

**BOARD OF  
SELECTMEN  
MEETING  
MINUTES**

**February 18, 2020**

Town Hall

Chairman Stephen A. Matellian; Selectman Brett A. Simas; Selectman Maureen Dwinnell, Town Manager, Derek S. Brindisi; Executive Assistant, Sandra Hakala

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**MINUTES**

Regular & Executive Session Meeting – January 21, February 4

***Motion #1:*** Motion made by Selectman Simas to accept the Regular & Executive Session Meeting – January 21, February 4.

Second: Selectman Dwinnell, Unanimous, Chairman Matellian

**INVITED GUESTS**

Dog Hearing

Public Hearing – Dog Hearing – Dwinnell

Maureen Dwinnell recused herself from the hearing.

The Selectmen voted to hold a nuisance/dangerous dog hearing after the Animal Control Officer Mike Moran responded twice in recent months to this address regarding a dog that bit two persons. The dog is owned by the Jennifer Dwinnell of 154 West River Street.

The Chair opened the hearing; reviewed the formal notice of the hearing sent to Ms. Dwinnell, outlined the public hearing process provided by Town Counsel, the original complaint, Town Counsel's outline of the State law on this matter, a rabies certificate for the dog, and the animal control officer's reports regarding this incident.

Mike Moran, Animal Control Officer and Mr. Khalil, a professional trainer was present to testified on this matter. On September 22, 2019 and January 20, 2020, the dog was not under the owner's control bit two persons and an order of quarantine was issued in both instances.

Ms. Dwinnell has hired a professional trainer to access the behavior of Maverick the dog, and to coach the owners. The trainer stated the dog was not aggressive but in the two incidents the victims may have been acting aggressively toward Maverick. The family will work with dog behaviorist to develop a plan to curb any biting tendencies.

***Motion #2:*** Motion made by Mr. Simas to close the evidentiary portion of the hearing.

Poll taken: Stephen Matellian, aye, Brett Simas, aye.

40      **Motion #3:** Motion made by Selectman Simas based on the facts adduced at this public hearing,  
41      including but not limited to and based on the credible evidence and sworn testimony provided  
42      at said hearing the Board of Selectmen find the dog complained of is a nuisance dog by reason  
43      that the dog has threatened or attacked a person, but such threat or attack was not a grossly  
44      disproportionate reaction under the circumstance .

45  
46      Poll taken: Stephen Matellian, aye, Brett Simas, aye.  
47

48      **Motion #4:** Motion made by Selectman Simas to order the following remedies to ameliorate  
49      said nuisance condition:

50  
51      1. That the dog be on leash except when training and handled  
52  
53      2. At the meeting testimony included efforts to work with dog behaviorists to develop a  
54      plan to curb any biting tendencies. The the Animal Control Officer will deem training  
55      complete and make periodic visits to your property to ensure compliance with this  
56      order.

57  
58      Poll taken: Stephen Matellian, aye, Brett Simas, aye.  
59

60      **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

61      **Appointments**

62      **Motion #5:** Motion made by Selectman Simas to accept the resignations of Steve Rakitin from  
63      the Cable Advisory Committee and Jay Ferris from the Cemetery Commission.

64      Second: Selectman Dwinnell, Unanimous, Chairman Matellian

65  
66      **Motion #6:** Motion made by Selectman Simas to declare a vacancy on the Cemetery  
67      Commission.

68      Second: Selectman Dwinnell, Unanimous, Chairman Matellian

69      **Discussion on No Electioneering Policy During Early and Absentee Voting Policy**

70  
71      Mr. Simas and Ms. Dwinnell repeatedly asked Mr. Matellian to recuse himself from the  
72      discussion as he is a property owner within the 150-foot buffer for electioneering siting that he  
73      holds a personal interest and self-harm.

74  
75      Mr. Matellian recused himself from further discussion.

76  
77      **Motion #7:** Motion made by Selectman Dwinnell to approve the No Electioneering Policy  
78      During Early and Absentee Voting Policy

79  
80      Second: Selectman Simas, Majority Action of the Board.

84 Discussion on Funding Request from Disability Commission

85  
86 As this is on the ATM warrant, the BoS agreed to have it voted then and asked for an historical  
87 report on all trust fund expenditure for the past 5 years.

88  
89 Review Application for One Day Liquor License from BVT

90  
91 **Motion #8:** Motion made by Selectman Dwinnell to Issue a one-day liquor license to BVT on  
92 March 19, 2020.

93  
94 Second: Selectman Simas, Unanimous, Chairman Matellian

95  
96 Authorize Expenditure in Excess of Original Appropriation – Snow and Ice

97  
98 **Motion #9:** Motion made by Selectman Simas to authorize expenditure in excess of original  
99 appropriation – snow and ice.

100  
101 Second: Selectman Dwinnell, Unanimous, Chairman Matellian

102  
103 Authorize the Town Manager to Execute A Contract with Baltazar Contractors, Inc. in the  
104 Amount Of \$846,115.00

105  
106 **Motion #10:** Motion made by Selectman Simas to authorize the town manager to execute a  
107 contract with Baltazar Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$846,115.00.

108  
109 Second: Selectman Dwinnell, Unanimous, Chairman Matellian

110  
111 Budget Review (DPW, COA, Code, Town Clerk)

112  
113 **Motion #11:** Motion made by Selectman Dwinnell to approve the FY 21 budget as submitted  
114 for DPW, COA, Code, Town Clerk

115  
116 Second: Selectman Dwinnell, Unanimous, Chairman Matellian

117  
118 **TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

119  
120  
121     • Cyber Security Awareness Training Grant  
122     • 25K grant for demolition of 6 Main

123  
124 The BoS will attend the Finance Committee on March 11 and February 26 and the MURSD  
125 budget hearing on March 9.

126  
127 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

128 Executive Session under MGL. Chapter 30A, Section #21, Exception #6 - To consider the  
129 purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, if the chair declares that an open meeting may  
130 have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the body

131  
132 MGL c.214, S. 1B and MGL c. 4, S. 7, Clause 220 26c to discuss financial assistance to a resident  
133 in need.

134  
**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

135  
**Authorize the Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property**

139 **Motion #12:** Motion made by Selectman Simas the option to purchase 1 Milford Street for  
140 \$400K.

141  
142 Second: Selectman Dwinnell, Unanimous, Chairman Matellian

144 **Motion #13:** Motion made by Selectman Simas the option to purchase 0 Grove Street for  
145 \$100K.

146  
147 Second: Selectman Dwinnell, Unanimous, Chairman Matellian

149 **Motion #12:** Motion made by Selectman Dwinnell execute the P&S transferable for both 0  
150 Grove Street and 1 Milford Street with a \$500 deposit for each.

151  
152 Second: Selectman Simas, Unanimous, Chairman Matellian

153  
**Discuss Financial Assistance to A Resident in Need.**

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156 **Motion #13:** Motion made by Selectman Simas to authorize an expenditure from the William  
157 Knowlton Trust Fund of \$515.79 for the resident in need utility bill.

158  
159 Second: Selectman Dwinnell, Unanimous, Chairman Matellian

160  
**ADJOURN MEETING**

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162 **Motion #14:** At 11:20 pm Selectman Simas made motion to adjourn.

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164 Second: Selectman Dwinnell, Unanimous: Chairman Matellian

165  
166 Respectfully submitted,

167  
168 Sandra Hakala, Executive Assistant