

MINUTES
SHARON SELECT BOARD
March 23, 2021

The meeting of the Sharon Select Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by Select Board Chair Emily Smith-Lee remotely via Zoom. Select Board members William Heitin and Hanna Switekowski were in attendance as was Town Administrator Frederic E. Turkington, Jr. and Assistant to the Town Administrator, Lauren Barnes. The meeting commenced with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

IHRA definition of Anti-Semitism

Susan Price of 6 Osprey Road and Robert Soffer of 22 Barefoot Hill Road requested that the Board consider adopting the International Holocaust Remembrance Association definition of antisemitism. Ms. Price and Mr. Soffer each presented a short statement in support of their proposal. Several residents in attendance offered both concerns and support for the action.

MOTION: To adopt the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism as presented.
(Switekowski - Heitin)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

In addition, the Board has taken a position annually in support of Mayor's United against antisemitism campaign and wishes to do so again this year.

MOTION: To support Mayor's United against antisemitism campaign.
(Heitin – Switekowski)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

Old Post Road traffic and speed reduction

The Select Board has received several emails over the course of a couple of weeks regarding speed and traffic problems on Old Post Road between Walpole Street and South Walpole Street. Residents in the area have requested installation of sidewalks, the possibility of reducing the speed limit to 25 mph, speed bumps, and potential road closing during stadium events.

Town Engineer, Peter O'Cain, has suggested the use of delineators on the straight away section of Old Post Road as a temporary speed remediation.

The Select Board heard from several residents who expressed their concerns for the safety of neighborhood children and pedestrians. The Board explained that they understand those concerns and agree that some remediation is necessary. Police overtime for road closure is a concern in terms of budget. It was agreed that the delineators are worth trying for now while continued research on speed is conducted. The Town will monitor the Governor's guidance as Gillette opens to larger crowds and closely observe resultant changes in traffic.

ELI Apartments temporary signs, South Main Street

Mr. Frank Meroney of FASTSIGNS in Quincy has provided information on behalf of ELI Apartments who would like to add temporary signage to market apartment availability. They wish to put up flags which will help draw attention to available apartments.

The Board asked how many signs were intended to be placed and Mr. Meroney advised that there would be four on corners of South Main and Old Post Road across from Shaw's plaza along with six more along the sides of Old Post Road toward the apartment buildings.

Mr. Meroney advised that the property management team is in and out of the property every day and keen on taking care of how the signs look. He also advised that the flags/signs will help eliminate ongoing confusion with Whitney Place.

MOTION: To approve use six (6) temporary signs as discussed for a period of six months at which time, if necessary, a request to extend the time frame will be considered.
(Heitin-Switekowski)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

Jenks fountain

Mr. McGrath of 8 Roberta Road has indicated that the fountain's ultimate location has yet to be decided. Mr. McGrath's preference would be on the Town Hall grounds and he has met with Mr. Hooper and Mr. Baldassari of Public Works to discuss the feasibility of the Town Hall location.

A quote was received from Anderson Electric in the amount of \$3,980 for installation in front of the Town Hall flagpole, approximately 25 feet from the sidewalk. This estimate is roughly \$10,000 less than estimated for the Keating Memorial Park location.

The Board will consider the location of the fountain and discuss further at a later date.

Positions on Town Meeting articles

Art. #	Article	Sponsor	SB Vote
18	Acquisition of 66 North Main Street	Select Board	No position
20	Citizen Petition – Home Rule Petition to Increase Membership of Select Board from Three to Five	Citizen Petition	No position

Ms. Switekowski feels that the number of members serving on the Select Board should be decided by the residents. Ms. Smith-Lee expressed concern about unintended consequences. WH heard from number of people saying, why isn't this being done comprehensively. Petitioner has already come back with another.

General obligation municipal purpose loan of 2021

I, the Clerk of the Select Board of the Town of Sharon, Massachusetts (the "Town"), certify that at a meeting of the board held March 23, 2021, of which meeting all members of the board were duly notified and at which a quorum was present, the following votes were unanimously passed, all of which appear upon the official record of the board in my custody:

Voted: That in order to reduce interest costs, the Treasurer is authorized to issue refunding bonds, at one time or from time to time, pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 21A of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, to refund the Town's \$28,254,000 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2011 Bonds dated August 30, 2011 maturing on June 15 in the years 2022 through 2031, inclusive (the "Refunded Bonds") and that the proceeds of any refunding bonds issued pursuant to this vote shall be used to pay the principal, redemption premium and interest on the Refunded Bonds and costs of issuance of the refunding bonds.

Further Voted: that the sale of the \$24,495,000 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2021 Bonds of the Town dated March 30, 2021 (the "Bonds") to J.P. Morgan Securities LLP at the price of \$28,391,276.25 and accrued interest is hereby approved and confirmed. The Bonds shall be payable on February 15 of the years and in the principal amounts and bear interest at the respective rates, as follows:

Year	Amount	Interest Rate	Year	Amount	Interest Rate
2022	\$1,850,000	5.00%	2032	\$690,000	3.00%
2023	1,760,000	5.00	2033	690,000	3.00
2024	1,775,000	5.00	2034	685,000	2.00
2025	1,775,000	5.00	2035	685,000	2.00
2026	1,785,000	5.00	2036	685,000	2.00
2027	1,790,000	5.00	2037	645,000	2.00
2028	1,785,000	5.00	2038	645,000	2.00
2029	1,785,000	5.00	2039	645,000	2.00
2030	1,775,000	5.00	2040	640,000	2.00
2031	1,770,000	4.00	2041	635,000	2.00

Further Voted: that in connection with the marketing and sale of the Bonds, the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Sale and Preliminary Official Statement dated February 25, 2021 and a final Official Statement dated March 9, 2021 (the "Official Statement"), each in such form as may be approved by the Town Treasurer, be and hereby are ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted.

Further Voted: that the Bonds shall be subject to redemption, at the option of the Town, upon such terms and conditions as are set forth in the Official Statement.

Further Voted: to authorize the execution and delivery of a Refunding Escrow Agreement to be dated March 30, 2021, between the Town and U.S. Bank National Association as Refunding Escrow Agent.

Further Voted: that the Town Treasurer and the Select Board be, and hereby are, authorized to execute and deliver a continuing disclosure undertaking in compliance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 in such form as may be approved by bond counsel to the Town, which undertaking shall be incorporated by reference in the Bonds for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds from time to time.

Further Voted: that we authorize and direct the Town Treasurer to establish post issuance federal tax compliance procedures and continuing disclosure procedures in such forms as the Town Treasurer and bond counsel deem sufficient, or if such procedures are currently in place, to review and update said procedures, in order to monitor and maintain the tax-exempt status of the Bonds and to comply with relevant securities laws.

Further Voted: that any certificates or documents relating to the Bonds (collectively, the "Documents"), may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be regarded as an original and all of which shall constitute one and the same document; delivery of an executed counterpart of a signature page to a Document by electronic mail in a ".pdf" file or by other electronic transmission shall be as effective as delivery of a manually executed counterpart signature page to such Document; and electronic signatures on any of the Documents shall be deemed original signatures for the purposes of the Documents and all matters relating thereto, having the same legal effect as original signatures.

Further Voted: that each member of the Select Board, the Town Clerk and the Town Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing votes.

I further certify that the votes were taken at a meeting open to the public, that no vote was taken by secret ballot, that a notice stating the place, date, time and agenda for the meeting (which agenda included the adoption of the above votes) was filed with the Town Clerk and a copy thereof posted in a manner conspicuously visible to the public at all hours in or on the municipal building that the office of the Town Clerk is located or, if applicable, in accordance with an alternative method of notice prescribed or approved by the

Attorney General as set forth in 940 CMR 29.03(2)(b), at least 48 hours, not including Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, prior to the time of the meeting and remained so posted at the time of the meeting, that no deliberations or decision in connection with the sale of the Bonds were taken in executive session, all in accordance with G.L. c.30A, §§18-25, as amended, further suspended, supplemented or modified by the Executive Order of the Governor of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 30A, §20 dated March 12, 2020.
(Heitin – Switekowski)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

Select Board meeting schedule change

Due to a conflict, a request has been made to meet on Monday, April 12, 2021 in lieu of Tuesday, April 13, 2021.

MOTION: To amend the Select Board meeting schedule and replace the April 13, 2021 meeting with a meeting on Monday, April 12, 2021.
(Switekowski - Heitin)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

Review and approve consent calendar

- I. Minutes
 - a. March 9, 2021 regular session minutes
- II. Water division reserve fund transfer of \$200,000
- III. Appoint Susan Price to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council for a three-year term expiring March 23, 2024
- IV. Ice cream vendor license for Sweet Sixteen Ice Cream
- V. Approve early voting for the Annual Town Election.

MOTION: To approve the consent calendar holding item five.
(Heitin-Switekowski)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

MOTION: To approve early voting at the request of Town Clerk, Mark Hogan.
(Heitin-Switekowski)

Heitin: AYE
Switekowski: AYE
Smith-Lee: AYE
3-0 **PASSES**

Report of the Town Administrator

Mr. Turkington provided the following update for the Board.

The Finance Committee has reviewed the Select Board sector budget. Residents can expect the warrant in their mail sometime around April 17. The warrant hearing will take place remotely by Zoom on Monday, April 26. Town Meeting will be held on Sunday afternoon, May 2 at 1:00 pm, outdoors with a tent due to the evolving nature of COVID. All details on COVID protocols will be outlined in the printed warrant.

Correspondence

Our office received or exchanged 24 pieces of correspondence between 12 noon on March 4 and 12 noon on March 18:

- An email from Sustainable Sharon Coalition asking for detailed information for municipal solid waste and recycling revolving fund;
- A series of emails expressing concern about private contractors staging heavy equipment in the parking lot at Deborah Sampson Park;
- An email asking for the Board to support the ZBA decision on the library zoning variance requests;
- Emails from twelve citizens opposed to the use of eminent domain to take a portion of the property at 66 North Main Street to be added to the library site at One School Street;
- An email asking the Board to consider a ban on gas-powered leaf blowers (noise pollution);
- An email asking the Board to consider adding an article to the 2021 ATM warrant to allow for the recall of elected and appointed board and committee members;
- An email asking the School Committee to appoint Veronica Wiseman as chair;
- An email asking for sidewalks, traffic mitigation measures, and speed limit reduction on Old Post Road as well as road closures during Gillette Stadium events;
- An email expressing concerns about limited availability of handicapped accessible kayak storage racks and the procedure for reserving same, and response from Recreation Department; and
- An email dated March 18 from MA Department of Public Health announcing vaccine availability and distribution plan.

Next meetings:

On April 8, the Select Board and Town Administrator's office will attend the first session of DEI Training and the next Select Board meeting is on April 12.

Topics not reasonably anticipated within 48 hours in advance of the meeting

Ms. Switekowski wished to acknowledge that the Chinese Association quickly put together a last minute rally recently after the Atlanta shootings. She wished to reiterate that there is no room for hatred in Sharon and suggested that a moment of silence in honor of the victims be observed. She hopes that the Board will consider supporting gun violence awareness month again this year.

Ms. Switekowski, together with Mr. Heitin and Ms. Smith-Lee, wished residents a happy and healthy Passover and Easter.

Adjourn

MOTION: To Enter into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing strategy with respect to the purchase, transfer, or sale of real property located at 66 North Main Street and adjourn for the evening at the conclusion.

DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS IN OPEN SESSION MAY HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE BARGAINING POSITION OF THE TOWN

(Heitin – Switlekowski)

Heitin: AYE

Switlekowski: AYE

Smith-Lee: AYE

3-0 **PASSES**

List of Documents

- Application materials
- Legal notice
- Talking points
- Board/Committee applications (2)
- Commission on Disabilities membership list
- Correspondence
- Beach and boating rules
- DEI Committee report
- Minutes of Jun 9, 2020
- Sharon bylaws Ch. 113
- Orders of taking
- Memorandum
- Plans and map
- Draft articles (2)
- Segregation of land plans
- Zoning table
- List of articles
- Updated article text
- Preliminary budget
- Minutes
- Draft contract agreement
- Memorandum
- Town Administrator's report
- Correspondence