

**BILLERICA SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 11, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Select Board was held on Monday January 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom Video Conference. Present were Selectman Mike Rosa, Chairman, Selectman, John Burrows, Vice Chairman, Selectman Daniel Burns, Secretary, Selectman Andrew Deslaurier, Member, Selectman, Kim Conway Member, and Town Manager, John Curran

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Mike Rosa called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Rosa stated that Chief Rosa had sent him an email asking that item 8 under Old Business be removed from the agenda. The Chairman read the email to everyone and then proceeded to read Section 3-2B of the Town Charter. Select Board Members Conway and Deslaurier asked that Mr. Kevin Feeley, Labor Counsel and Mark Reich, Town Counsel could summarize their findings.

**OPEN MICROPHONE:**

Carol Reardan, 18 Pinedale Ave and Town Meeting Member for Precinct 3 – Stated her opinion/concerns regarding the investigation request.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**VACANCIES ON BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

**Select Board Appointments**

Fence Viewer

One (1) Member

Scholarship Foundation Committee

Six (6) Members

Water Sewer Oversight Board

Seven (7) Members

**Openings on the Billerica Affordable Housing Trust**

Attorney	One (1) Member
Banker	One (1) Member
Residents	Two (2) Members

Selectman Dan Burns stated all other announcements may be viewed on the Town of Billerica website, Selectmen's page.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**7:05 pm National Grid – Project 29895114 for 12 Dunham Road**

Selectman Dan Burns seconded by Selectman John Burrows made the motion to open the public hearing.

A roll call vote was taken:

It was voted (5 – 0)

Selectman Burns – Aye  
Selectman Conway – Aye  
Selectman Burrows - Aye  
Selectman Deslaurier–Aye  
Selectman Rosa – Aye

John Antonelli, Engineer from National Grid was on hand to answer any questions pertaining to the pole relocation at 12 Dunham Road, approximately 10 ft so it is no longer in the customer's parking lot. There have been no abutters voicing concern.

Selectman Dan Burns seconded by Selectman Kim Conway made the motion to close the public hearing.

A roll call vote was taken:

It was voted (5 – 0)

Selectman Burns – Aye  
Selectman Conway - Aye  
Selectman Deslaurier–Aye  
Selectman Burrows - Aye  
Selectman Rosa - Aye

Selectman Dan Burns seconded by Selectman Andrew Deslaurier made the motion for the Select Board to approve National Grids request to install JO Pole 11.5 at 12 Dunham Road as per plan 29895114.

A roll call vote was taken:

It was voted (5 – 0)

Selectman Burns – Aye  
Selectman Conway - Aye  
Selectman Deslaurier–Aye  
Selectman Burrows - Aye  
Selectman Rosa - Aye

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**Proclamation for Alfred Quinton aka Santa Claus**

Selectman Burns read the proclamation from the Town of Billerica recognizing Mr. Quinton's great dedication of spreading Christmas Joy to the Town.

**Proclamation for John LaFauci**

Selectman Burns read the proclamation from the Town of Billerica recognizing Mr. LaFauci for his spreading of Holiday Magic to the Town of Billerica.

**Proclamation for Amy Dearth**

Selectman Burns read the proclamation from the Town of Billerica recognizing Ms. Dearth for her dedication to making the Holiday Season special for everyone in the Town.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Review and Vote on Request to Extend Community Funds Granted to On The Move**

Chairman Rosa stated they had received a request from Bill Haddad, Executive Director for On The Move, Inc. asking for an extension to June 30, 2021 to spend the funds.

Selectman Dan Burns seconded by Selectman John Burrows made the motion for the Select Board to approve the request from On The Move, Inc. to extend the time to use funds granted under the Community Grant Program until June 30, 2021 due to the impact of COVID-19.

A roll call vote was taken:  
It was voted (5 – 0)

Selectman Burns – Aye  
Selectman Conway - Aye  
Selectman Deslaurier–Aye  
Selectman Burrows - Aye  
Selectman Rosa - Aye

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Purchase of 16,000 sq ft Parcel of Land Located at 367 Boston Road Billerica, MA**

Town Manager, John Curran began by saying this was a long-standing effort by the Town, the Town Manager and Police Chief Rosa to purchase property next door to expand parking. The price is \$95,000 and would give approximately 39 parking spaces.

Selectman Dan Burns seconded by Selectman John Burrows made the motion to delegate to the Town Manager the authority to send a letter of intent to purchase a parcel of land owned by George Burke at 367 Boston Road Billerica, MA for no more than \$95,000.

A roll call vote was taken:  
It was voted (5 – 0)

Selectman Conway – Aye  
Selectman Burns – Aye

Selectman Burrows - Aye  
Selectman Deslaurier–Aye  
Selectman Rosa – Aye

**Request to Mass Housing for Extension of 40B Comments for development at 480 Boston Road Billerica, MA**

Mr. Curran had Town counsel send a letter to Mass Housing on the Towns behalf to request an extension. He will keep the board updated with any responses.

**Town Mangers Report:**

**Howe School** – The Historic District Commission approved the project in their January 6, 2021 meeting. January 13, 2021 a cleaning service will go through to clean prior to the work being started.

**COVID-19 Vaccinations** – The Paramedics have been vaccinated and the Police, Fire, and Dispatch employees will be vaccinated next week. The Town is exploring the possibility of starting a vaccination center for Phase II which begins in February.

**Pinehurst Fire Station** – Progressing as expected, the steel is going up.

**Testing Center** – The Town is exploring a testing center in the last week of January. This would include an effort to test Town Employees prior to bringing them back to work.

**MassDOT Shared Winter Streets and Spaces Grant** – the Billerica pedestrian safety project will be funded at \$79,600 under chapter 90. This funding will be used to place five pedestrian crossing beacons in different parts of Town with the greatest need.

**Capital Needs Assessment Committee** – The first meeting of the committee will be called for January 21, 2021 at 7 pm via Zoom. All members of the committee have been notified to be sworn in by the Town Clerk prior to the meeting.

**CPC** – The Town Managers Office have submitted two application to the CPC. The first was regarding the Masonic Temple. Upon further inspection it was found there were more issues than just structural. The request is for \$200,000 to conduct a full building assessment to understand what it needs done to bring it back to life. The remaining funds would go towards starting any work that was identified as part of the study.

The second application is an amended version of the original Katie Durand Memorial Park application. This amended version will allow for a seamless transition between Phase 1 of the project and starting to explore Phase 2.

**Food Pantry / Masonic Hall** – The Masons have completely vacated the building. The Town Managers Office has facilitated the move of the Food Pantry into the building. They plan on running their first distribution from this building on January 18, 2021.

**Water Main Break (Professional Recognition)** – the town received a letter of thanks from Richard Rose thanking the Water dept crew that worked late into the morning hours. He wanted to make sure they knew their efforts and professionalism are both recognized and appreciated by the community.

**Library Boiler** – This project s nearly complete. The oil burner is providing heat to the building.

**Director of Community Development and Planning** - This position is open until filled with preference given to those that apply before January 29, 2021.

Mr. Curran stated he did not put in a COVID update but just to let the board know there have been 136 case in the last four days.

Chairman Rosa opened the floor for discussion. There was much discussion regarding the testing and vaccinations. There are so many questions regarding the Phase's that the state has provided. The Select Board is excited to see our first responders getting vaccinated. Each member of the board went through Mr. Curran's report and were happy with all that is coming together and being accomplished. Also, great to hear from Town Residents regarding Town Employees and what a good job they are doing.

**MEETING SCHEDULE:**

The meeting Schedule is:  
January 25, 2021 and February 8, 2021

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Selectman Dan burns seconded by Selectman John Burrows made the motion to adjourn from regular session.

A roll call vote was taken:  
It was voted (5 – 0)

Selectman Deslaurier–Aye  
Selectman Burrows – Aye  
Selectman Conway - Aye  
Selectman Burns – Aye  
Selectman Rosa - Aye

Chairman Mike Rosa adjourned the regular meeting at 8:10 pm.

A True Copy Attest

---

Joyce MacMillan  
Recording Secretary