

Meeting Minutes
Remote Participation (Zoom)
March 9, 2021

Present: Selectmen Peterson, Marcucci, Murby; Town Administrator Trierweiler; Assistant Town Administrator Milano; Town Counsel Cerel

Chairman Peterson opened the meeting and stated the following: “Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2021 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, Section 18, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Medfield Board of Selectmen is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order. A reminder that persons who would like to listen to or view this meeting while in progress may do so by following the instructions on the agenda and meeting notice.” All votes subject to remote participation, therefore, will be roll call votes, and we remind people that the meeting is being recorded and streamed on Medfield TV.

Board members Michael Marcucci, Gus Murby, and Osler Peterson are participating, as well as Town Administrator Kristine Trierweiler, and Assistant Town Administrator Nicholas Milano.

Chairman Peterson extended condolences to Nicholas on the passing of his grandmother.

Chairman Peterson asked for a moment of appreciation for the Troops of the United States of America that are serving around the globe.

Appointments

Charlie Harris to request permission to hold the Medfield Car Show on June 27, 2021

Ms. Trierweiler said that Charlie is not able to attend the meeting, so she will speak for him. Last year, he was not allowed to have the show. She spoke with Bridget Sweet from the Board of Health and she had no issue if the Selectmen so inclined to a conditional approval for June 27. They should have additional information and guidance for these kinds of gatherings after March 22. Charlie is aware that the Board may approve this and he can start advertising, but may not be able to go forward. He is okay with that if the Board is as well.

Mr. Murby asked if June 27 is a Sunday. Response, yes. Kristine checked with John Thompson and neither of them having something on the calendar. Mr. Marcucci said that he believes they are all familiar with the happenings for the car show. Chairman Peterson called for a vote:

Vote: Selectman Marcucci made a motion to authorize Mr. Harris to hold the Medfield Car Show on Sunday June 27, 2021 at the Medfield State Hospital site, subject to all the applicable health regulations at that time, second by selectman Murby. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterson, yes; Mr. Murby, yes; Mr. Marcucci, yes.

Russell Hallisey to present plans for New Life Trail Run on May 8, 2021 at the Hospital Site

Trystan O'Leary opened the conversation by saying that the staff at New Life has been working really hard to stay open and to find creative ways to continue to serve those who depend on the services. They are eager for COVID to be behind us.

Russ Hallisey was recognized and stated they are looking for conditional approval for their trail run at the state hospital, understanding they cannot have full approval because of COVID. Last year, they had a virtual run that was successful, but this year they are hoping for both a live and virtual run. This will be the fourth annual trail run.

Trystan continued that they are starting to get optimistic, for some of the things everyone has been missing might become possible in the near future. They would be very happy to have the opportunity to plan for an in-person race should the Commonwealth decide to open the next phase to include road races. They have worked closely to ensure the safety of participants as well as volunteers. They would be flexible on what the state regulations are and what the Board of Selectmen and Board of Health require. They anticipate that many participants will continue with running virtually, so the in-person number will be about 150.

Registration will be made in advance with staggered start times. There would be 10 people starting on the course, separated by five-minute intervals. Everyone will be required to wear masks and maintain social distance from each other. No food or drink will be provided and no water stations will be on the race course. They would be careful to have complete records of registered runners. Thus, in the event a participant contracted COVID, they would be able to contact participants easily.

Mr. Murby said that none of them know what the requirements will be; as May approaches, they could be more relaxed or be more rigorous. He believes it makes sense to receive BOH recommendations and advises them to stay in touch with the BOH. He continued saying that he is curious whether the runners are on roads, or crossing roads. Response, it stays on the hospital grounds.

Mr. Marcucci said that he thinks their approval should be conditional on compliance with the health regulations at the time. He feels they have thought of and outlined thorough guidelines for doing this safely.

Mr. Peterson remarked that he agrees with the concepts going forward and hopes it all works out. Trystan commented that they would be happy to comply with whatever guidance the Board may put forward.

Russ mentioned that they would be in contact with Kristine to let her know the approvals and information they have received from the BOH. Kristine said that she talked with the BOH agent today on their behalf and she is fine with it all; she would like to work with them on COVID

protocols. Kristine commented that they may need to make slight adjustments to the route as work is scheduled. She adds that they would look at that as the date approaches. Chairman Peterson called for a vote:

Vote: Selectman Marcucci made a motion to approve the request to have the New Life Trail Run on May 8, 2021 at the state hospital site, subject to compliance with all applicable state and local health regulations and guidelines, second by Selectman Murby.
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterson, yes; Mr. Murby, yes; Mr. Marcucci, yes.

COVID-19 Status Update and CARES Funding Update

Kristine remarked that we have not had any information about how the stimulus money will be distributed to cities and towns. Hopefully they would have an update meeting, if not the following.

FY2022 Operating and Capital Budgets and Financial Policies

Selectman Murby to discuss his Pro Forma Analysis of the Budget and Revenue Sharing, will continue to share with the Warrant Committee to discuss the approach we should be taking in terms of revenue, budgets, and where the cuts are made and how they are fairly distributed.

2021 Annual Town Meeting and Warrant Articles

Kristine remarked that they need to have a conversation about the Economic Vitality article if they are going to go forward with the full amount of \$15,000. This came up with the Warrant Committee last night. Mr. Murby asked about the current balance. Response, around \$20,000; they are expecting to use a good amount of that this year with the Holiday Stroll and additional outdoor activities. Mr. Murby said that the Warrant Committee last year said that the Selectmen were stockpiling a budget; however, he thought the Selectmen had a degree of discretion to support things that happen downtown. He never thought it was their intention to build up an endowment. Kristine said that she will talk with Jean Mineo to come up with a plan to discuss at the next meeting.

s well and whether or not it is appropriate for the next 100 years. Mr. Murby said that if they do that, they should discuss who will actually be on the committee. He pictures one thing for the BOS name, however, to him, it is a different discussion if they do a comprehensive review of historic artifacts of the town. He had a question for Town Counsel: who has the authority to change the name of the BOS and if it is a Town Meeting vote. Response, they can either follow the statute for a simple charter change and a town vote on the next regular ballot.

Kristine said that regarding Lot one, Ice House Road, the Warrant Committee is looking for clarification as to where the proceeds of the sale would go. Mr. Marcucci responded in his view, it would go to the general stabilization fund; it is a one-time asset sale. Discussion continued, highlighting if it is possible to have an isolated stabilization fund or a building stabilization fund. However, that would mean it would have to be spent within five years. Mr. Murby said that it cannot be put into the OPEB Trust Fund because it is a long term financial obligation, not a capital asset. They may want it to go into the capital stabilization fund, as

that's where it would ultimately have to go. Mr. Marcucci remarked that he was going to propose when this discussion came up allocating some amount of money towards the Affordable Housing Trust.

Mr. Murby remarked that he does not think there is any doubt that they would want to put the money in reserves as they are not going to use it for operating expenses. Hopefully, this will satisfy the Warrant Committee.

Action Items

DPW Director Maurice Goulet, requests BOS to sign the Chapter 90 Final Report.
Chairman Peterson said that this is for the Intersection Improvement Study.

Vote: Selectman Marcucci made a motion that the Board of Selectmen sign the Chapter 90-Final Report for the Intersection Improvement Study to be completed by Nitsch Engineering and in the amount of \$10,300.00 and as requested by DPW Director Maurice Goulet, second by Selectman Murby. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterson, yes; Mr. Murby, yes; Mr. Marcucci, yes.

Fire Chief Carrico requests Selectmen vote to sign the COMSTAR, LLC contract amendment

Nick Milano explained that this change would allow COMSTAR administrative rights to submit claims and pull payments for those patients without insurance and a COVID diagnosis. Chairman Peterson called for a vote:

Vote: Selectman Marcucci made a motion to approve the COMSTAR LLC contract amendment as requested by Fire Chief William Carrico, second by Selectman Murby. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterson, yes; Mr. Murby, yes; Mr. Marcucci, yes.

Medfield Garden Club, requests permission to plant a tree at Meeting House Pond

Russ Hallisey was recognized. He said that I have a concern as to where the Garden Club would plant this tree. On Medfield Day, we have booths on the main grassy area that back up against the pond. Another tree will probably interfere with our booth lineup again.

Mr. Peterson suggested that Russ meet with the Garden Club to work out a satisfactory solution for all. He said they will hold a decision the tree planting for the next meeting.

2021 Annual Town Meeting

New Date for 2021 Annual Town Meeting

Town Moderator advised that the date for Town Meeting be May 17 instead of May 3. The weather is concerning for the outdoor meeting; May 17 should be warmer. Suggested start time should be 5 o'clock.

Vote: Selectman Marcucci made a motion to postpone the Annual Town Meeting from

May 3, 2021 to new dates of Monday May 17, 2021 and Tuesday May 18, 2021 at 5:00 PM, second by Selectman Murby. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterson, yes; Mr. Murby, Yes; Mr. Marcucci, yes.

Clifford Monac Requests Selectmen Vote to Sign Lincoln Court Covenant, New Development

The property owners will have the obligation for maintenance and repair of the road and drainage and also snow removal. It will remain a private road now and in the future.

Susan Monac was recognized. She remarked that they are happy to have had Town Counsel handle the Covenant; they feel it meets the Town's requirements. We respectfully request that the Selectmen vote to sign the document.

However, if the winter killed the whole line of trees or they became blighted, the Town would go in and make a replacement. He wanted to have a mechanism that the town would be fully protected. As there were no further questions, Chairman Peterson called for a vote:

Vote: Selectman Marcucci made a motion to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sign the Covenant with the Town of Medfield for Lincoln Court, a private way, second by Selectman Murby. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterson, yes; Mr. Murby, yes; Mr. Marcucci, yes.

David Maxson Requests \$5,000 for the Repair of the Town Clocks

In his email, David described the work he needs to do to the Town Clock housed in the First Parish Church: upgrade the fire safety and electrical safety of the clockworks. The clock is still powered by knob and tube wiring and the clock room has no fire protection. The clock in the Lee chapel at the state hospital is lacking a motor and drive gearing to power it. The power should come from a solar panel and battery. A budget of \$5,000 should cover the cost of repairs, which will take about a year.

Mr. Murby asked where they would draw the funds. Kristine said that she will try to find money in FY21 for emergency clock repair or request a reserve fund transfer.

Vote: Selectman Marcucci made a motion to find available funds to appropriate \$5,000 to pursue the renovation and rehabilitation of the clock, Town Clock and the clock at the Lee Chapel, second by Selectman Murby. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterson, yes; Mr. Murby, yes; Mr. Peterson, yes.

Vote to Authorize the Chair of the Board of Selectmen to Sign the Amendment to the Feasibility Study Agreement with the Massachusetts School Building Authority

Vote: Selectman Marcucci made a motion to authorize Chairman Peterson to sign the First Amendment of the Feasibility Study agreement between the Town of Medfield and the Massachusetts School Building Authority, second by Selectman Murby. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterson, yes; Mr. Murby, yes; Mr. Marcucci, yes.

April is Organ Donation Month

Resident Liz Sandeman requests permission to display the donated flag in the Town Hall lobby. As there was no further discussion, Chairman Peterson called for a vote:

Vote: Selectman Marcucci made a motion to grant permission to display the Donate Life Flag in the Town Hall Lobby for the Month of April, second by Selectman Murby. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterson, yes; Mr. Murby, yes; Mr. Marcucci, yes.

Consent Agenda

Vote: Selectman Marcucci made a motion to grant permission for resident Jean Mineo to post signs from April 10, 2021 through May 1, 2021, promoting the Porchfest musical event to take place on Saturday May 1, 2021, second by Selectman Murby. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterson, yes; Mr. Murby, yes; Mr. Marcucci, yes.

Town Counsel was concerned about the first two dates stated in the Norfolk Hunt Club's request to ride through the hospital property due to COVID-19. Town Administrator Trierweiler said that club member Gil Rodgers always provides certificates of insurance and names the town as additional insured. She remarked that she has a comment from Bill Massaro, regarding some work being done on the laundry parcel, but she will work with Gil on that as well.

Vote: Selectman Marcucci made a motion to grant permission to the Norfolk Hunt Club to use the Medfield State Hospital property for their annual horseback riding events on the following dates: Saturday May 1, 2021 at 9 AM; Saturday May 15, 2021 at 9 AM; Tuesday September 7, 2021 at 9 AM; Saturday October 2, 2021 at 9 AM; Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 2021 at 9 AM, second by Selectman Murby. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterson, yes; Mr. Murby, yes; Mr. Marcucci, yes.

Town Administrator Update

Kristine commented that the only update she has is based on the Town Meeting Date change; the annual Warrant Committee hearing will now be held on Thursday April 1, 2021. Mr. Marcucci said that since the hearing will not take place during one of their meetings as happened in past years, Selectmen do not have to attend the Zoom meeting, which is correct.

Selectmen Reports

Mr. Murby said that based on the email they all received about the activities at the state hospital, he will have a conversation with John Thompson about signs regarding dogs on leash. The email from Jenny Cronin was about a particular incident that involved dog owners from Millis; they have received a letter of disinvite from our town. Jenny did comment that dog owners are conducting themselves in a good way, however, there are exceptions.

Mr. Marcucci commented on the Affordable Housing Trust meeting last week; they reviewed proposals they received for the senior development at Hinkley south. They eliminated some and will interview two developers going forward.

Mr. Peterson said that Megan Sullivan suggested to him that it would be helpful for the Board to have a discussion about what they think might happen to Dale Street, the site where the school is right now, if the town actually moves the school to the Wheelock site.

e continued that under informational items is the appointment to Tri-County. Medfield resident David Bento is resigning, requiring a replacement . Kristine said that she reached out to Town Moderator and School Superintendent and each will solicit for an interested resident to take his place. Town Counsel remarked that it is the Selectmen chair, Town Moderator, and the chair of the School Committee who vote on Tri-County representative.

Adjournment

Selectman Marcucci made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 PM, second by Selectman Murby. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Peterson, yes; Mr. Murby, yes; Mr. Marcucci, yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Clarke