Town of Nahant Joint Meeting

Board of Selectmen and Board of Health **Meeting Minutes** 

Wednesday February 16, 2022 at 6:30pm via Zoom Joshua A. Antrim, Chairman

Eugene Canty, Vice Chairman Mark P. Cullinan, Recording Secretary

Antonio Barletta, Town Administrator



Attendance: Joshua A. Antrim (JA), Eugene Canty (GC), Mark P. Cullinan (MC), Antonio Barletta (TA)

#### Motion:

JA: Opened the Joint Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Health at 6:30pm on Wednesday February 16. 2022 via Zoom.

## 1. Meeting Opening:

## Coronavirus Update:

TA: COVID cases have decreased the last few weeks. On Friday 2/11/22 we rescinded our mask mandate where masks are not mandated in areas open to the public, except for the school. Last night the school committee voted unanimously to end mask wearing on March 7, 2022 unless the Superintendent determines, with the input from our public health. nurse and school nurse, that COVID cases are spiking enough to require that masks should be worn until March 21, 2022. The Library will remain consistent with the school. The State mask mandate will be lifted February 28, 2022. Last week we had a COVID at home test kit distribution, we have another one on 2/17/22.

## 2. Opening Comments:

- Winter Parking Ban in effect until March 20, 2022. All vehicles must be parked off the street from 12am-6am.
- Nahant DPW seeking Snow Plow Drivers: Contact Mary Lowe at mlowe@nahant.org or 781-581-0026 for more information
- Council on Aging Board Vacancy-Open seat on the Council on Aging Board. Visit nahant.org for full description of board mission and duties. Send letters of interest to ktaylor@nahant.org
- Council on Aging-Part Time Job Opening-Assistant to the Executive Director- visit employment opportunities page at nahant.org for more information. If interested send cover letter and resume to ktaylor@nahant.org or mail/drop off to the Town Hall February 18, 2022.
- Town Hall will be closed on Monday February 21, 2022 in observance of President's Day
- Charles Kelley Scholarship: accepting essays until April 15, 2022. Visit the scholarship page at nahant.org for a full description of essay instructions. Mail or drop off completed essay and application to Kristin Taylor-Nahant Town Hall 334 Nahant Road, Nahant MA 01908
- Annual Town Election Information: Saturday April 30, 2022
  - -March 9, 2022: Last day to obtain nomination papers
  - -March 11, 2022 by 5:00pm: Nomination papers must be submitted to the Town Clerk
  - -March 29, 2022 by 5:00pm: Last day to object or withdraw must be submitted to the Town Clerk
  - -April 8, 2022 by 8:00pm: Last day to register to vote for Town Election
  - -April 22, 2022 by 5:00pm: Campaign Finance Report due to the Town Clerk
  - -May 31, 2022 by 5:00pm: 30 Day Campaign Finance Report due to the Town Clerk

Visit the election chief page under the Town Clerks page at nahant.org for more information

- 3. New Business
- a. Hazard Mitigation Plan Adoption and Briefing

**TA:** We received funding to hire MAPC to help with the process, the team included emergency management, DPW, Police, Fire, myself and Kristen Kent from ConCom, utilizing the old Hazard Mitigation plan and most recent MVP plan and working with MAPC to have public meetings, public input on draft, it has been completed and reviewed by the state, the next step is to have the BOS accept it.

Van Du (MAPC): Shared her screen to give presentation on the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The previous plan was completed in 2014, communites are required to create and adopt a plan every five years to be eligible for FEMA grants. This plan has been approved by FEMA and MEMA. Once adopted this will keep the town up to date.

JA: Read the certificate of adoption for the 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan

MC: moved that the Board of Selectmen approve the 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan

GC: yes

Roll call vote:

JA: yes MC: yes GC: yes

## a. Approve Appointment to Open Space and Rec.

#### Motion:

**GC:** "I move that the Board of Selectmen vote to approve the appointment of Trish Aldrich to the Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee".

MC: Second
Roll call vote

JA: yes MC: yes GC: yes

# b. Request for Selectmen and Town Administrator to draft goals for 2023

JA: If the board would like to submit their goals for 2023 and I will compile them into one list to review at a future meeting.

# c. Vote to Open and Close the Annual Town Meeting Warrant and send to the Advisory and Finance Committee

## Motion:

*MC*: "I move that the Board of Selectmen vote to open the Annual Town Meeting Warrant for submittal of articles by all Town Boards, Committees, personnel, and the public for consideration of placement onto the Annual Town Meeting Warrant"

JA: second

#### Discussion:

**TA**: Shared his screen and showed the first draft of this year's annual town meeting warrant and explained articles on the draft.

#### Motion:

**MC:** I move that the Board of Selectmen vote to accept and close the Annual Town meeting warrant as presented and to send it to the Advisory & Finance committee to begin taking positions with the understanding that ongoing review will occur by the Board of Selectmen & that modifications may occur at a later time"

GC: second Roll call vote JA: yes

MC: yes GC: yes

# Vote to approve budget adjustments and send to the Advisory and Finance Committee

## Mation:

MC: "I move that the Board of Selectmen vote to endorse the Town Administrator and Selectmen budget for FY23 with the understanding that ongoing review will occur by the Board of Selectmen and that modifications may occur at a later time and forward it to the Finance and Advisory Committee for their on-going review in the FY23 Budget Development Process"

GC: second Roll call vate JA: yes MC: yes GC: yes

## 4. Ongoing Business

#### a. RNAV Update

Dan Skrip (Town Counsel): CAC did not address the RNAV 22L at their last meeting. They do not have it on their upcoming agenda however they meet March 17th, will check back then to see if it will be addressed.

## b. 9 Little Nahant Road

**TA:** The town has submitted a CPC application for funds to purchase the property. The property is controlled by the estate of the Pezarus family, it has a reverse mortgage on it through HUD and there is a sum of deferred taxes owed to the town. The property was scheduled for an auction on 2/15/22.

The town can't bid on the property, we do not have town meeting authority, the town would only enter into negotiations with HUD should the auction be unsuccessful. The deadline for CPC apps was in January and we didn't know what we know today at the time of submittal. Couple different results that could occur with the auction, one no bids are submitted or bids are too low and HUD does not accept, hey will own the property and can make a direct sale. Two, a bid that HUD is willing to accept but isn't high enough that HUD or the Town gets what they are owed. Ongoing discussion on who gets paid first. Three, a bid is placed high enough to pay back HUD and the Town.

*JA:* current effort is to work with HUD to recoup back taxes from property. We can't bid at the auction without Town Meeting approval.

MC: If the property is under the control of HUD they are not technically responsible for our back taxes. Is that correct?

**Dan Skrip (Town Counsel):** Correct, the taxes were deferred due to the senior tax deferral and reverse mortgages take priority over the deferred taxes.

Jamie Leader (171 Wilson Road): Once the CPC puts in the application, does that prohibit the option to resell that property for private sale and revenue for the town?

TA: CPC funds can only be used for certain purposes. If we were to use CPC funds to purchase this property we would not be able to flip it for profit. Dan is there another limitiation that prevents this?

Dan Skrip (Town Counsel): HUD would not allow it, they would only sell to us if we use it for CPC purposes.

Susanne Macarelli (15 Little Nahant Road): Asked the Selectmen why they won't commit to open space in Little Nahant by writing it into this CPC article? Or why isn't Open Space good enough for Little Nahant.

JA: I don't subscribe to your premise that open space is not good enough for Little Nahant. My preference is for a park. But we will go through the process with the public to find out what the preference is.

Karen Regnante (14 Howe Rd.): Spoke about 9 Little Nahant Road Property.

Michelle Capano (29 Ocean St.): Maybe do an online survey for residents to fill out for feedback on what they want at the property.

George Mihovon (64 Lennox Rd.): Asked what could someone build there under the 40b rule and what can the town do to prevent that?

# c. Vote to award Town Hall and Library Envelope Restoration RFP

#### Motion:

GC: "I move that the Board of Selectmen approve Greenwood Industries to receive the bid award for the Nahant Town Hall and Library Envelope Restoration bid and authorize the Town Administrator to sign the bid award contract"

MC: second Roll call vote: MC: yes GC: yes

JA: yes

## 5. Preserving East Point

#### 6. Town Administrators Report

TA:

## Mosquito Control/dredging

We are continuing work with mosquito control to accomplish segments of the dredging work that is needed every year.

## Lowlands Engineering Study

TA: Dubois and King is the storm water engineer we are hiring to conduct an assessment of historical storm water issues, evaluation of storm water collection, conduct an alternative analysis for storm water system improvements in the lowlands neighborhood. This is funded by through the 100K article approved at last year's town meeting, the cost for engineering is \$35,200 so we will have left over funds to extend their services.

## Town Fiber Cable Upgrade Project

**7A:** We were able to secure 75k in the state budget process for a telecommunications upgrade. The project will install a fiber cable from all of the town public buildings and is part of the improvement to police radio project. It will improve our ability to connect our cybersecurity and save us money on telecommunications cost

## 7. Citizens Forum

Brendan Baranek Olmstead (2 Summer St.): Asked how the town will address overall coastal defenses.

## 8. Adjourn

Mation:

GC: Made a motion to adjourn

MC: second Roll call vote: MC: yes

GC: yes JA: yes

Meeting adjourned at 9:08pm on Wednesday February 16, 2022

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