



Town of Bellingham

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

10 Mechanic Street
Bellingham, Massachusetts 02019
Tel: 508-657-2800 * 508-966-4425

December 6, 2021

The Selectboard meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairwoman Cindy McNulty. All Board members were in attendance and participating in the Arcand Meeting Room. Also actively participating in the meeting was Town Administrator Denis Fraine and Administrative Assistant Hilarie Allie. This meeting was accessible to the public either in-person or via the Zoom online option.

Public Hearing – Petition of National Grid to install new Pole 130-84; this work is required for road widening project for the Town. Petition of National Grid to install new P49-84; starting approximately ~56' East of existing P49 on Pulaski Blvd. Petition of National Grid to install P17-84; starting approximately ~58' Northeast of existing P17 on Pulaski Blvd. Finally, petition of National Grid to install new Poles 123-84 and relocate poles 124,126,127,128,129 and new 130-84 on South Main Street. Relocate Pole 1 and new pole 1-50 on Center Street. This work is also required for the road widening project for the Town.

Mrs. McNulty read the Public Hearing.

Mr. Mike Parent from National Grid introduced himself and stated that one of the poles that needed to be relocated was not listed. Mrs. Allie stated there had been some confusion with the paperwork received from National Grid and this pole petition request was never received. There would be a pole hearing at the next Selectboard meeting and it will be brought forward at that meeting.

Mr. Steven Guritz from Hilltop Farms asked Mr. Parent if the pole work would disrupt his parking lot and Mr. Parent stated it was across the street from his business so it should have no impact on his business. Mr. Guritz asked how long the project would take and if it would disrupt traffic. Mr. Parent stated he was unsure and that Mr. Guritz could speak to the supervisor on duty when the project begins.

On a Grant/Martinis motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to close the public hearing. On a Martinis/Grant motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to approve the pole petition requests as posted.

Tax Classification Hearing Continued

On a Grant/Connor motion the Board unanimously voted to reopen and continue the tax classification hearing that was opened at the November 22nd Selectboard meeting. Mrs. Mary MacKinnon, CFO, stated she would be asking the Board to affirm the factor of .89 for FY22 tax classification purposes.

There was no further discussion.

On a Martinis/Connor motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to close the Public Hearing.

On a Martinis/Connor motion, the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to affirm a residential factor of .89 for the FY22 property tax classification.

Gifts/Grants Acceptance

On a Grant/Martinis motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to accept the gifts and grants as listed herein, with said expenditures to be under the direction of the parties noted:

Amount	From	For/Purpose	Spending Authority
\$18,900.00	Commonwealth of MA Community Compact Cabinet's Information Technology Program	<i>Cyber Security upgrades Note: total cost \$63,900 funded from A7 STM 11/17/21 \$45K, Community Compact Grant \$18,900</i>	IT Director

On a Martinis/Grant motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to approve the Order of the Taking as presented for the purpose of undertaking the South Main Street Improvement Project.

On a Connor/Grant motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to accept and authorize the Chairwoman to sign the Certificate of Donations for the easements of the Town owned land as they relate to the South Main Street Improvement Project.

On a Martinis/Grant motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to approve and authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Mass DOT Traffic Control Agreement for the Safety Improvement Project for the South Main Street Improvement Project.

On a Grant/Martinis motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to award Contract 2021-FSAR, Fire Station Apron Replacement to the low bidder D'Allessandro Corp. of West Bridgewater, MA in the amount of \$211,320.00.

On a Grant/Martinis motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to approve the October abatements in the amount of \$1,602.37.

On a Connor/Grant motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to approve the November 1st minutes as submitted.

Old Business

Mr. Martinis mentioned the utility pole on Maple Street that has yet to be moved. Mr. Fraine stated we are waiting on Verizon and he tried his contact there to see if this can finally be completed.

New Business

Mrs. McNulty stated the Town will be hosting a Festival of Lights parade on Sunday December 12th starting at 6PM at St. Blaise and then finishing at the Bellingham Memorial School.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Fraine stated he will be participating in the Reach Across American laying of the wreath on Saturday December 18th at 9AM at the War Memorial and will then proceed to the newly renovated Dunkin Donuts at 189 Hartford Ave for their grand reopening. He said anyone is welcome to join.

M. Fraine stated the budget process has begun with the release of the FY2023 Policy Statement. A Budget Workshop with all department heads and the Selectboard is scheduled for Saturday February 26th.

He stated Mrs. MacKinnon has organized a steering committee for the ARPA funds and they will be presenting various projects to the Board for approval.

On a Martinis/Grant motion, the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hilarie J. Allie".

Hilarie J. Allie
Administrative Assistant