

**Selectboard
Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2021
Town Offices
Open Session via Zoom
7:00 p.m.**

The open session of the Selectboard of the Town of Whately was called to order on April 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. by the Chairperson, Fred Orloski. Also present via zoom was Selectboard Members Joyce Palmer-Fortune, Jonathan Edwards, Town Administrator Brian Domina, and Administrative Assistant Amy Schrader.

250th Celebration Activities

Opening Comments

Fred Orloski (Selectboard Chair) informed the public that this is a special Selectboard meeting that coincides with the Town's incorporation date. On the same day, April 26, 1777, the Town is celebrating its 250th anniversary. Fred Orloski discussed previous Town anniversary celebrations with specific attention to the Town Hall development/rehabilitation and Town buildings history (specifically Town Hall, Center School, and S. Dickinson Library). Fred discussed future town projects: Veterans Memorial redesign, Library's handicap accessibility project, and the Water Merger project. Fred personally thanked Wayne Hutkoski and the group of volunteers who designed and developed the Selectboard's parade float.

Reading of Proclamations/Citations

Fred Orloski read the Governor's citation. The Governor's citation is available at the Town Office 4 Sandy Lane Whately, MA. The original citation will be received soon. Fred Orloski stated that a Town Citation was created for the Selectboard members to sign to commemorate this day. This will be part of the permanent record of the Town's 250th celebration.

Representative Blais read the House of Representatives citation. The House of Representative's citation is available to view at the Town Offices 4 Sandy Lane Whately, MA. Representative Blais will deliver the original framed citation to the Town Offices.

Senator Jo Comerford read the Senate's citation. The Senate's citation is available at the Town Offices 4 Sandy Lane Whately, MA. Senator Jo Comerford expressed her on-going support for the Town of Whately.

250th Motor Parade Highlights

John Hannum, Fire Chief, thanked the Fire and Police Department for their parade planning participation and efforts. Chief Hannum stated that the Fire and Police Department's did a job well done. Fred Orloski personally thanked Chief Hannum planning and implementing the motor parade. There have been over 600 views of the parade's video on FCAT.

Upcoming 250th Celebration Events

Susan Baron (250th Committee) virtually appeared before the Board to discuss the upcoming 250th celebration events. Susan discussed the 250th motor parade event and personally thanked Chief Hannum, the Police and Fire Department, and all other parade organizers. Susan presented and discussed the 250th upcoming events PowerPoint presentation with specific attention to the 2021 scheduled events, traveling light show, and Thursday throwbacks on social media. There are multiple ways to follow the 250th events: Whately 250th Facebook page, Instagram, Whately250.com and the Town's website.

Closing Comments

Fred Orloski (Selectboard Chair) encourages town residents to help celebrate the Town's 250th anniversary. Fred Orloski stated that "This is our Town and let us show everyone what it's about and how we as residents, volunteers, and town officials will continue to, cooperatively, make Whately as a unique and prosperous place to live. Thank you all for your support for making Whately such a great community."

Jonathan Edwards (Selectboard member) personally thanked Wayne Hutkoski and all other volunteers involved with the parade. Jonathan thanked Brian Domina, Town Administrator, for keeping the Town running and for the reading of various citations/proclamations.

Joyce Palmer-Fortune personally thanked all the parade volunteer's and those who helped to create and build the Selectboard's float. Joyce appreciates the time that our State Representative and Senator have made to be here for the Town.

Fred Baron (250th Committee) will hopefully have "still" pictures of every float that participated in the 250th Motor parade displayed on the 250th Committee's website.

Review and vote on the meeting minutes of April 14, 2021.

Fred Orloski (Selectboard Chair) stated that one correction needs to be made to the early voting dates. The dates should be listed as May 28th, 2021 to June 4th, 2021. The Board voted to approve the meeting minutes of April 14, 2021 as amended. Roll call vote: Fred – yes, Jonathan – yes, and Joyce – yes.

Review past vendor and payroll warrants

The Board had no comments or questions on past vendor and payroll warrants.

Comments from the public on items not listed on the agenda

none

Scheduled Appointments:

(7:20) Jared Glanz-Berger (DMCTC) to discuss a proposed Host Community Agreement for a marijuana product manufacturing facility to be located at 3 River Road

Jared Glanz-Berger (DMCTC) virtually appeared before the Board to discuss a proposed Host Community Agreement for a marijuana product manufacturing facility to be located at 3 River Road. Jared discussed his request with specific attention to the potential site location and on-going site improvements. Brian informed the Board that Joyce and himself reviewed and discussed the Host Community Agreement terms and held a virtual meeting to discuss the terms of the HCA with Jared. After a brief discussion, a motion was made to approve the proposed Host Community Agreement with DMCTC. Motion was seconded. All in favor. Roll call vote: Fred -yes, Joyce – yes, and Jonathan – yes.

(7:25) Jared Glanz-Berger (DMCTC) to request permission to hold a virtual Community Outreach meeting for a proposed marijuana retail establishment to be located at 424 State Road

Jared Glanz-Berger (DMCTC) virtually appeared before the Board to request permission to hold a virtual community outreach meeting for a proposed marijuana retail establishment to be located at 424 State Road. Jared discussed his request with specific attention to site location and DMCTC's retail/processing plan. The tentative date for the virtual Community Outreach meeting is May 17th at 7:00 pm. Product manufacturing

will be located at 3 River Road and the retail location at 424 State Road Whately, MA. The Board had a brief discussion about how the community impact fee is affected when companies are vertically integrated. DMCTC has a plan to purchase the building located at 424 State Road. After much discussion, a motion was made to approve DMCTC to hold a virtual Community Outreach meeting for a proposed marijuana retail establishment to be located at 424 State Road. Motion was seconded. All in favor. Roll call vote: Joyce – yes, Fred – yes, and Jonathan – yes.

COVID19 State of Emergency

To review, discuss and consider modifications to the following: *Directive on Town Employees Returning to Work During the COVID19 Pandemic; Order Closing Town Buildings to the Public Except by Appointment; Guidance on Holding Meetings for Town Departments, Boards, Committees, and Commissions and the Directive on Face Coverings; or any other issues related to COVID19.*

Brian informed the Board that there is one active COVID19 case in Town. The Board decided to table this discussion until their next meeting on May 12, 2021.

Old Business:

To discuss and vote to submit an application to the Complete Streets grant program

Brian informed the Board that last week the Complete Streets Committee had a meeting. Brian reviewed the Complete Streets prioritization plan with specific attention to the extending the sidewalk from the Whately Center Woods project to the center of Town and sidewalk completion at the Whately Elementary School. Brian reviewed the highlighted projects and stated that some of these programs are not eligible due to cost. FRCOG has offered their assistance for this grant program. Brian believes that this grant is capped at \$250,000. The Board discussed the project eligibility with specific attention to the North Street, Chestnut Plain Road, and Christian Lane traffic concerns. A motion was made to accept the two locations and authorize Brian to submit the Complete Streets application. Motion was seconded. All in favor. Roll call vote: Jonathan – yes, Joyce – yes, and Fred – yes.

New Business

To discuss whether to opt-out of the mosquito control spraying program conducted by SRMCB under M.G.L. c. 252 § 2A through calendar year 2021

Fran Fortino (Board of Health Chair) informed the Board that the Selectboard needs to decide whether to opt-out by May 15, 2021. The Board of Health recommended that the Selectboard opt-out of the mosquito control spraying program conducted by SRMCB. The State can declare communities as evaluated risks and can override the communities opt-out decision. The Town has the option of creating and implementing an alternative plan. Senator Jo Comerford requested that the May 15, 2021 deadline be extended by two months to allow communities time to create an alternative plan. Rebecca Jones (Board of Health) discussed the mosquito control spraying concerns with specific attention to the spraying process, public comment period, and public health concerns. The Board had a brief discussion regarding the mosquito control spraying history and pros/cons of the opt-in/opt-out decision. Brian informed the Board that a public hearing needs to be held before the Board can vote. The Board unanimously agreed to table this discussion until their next Selectboard meeting on May 12, 2021.

Town Administrator Updates:

Brian informed the Board that there is a vacancy at the Library and that the Library Assistant has resigned. There will be a posting on the Town's website and in the local newspaper.

Brian personally thanked the Schrader family for the storage of the Selectboard's float in their garage.

Items Not Anticipated:

Fred Orloski (Selectboard Chair) informed the Board that he has been approached by the Veterans' Memorial Committee about holding a small ceremony for Memorial Day. Fred inquired with Fran Fortino (Board of Health Chair) on how the Veterans' Memorial Committee should proceed? Fran Fortino discussed COVID19 safety protocols with specific attention to outdoor gathering limits and requested that the Veterans' Committee submit a plan for the Board of Health to review. The Board had a brief discussion regarding the State's COVID19 safety protocols.

Fred Orloski (Selectboard Chair) discussed the potential use of the American Rescue Funds with specific attention to Pine Plain Estates water quality concerns and extending the water system for Swamp Road and Egypt Road. Fred suggested that these projects begin to move forward. Joyce Palmer- Fortune expressed concern that this was not a scheduled agenda item but could be discussed at a future meeting. After a brief discussion, the Board unanimously agreed to table this decision until the next Selectboard's meeting on May 12, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned 8:28 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Domina, Town Administrator

Next Meetings: May 12, 2021 & May 26, 2021

Document List Filed in the Selectboard Office

Selectboard Meeting Minutes dated 04.14.2021

Payroll Warrant WP21-22 dated 4.12.2021

Vendor Warrant WP21-22 dated 04.12.2021

Town of Whately – Host Community Agreement (draft) with DMCTC dated 04.26.2021

Email from DLS Alerts: Municipal Opt-out of Mosquito Spraying dated 03.19.2021