



TOWN OF ROCKLAND

Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
242 Union Street
Rockland, Massachusetts 02370

Chairman:

Michael P. O'Loughlin

Vice Chairman:

Kara L. Nyman

Selectmen:

Larry J. Ryan

Michael P. Mullen, Jr.

Rich Penney

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BOS Open Session Minutes of
April 6, 2021

Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Tuesday April 6, 2021
REMOTE TELECONFERENCE

Via Zoom: Chairman Mike O'Loughlin, Vice Chairman Kara Nyman, Members Larry Ryan, Mike Mullen, Rich Penney, Town Administrator Doug Lapp, Assistant Town Administrator Jen Constable, HR Director Stacy Callahan, Police Chief John Llewellyn, Senator John Keenan, State Rep David DeCoste, Plymouth County Commissioners Jared Valanzola & Sandy Wright, CDBG Christine Sullivan, Capital Planning Chairman Rich Harris, Water Superintendent Joe LaPointe, Abington/Rockland Water Department Kristel Cameron, and Highway Superintendent Dave Taylor.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Community Announcements –

-April 13th @ 8:00pm - last day to register to be eligible to vote at the Annual Town Meeting

-Senator Keenan thanked Mr. Mullen for his years of public service and presented a Citation on behalf of the State Senate. Representative DeCoste thanked Mr. Mullen for his hard work and presented a Citation on behalf of the Massachusetts House of Representatives. Commissioner Valanzola thanked Mr. Mullen for his dedication on behalf of the Plymouth County Commissioners.

-Chief Llewellyn provided the public with an update on the events of the last week – the investigation on going. He is in the process of researching to equip Police vehicles with shut off devices. The Board thanked the Chief and commended the entire Police Department.

3. Minutes-Open Session Minutes of March 16, 2021 and March 23, 2021

MOTION to approve the minutes of March 16, 2021 by Mr. Mullen, 2nd by Mr. Ryan, Roll Call Vote. 4-1. Ms. Nyman abstained.

MOTION to approve the minutes of March 23, 2021 by Mr. Penney, 2nd by Mr. Mullen, Roll Call Vote. Unanimous approval.

4. New Business –

-CDBG - Single Case Waiver Request- Ms. Sullivan requested the Boards approval on a “Single case waiver”.

MOTION to approve the “Single case waiver” as requested by Mr. Ryan, 2nd by Mr. Penney, Roll Call Vote. Unanimous approval.

-Sign/Awning Permit-Tax Solution at 302 Union Street – Request for approval as submitted.

MOTION to approve sign and awning for Tax Solutions as requested by Mr. Mullen, 2nd by Mr. Ryan, Roll Call Vote. Unanimous approval.

-Capital Plan-Capital Planning Committee - Mr. Harris provided a brief overview of the Capital items scheduled to be executed this year. The Board commented and thanked Mr. Harris and the Committee for their hard work.

-Abington Rockland Joint Water Works Update- Mr. LaPointe, along with Ms. Cameron and Weston & Sampson advisor Tara McManus, shared and described the “Water Department Public Education Letter” that was mailed to residents this week. Mr. O’Loughlin asked about droughts and Mr. LaPointe explained due to water capacity bans will continue. The Board thanked Mr. LaPointe and Ms. Cameron for providing the information.

-Highway Department Update re: National Grid Projects-Mr. Taylor updated the Board on National Grids “Reinforcement Project” which includes conversions on Spring St./Summer St/Beech St. areas. He also gave a brief update on “double poles”. The Board thanked Mr. Taylor.

Other New Business Not Reasonably Anticipated –none

5. Old Business-

- Final Adoption of Personnel Policies- Mr. Lapp, working with Ms. Callahan, Ms. Constable and Town Counsel, have completed the Employee Personnel Policies Handbook, and is recommending the Board adopt the final version.

MOTION to adopt Rockland’s Personnel Policies as written by Mr. Ryan, 2nd by Mr. Penney, Roll Call Vote. Unanimous approval.

-FY22 Budget Update – Mr. Lapp reported no updates.

-May 3, 2021 2021 Town Warrant Update – Mr. Lapp reported the final version ready for signatures.

Other Old Business Not Reasonably Anticipated – none

6. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

-Announced Fire Department received a \$15,000.00 “FY 21 Fire Fighter Safety Equipment Grant”

-Last week the Planning Board approved to move the” Gateway District Overlay Article” forward

-Met with the Open Space Committee this week – productive – they will be added to a future BOS Agenda

-Met with John O’Rourke of Good Energy to start the discussion on the possible renewal of the Community Aggregation Contract, which is expiring at the end of the year

-Future agenda item – two billboard requests possible – both are within the approved billboard district

-COVID update – per the State, everyone will be eligible for the vaccine by April 19 – BOH and Fire Department are constantly requesting vaccines from the State and have not received any yet. Also, BOH and Fire Department are working to get the vaccine to Rockland’s homebound population.

8. SELECTMAN’S COMMENTS - This was Mr. Mullen’s last BOS meeting, and he has accepted a position as the Town Administrator in Dighton.

Mr. Penney-Best of luck to Mr. Mullen

Ms. Nyman- Best of luck to Mr. Mullen

Mr. Ryan- Good luck to Mr. Mullen

Mr. O’Loughlin–Also, wished Mr. Mullen the best

Mr. Mullen-Thanked his family, friends, Town Employees and Rockland residents

MOTION to adjourn to Executive Session not to reconvene by Mr. Ryan, 2nd by Mr. Mullen, Roll Call Vote. Unanimous approval.

9. Executive Session #2

- Purpose No.1-To discuss the physical condition of an individual employee.
- Purpose No.3-Litigation strategy-Craig Erickson v. Rockland Fire Department
- Review and Approval of Minutes-December 15, 2020 and February 16, 2021



Minutes by Susan Ide, Executive Assistant

The listings of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

Open Session Minutes approved by the BOS on 4/20/21