

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
FALL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

October 26, 2021

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:37 PM by Vice Chairman Melia at the Northbridge Middle School Auditorium, 171 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville, MA. **Present:** Mr. Melia, Ms. Cannon, and Mr. Collins. Chairman Ampagoomian and Selectman Athanas were not present and it is duly noted.

Also Present: Adam Gaudette, Town Manager and Sharon Susienka, Exec. Asst. to the Town Manager.

Town Meeting Business. Vice Chairman Melia reminded Board members they have to re-vote their positions on Article 8 and Article 10. **Article 8 – (Substantive Charter changes):** Board members were informed that the Town Moderator will handle each of the proposed changes as a separate amendment thus 9 separate votes are needed for this article. **Amendment 1- Section 2-3(b), first sentence, appointment of Finance Committee members:** Mr. Melia provided a brief explanation of the amendment, which is to disperse appointing authority among the board of selectmen, school committee, moderator, and planning board. There being no discussion, a motion/Mr. Collins, seconded/Ms. Cannon to support amendment 1. Vote yes/Collins, Cannon and Melia. **Amendment 2- Section 2-8, Availability of Town Officials at Town Meetings:** Mr. Melia provided a brief explanation of the amendment, which is to correct a typographical error. There being no discussion, a motion/Mr. Collins, seconded/Ms. Cannon to support amendment 2. Vote yes/Collins, Cannon and Melia. **Amendment 3- Section 3-2(d), Board of Selectmen Appointments:** Mr. Melia provided a brief explanation of the amendment, which is to eliminate personnel board from Section 3-2(d). There being no discussion, a motion/Mr. Collins, seconded/Ms. Cannon to support amendment 3. Vote yes/Collins, Cannon and Melia. **Amendment 4- Section 3-3(a), School Committee Composition, Term of Office, second, third and fourth paragraphs:** Mr. Melia provided a brief explanation of the amendment, which is to delete paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of Section 3-3(a) since the School Committee size transition is complete, the wording is no longer needed. There being no discussion, a motion/Ms. Cannon, seconded/Mr. Collins to support amendment 4. Vote yes/ Collins, Cannon and Melia. **Amendment 5- Section 3-4(b), Town Moderator, Powers and Duties, second sentence:** Mr. Melia provided a brief explanation of the amendment, which is to eliminate finance committee from Section 3-4(b). There being no discussion, a motion/Ms. Cannon, seconded/Mr. Collins to support amendment 5. Vote yes/Collins, Cannon and Melia. **Amendment 6- Section 4-1(a), Town Manager Screening Committee; Appointment; Qualification; Term, second paragraph:** Mr. Melia provided a brief explanation of the amendment, which is to delete “personnel board” from Section 4-1(a), and transfer appointing authority for that one additional position to the school committee. There being no discussion, a motion/Mr. Collins, seconded/Ms. Cannon to support amendment 6. Vote yes/Collins, Cannon and Melia. **Amendment 7- Section 6-2(a), School Committee Budget, Public Hearing:** Mr. Melia provided a brief explanation of the amendment, which is to ADD new sentence “A general summary shall be posted in the office of the Town Clerk, on the town bulletin board, town website, and in the Whitinsville post office and Whitinsville Social Library” to before the current last sentence, making sections 6-2 and 6-3

consistent. There being no discussion, a motion/Mr. Collins, seconded/Ms. Cannon to support amendment 7. Vote yes/Collins, Cannon and Melia.

Selectman Athanas arrived at 6:52 pm.

Amendment 8- Section 6-3, Submission of Budget and Budget Message: Mr. Melia provided a brief explanation of the amendment, which is to ADD posting sites of Post Office and Library in third sentence as follows: “A general summary of the proposed budget shall be posted in the Office of the Town Clerk, on the town bulletin board, town website, in the Whitinsville post office and Whitinsville Social Library, and in at least one public place in each precinct”. There being no discussion, a motion/Mr. Collins, seconded/Ms. Cannon to support amendment 8. Vote yes/Collins, Cannon, Athanas, and Melia. **Amendment 9- Section 8-6, Removals and Suspensions, first sentence:** Mr. Melia provided a brief explanation of the amendment, which is to correct a typographical error. There being no discussion, a motion/Mr. Collins, seconded/Ms. Cannon to support amendment 9. Vote yes/Collins, Cannon, Athanas, and Melia.

Article 10 (Petition to discontinue a portion of Emond Street): Selectman Collins remarked that there is no benefit to the town for discontinuing this road. Vice Chairman Melia concurred and asked why would the town give away town property because of a dispute between neighbors. With no further comments, a motion/Mr. Collins, seconded/Ms. Cannon **not to support** Article 10. Vote yes/Collins, Cannon, Athanas, and Melia.

There being no further business before the Board at this time, a motion/Mr. Collins, seconded/Mr. Athanas to adjourn the Selectmen’s Meeting at the conclusion of the Fall Annual Town Meeting this evening. Vote yes/Collins, Athanas, Cannon, and Melia.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:49 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell D. Collins, Clerk

s/

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING – OPEN SESSION

October 26, 2021

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/None

PUBLIC HEARING/None

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS/None

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None

DECISIONS

A. Town Meeting Business

-Copy of the Report of the Town of Northbridge Charter Review Committee 2021

-Copy of warrant

DISCUSSIONS/None

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/None

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS/None

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None

CORRESPONDENCE/None

EXECUTIVE SESSION/None