what they do in the community. Mr. Brown will report back to the Board monthly after the meetings with updates.

At 8:30 pm, Mr. Boulter read the upcoming issues. Mr. Boyle moved to enter executive session under M.G.L. c.30A, Sec. 21 (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares: Pembroke Police Union negotiations, Pembroke Firefighters Union negotiations, AFSCME Local 1700 (Clerical), AFSCME Local 1700 (DPW); and (2) to conduct contract negotiations with non-union personnel; Interim Town Manager. Mr. Trabucco seconded the motion. By roll call vote: Boyle – yes, Brown – yes, Rushing – yes, Trabucco – yes, Boulter – yes.

### MATERIALS & EXHIBITS

Draft Press Release, PowerPoint slide printout: Simple Recycling (BOS/TM Office)

Draft Minutes September 10, 2019 (BOS/TM Office)