

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
November 23, 2020

A virtual meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Chairman Alicia Cannon at 7:00 PM, using Zoom Video Communication (Video Conferencing App) at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81470081298?pwd=UmU5eXZlMmt0Y3pvditmUFZZazFNdz09>

Meeting ID: 814 7008 1298; Passcode: 022490; Dial by phone: 1-646-558-8656.

Board Members Present: Ampagoomian, Athanas, Cannon, Melia, and Collins. Also Present: Adam D. Gaudette, Town Manager.

Chairman Cannon read the following notice aloud.

Call Meeting to Order: Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order concerning imposition on strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, meetings of the Northbridge Board of Selectmen will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/None

PUBLIC HEARING/None

APPOINTMENTS: Conrad Chickinski, Special Police Officer. Town Manager Gaudette explained that this is an appointment by the Town Manager and the Board of Selectmen have the opportunity to ratify it. Chief Warchol explained that Officer Chickinski retired from the Police Department in September and the Department is looking to have him back as a Special Police Officer. He stated that Officer Chickinski was a quality officer and will be an asset as a Special Police Officer. Mr. Chickinski stated that he has enjoyed his time as a Police Officer and retirement has been nice, but he is ready to work some details and looks forward to it. A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Collins to affirm the appointment Officer Conrad Chickinski as a Special Police Officer. Vote yes/Unanimous.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT: Key Meetings Attended: Monday, November 9, 2020 – Participated in the Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Wednesday, November 11, 2020 – Off for Veterans Day. Thursday, November 12, 2020 – Conference Call with MIIA regarding Hartford Steam Boiler water leak monitoring program. Thursday, November 12, 2020 – Coordinated the Fire Station RFQ Proposal opening. Friday, November 13, 2020 – Participated in MA DPH Weekly Conference Call. Tuesday, November 17, 2020 – Attended the virtual School Building Committee Meeting. Thursday, November 19, 2020 – Attended the MMA (Town Managers) Fall Conference via zoom. Thursday, November 19, 2020 – Participated in the Lt Governor's Zoom Call for Town Managers. Friday, November 20, 2020 – Held a Department Managers' Meeting. **Balmer School Building Project:** Project construction by Fontaine Brothers continues with precautionary measures in place per State construction guidelines for construction projects moving forward during the pandemic. The majority of the site work has been completed allowing for work to be conducted in the interior of the building (framing, drywall, painting, finishing, etc.). The majority of the masonry work has been recently completed. The Town Manager is working with Town Counsel on agreements for fence replacement for the abutters off Overlook Street. The SBC met this past week on November 17th. **Lasell Field Turf Project:** The project is nearing completion. The GC Green Acres is working through punch list items. Waiting for finishing touches on the bleachers and press box including the electrical work the handicapped-accessible lift. The project has been issued a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy which has

allowed teams to begin to have gameplay with spectators. Once the lift has been completed, the next step is to have the State inspect and approve the lift and then the Building Inspector will be able to issue the full Certificate of Occupancy. The BPCC is meeting next week on Tuesday, November 24th to pay bills and review project close-out. Selectmen Collins asked about the Lasell Field track and if it will be opened and locked on a scheduled, daily basis. Town Manager Gaudette explained that the School Committee controls the use of the track and when it was designed there was discussion of signage and use of the outside two lanes for the public, but the School Committee would dictate when it would close. Town Manager Gaudette stated that he would reach out to the School Committee to see if they have a policy in place. **Fire Station Project:** The RFQ for the OPM was advertised in the Central Register and Milford Daily News on October 14th. Proposals were received this past week on November 12th. The Town received 7 submissions. A working group of the BPCC is currently reviewing the proposals in order to make a recommendation to the BPCC in order to interview 3 finalists. The BPCC is meeting next week on Tuesday, November 24th to discuss and then will hold interviews in the upcoming weeks. **FY2021 Budget:** The Town Manager has begun to prepare for the FY2021 Budget and Capital Development process which will be initiated the week after Thanksgiving. Selectman Melia asked if Town Manager Gaudette has any concerns with the possibility of State Aid being minimized. Town Manager Gaudette stated that they have not received any information yet about the budget. Town Manager Gaudette stated that he would not expect to receive any information any earlier than January, and we are hopeful that the budget allows for us to receive an increase over this year.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS: **Selectman Ampagoomian 1)** spoke with the new head of the School and encouraged him to reach out to the Board to speak about the Whitinsville Christian School. **Selectman Melia 1)** stated that the Highland Street paving looks great and asked if the line striping has been scheduled. Highway Superintendent Jamie Luchini stated that it should be completed after Thanksgiving. **2)** congratulated the Police Department on receiving a grant. Chief Warchol added that Lt. Labrie handles the grants for the Police Department and does a great job. **3)** wished the Northbridge residents a Happy Thanksgiving.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None

CORRESPONDENCE/None

EXECUTIVE SESSION/None

Chairman Cannon announced that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 7, 2020.

A motion/Mr. Melia, seconded/Mr. Athanas to adjourn the public meeting. Vote yes/Unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:54 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Russel Collins, Clerk

/mjc

LIST OF DOCUMENTATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING - OPEN SESSION

November 23, 2020

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/None**
- II. PUBLIC HEARING/None**
- III. APPOINTMENTS/By the Town Manager:** Conrad Chickinski, Special Police Officer
 - Copy of letter from the Chief of Police requesting appointment of Conrad Chickinski
 - Copy of letter from Officer Chickinski requesting to be appointed as a Special Police Officer
- IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT/None**
- V. DECISIONS/None**
- VI. DISCUSSIONS/None**
- VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/None**
- VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS/No documentation**
- IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/None**
- X. CORRESPONDENCE/None**
- XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION/None**