

Worcester Selectboard Regular Meeting  
**Minutes 9/19/22**

*These minutes were approved at the Selectboard meeting on 10/3/22.*

**Monday, September 19, 2022, 6:30pm**

Selectboard members present: John Kaeding, Carter Stowell

Guests present: Katie Winkeljohn, Jennifer LeStat, Will Sutton, Carolyn Brennon (Kellogg-Hubbard Library), Stewart Clark

Housekeeping

- John called meeting to order at 6:35pm
- Carter moved to accept the minutes from September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, with copyedit/formatting corrections for clarity, seconded by John and unanimously accepted.
- Additions/Deletions –
  - o Remove from Old Business
    - Small plow truck

Department Review

**Town Clerk Report**

- Jennifer reporting
- Continued documentation requests concerning the 2020 presidential election

**Treasurer report**

- Katie reporting
- Taxes received (ongoing)
- Early steps of annual budget planning in progress
- Received final appropriation request from CV Fiber request for the remaining \$3,000 out of a total of \$53,000 from Worcester's ARPA funds that will be matched and used toward connecting many of our unserved and underserved households

**Fire Department report**

- Will reports
- Floor replacement project out for bid – Will wonders about timeframe and process for completing the bid process and getting the work scheduled; John to follow up with Roger to get an update
- Old tanker truck - Now that we have a new tanker, what happens with the old one? In the past, we've offered it for bid, such as to other towns. Fire Dept. would like to get whatever we can get for it to go back into the fund for the next replacement vehicle.

**Public Input**

N/A

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New Business

Kellogg Hubbard Library funding discussion

- Stewart Clark proposes to change the process for funding Kellogg Hubbard, and explained that when funds are requested, one of three things happens: 1. Put in SB budget; 2. Put on ballot as individual item; 3. Petition the SB with ~45-50 signatures to put the article on the town warning
- Stewart proposes not having to petition this year, or in future years
- Carolyn mentioned that many other towns waive the requirement to petition in the case of level funding, with exception of Middlesex that requires petitioning. All towns have waived the petitioning requirement during the pandemic.
- John recommended that we table discussion until next meeting that Roger can attend to provide a historical perspective.

Amy Thornton social infrastructure and town hall

- Amy shared a presentation about social infrastructure that she'd recently shared with the Planning Commission; ideas are based in research with many players and sources, including the book, "Palaces for the People" by Eric Klinenberg, for example
- Social infrastructure is about the physical spaces that support social connection, and that are "public" and not requiring buy-in via religious or other affiliation, and connect people across barriers such as politics, E.g. dog parks, community gardens, playgrounds, fields, sidewalks, church halls, coworking spaces, "complete" streets (for walking, biking, cars), open air shops, markets, infrastructure for sport/leisure/fitness
  - o Benefits: Better connection across distance; Less isolated; Longer life expectancy; Improve physical and mental health; others
  - o Worcester is already doing it. A few examples: Community lunch; 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade; Food shelf; Clothing swap; Rec field; Community market & music series; events like Annual talent show at Doty; many others
- Amy is building up an idea and will come back to the Selectboard to present a specific proposal along the lines of experimenting with regular times the top floor of the Town Hall might be opened up for people to utilize the internet, to gather, to co-work, etc., potentially a weekday afternoon, considerate of the social science of "social infrastructure, and would also be working on volunteer coordination and logistics details as part of that future proposal.

Hancock Brook Road Truck Traffic

- This topic was tabled once more since the person Jon Scherbatskoy who requested time to discuss it was not present. It could be revisited at a later date.

Old Business

Small plow Truck replacement discussion

- Tabled until next meeting Roger and Brian can join us

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Correspondence

None

Bills

Signed as presented

Announcements

The next regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting will be held at the town office on Monday, October 3, 2022, at 6:30 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Attest,  
Carter Stowell