

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 5, 2022**

PRESENT: Daniel W. Trabucco (Chairman), Tracy Marino (Vice Chair), John G. Brown, Jr. (Clerk), Rebecca Coletta (Selectwoman), Steven Ciciotti (Selectman), William Chenard (Town Manager), Margaret Struzik (Town Clerk), Josh Cutler (Representative), Kathy LaNatra (Representative), Linda Peterson, Stephen Dodge (Moderator), Peg Struzik (Clerk), Sabrina Chilcott (Assistant Town Manager), and others.

At 7:00 pm Mr. Trabucco opened the meeting with the Chairman's statement.

7:00: SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT: LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Rep. LaNatra introduced herself to the board and detailed which towns she represents. Rep. Cutler shared his legislative update for the Town of Pembroke. He stated that the State budget was recently signed and detailed some key points of that budget. He also summarized some of the monies that the Senator and the Representatives had previously secured for Pembroke projects including Mattakeesett Street Ballfields, the Pembroke Library, the Lydia Drake Library, the Council on Aging, the Police Department, and the Central Plymouth County Water District. He discussed roadway funding in addition to Chapter 90 funds. He also listed some COVID relief projects that they secured funding for, including the Lage Preserve and the Public Safety Building and more. The Representatives discussed an upcoming Economic Development bill was in conference committee but had passed both the House and the Senate.

Rep. Cutler then discussed the sports wagering bill and what it means for funding in Massachusetts. Rep. LaNatra discussed that the bill would also help with gambling addiction in Massachusetts. Rep. Cutler detailed some of the upcoming grants for towns to apply for. Rep. Cutler then introduced his newest staff member who is a resident of Pembroke, Susan Moran.

Mr. Trabucco asked Rep. Cutler to explain the process of putting bills through and getting them approved; Rep. Cutler went through the approval process including timeline. The Representatives urged the board and Town Manager to reach out to them for help sooner than later. Ms. Coletta asked about the current Economic Development bill, Rep. Cutler and Rep. LaNatra summarized some of the specifics of the pending bill. Mr. Ciciotti asked about amending the arrangement between Pembroke and surrounding towns regarding water; Rep. Cutler detailed the steps that have been taken including revitalizing the Central Plymouth County Water District, which is active with two members from Pembroke, to oversee the water issue. Discussion ensued between the Reps and the board regarding the agreement. Mr. Chenard asked the Reps to reiterate to their Pembroke constituents to get on the municipal aggregation plan and to review the rising costs from a legislative standpoint to help people in the future. Mr. Cutler updated the board on a transportation bond to repair the culvert on Congress Street; he stated that it just had not happened yet and that grant funding was a surer way to receive funds for projects like that.

7:30: SCHEDULED APPOINTMENT: TOWN MEETING PROCESS REVIEW

Moderator Dodge addressed some procedural matters pertaining to Town Meeting, including a few issues that had occurred at the previous Town Meeting such as calculating a 2/3 vote, the paper ballots, and counting the standing vote before anyone is seated. He also stated that the visitors will be in the cafeteria as opposed to the auditorium. There was discussion about immune-compromised voters being able to stay in the cafeteria to vote, as Mr. Dodge stated that there would not be a Deputy Moderator for that meeting.

Mr. Dodge asked a few questions regarding the warrant to which Mr. Chenard answered, about the Community Center article. Ms. Marino announced that there would be babysitting offered at City Arena on route 53 and at the High School for parents who wanted to attend. Mr. Dodge confirmed that there would be closed captioning. Mr. Dodge then went through the warrant to determine who was responsible for the motions. Ms. Chilcott pointed out to Mr. Dodge that a correction needed to be made to Article 8 regarding the land size, as there was a typo.

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7:45: PUBLIC FORUM: COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECT, 128 CENTER STREET

Mr. Chenard prepared a presentation for the proposed Community Center that he shared with the board and all that were present. The presentation addressed some of the questions that had been brought to the board and the Town Manager's attention. There was discussion between the Board and the Town Manager about the tax impact to residents with the additional requested funds and the tax impact of the funds that were borrowed already.

Mr. Trabucco opened it up to residents for questions. Mr. Elin Flashman of School Street asked Mr. Chenard to expand on what a 'no' vote means on the article. Mr. Chenard explained that the town already borrowed the 19 million dollars so all parties involved would need to go back and figure out how to build a building with the already approved funds. Discussion ensued regarding what a 'no' vote could do. Mr. Trabucco spoke on the importance of voting on the article whether residents were for or against it.

At 8:25pm, Mr. Trabucco encouraged all residents to attend Town Meeting on October 18, 2022, and asked for motion to adjourn, Mr. Brown moved to adjourn, Ms. Marino seconded, the vote passed unanimously.

MATERIALS & EXHIBITS

Legislative Update (TM Office)

Fall Town Meeting Warrant (TM Office)

Community Center Project PowerPoint (TM Office)