

WORCESTER SELECTBOARD REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

Monday, Dec 6, 2021, 6:30pm

Select Board members present: Ted Lamb, Roger Strobridge, John Kaeding

Guests present: Katie Winkeljohn, Brian Powers (zoom) and Jonas Van Fleet (zoom)

HOUSEKEEPING

- Ted called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.
- Ted moved to accept the minutes from Nov 15, 2021, seconded by Roger, and unanimously accepted.
- Roger moves we discuss mask requirements as an addition to agenda, John seconds, and unanimously accepted

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Highway Department

- Brian presented proposed budget and expanded costs. Budget includes less than 1% increase over 2021.
- Brian notes that members of the road crew are functioning at a very high level, a fact we have all noticed as we travel about Town. We are grateful for their hard work.

Town Clerk/Treasurer

- Katie notes that due to high level of COVID rates, she would like to again limit Town Office visits to appointment only. The Selectboard unanimously supports that plan.
- Katie presented Town Officer's budget which is still being finalized but preliminarily looks good.
- It appears that the new budget will include no increase in tax rate from last year.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

NEW BUSINESS

Washington Central Unified Union School District proposal for mail-in ballot

Jonas Van Fleet recommended all district towns mail school district ballots to their active registered voters. Katie notes that this process can be greatly facilitated if all Town Clerks use Jet Recording Services to streamline the process. Selectboard agrees with Katie's recommendation. Ted moves that the Town of Worcester direct our Town Clerk to arrange WCUUSD Annual Meeting ballots be sent to an all active/registered voters on the checklist. Motion seconded by John and unanimously passed.

ACTION: Katie to arrange for the sending of WCUUSD Annual Meeting ballots to Worcester voters.

Masking Policy

The Board discussed masking at this time of very high COVID cases. The Selectboard decides that caution with masking is the best idea. Roger moves that the Selectboard require people to wear a mask while in any Worcester Town building. John seconds and the motion is unanimously accepted.

ACTION: Masking in all Town Buildings required.

OLD BUSINESS

ARPA Funds Survey

We discussed designing a survey to gather input from Worcester residents regarding use of ARPA funds. We will await further information regarding amount of Town revenue lost because of COVID pandemic. We conclude that our ARPA responses may be best handled with help of a committee process.

ACTION: Take steps to put together an ARPA Committee for Worcester

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

BILLS

Signed as presented.

ANOUNCMENTS

The next regularly scheduled Select Board Meeting will be held at Town Hall on **Monday, December 20, at 6:30pm**. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32pm.

ATTEST

John Kaeding