



**Board of Selectmen
Ware Town Hall, Meeting Room, 126 Main Street
Regular Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**

Instructions for call in option: at or before 7:00 p.m., call the phone number below and when prompted enter the Meeting ID number. The platform is Zoom Meetings.

Join online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7846041861> (the online option will require a download).

Meeting ID: 784 604 1861

Phone: 929-205-6099

Meeting Opened

Present at Town Hall: Selectman Alan G. Whitney, Selectman John E. Carroll, Selectman Keith J. Kruckas, Selectman Nancy J. Talbot, Town Manager Stuart Beckley

Remote Participation Via Zoom: Selectman Tracy R. Opalinski

Opening Remarks, Announcements, and Agenda review by Chair - None

Consent Agenda

- Approval of April 21, 2020, May 5, 2020, and May 19, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Selectman Kruckas made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Selectman Talbot seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 5 Yes, 0 No.

Scheduled Appearances

Old Business

- Curaleaf HCA updated
-

Mr. Beckley presented the updated HCA for Curaleaf, including \$15,000 retail and \$5,000 medical donations. Selectman Opalinski noted there should be a process to determine donations to non-profits to promote more culture. Mr. Beckley noted the Board can change the committee.

Selectman Opalinski stated there should be representatives from the Cannabis Advisory Committee, a Curaleaf representative, Historical Commission representative, Quabog CDC representative, and a citizen. Chairman Whitney noted the discussion of this committee will be held on June 16, 2020. Selectman Carroll noted that, as in prior cases, he will vote No.

Selectman Kruckas made the motion to approve the updated HCA. Selectman Talbot seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 4 Yes, 1 No (Selectman Carroll).

- **Complete Streets – Board of Selectmen’s Priorities List**

Chairman Whitney stated he agrees with Mr. Beckley’s prioritization order in the interest of safety. Selectman Kruckas questioned how the projects will be funded, considering budget cuts, legal expenses, and land takings. Mr. Beckley noted the State allows towns to apply for grants of \$400,000 per year, and we do not need to apply every year, and there is no matching fund requirement. Selectman Opalinski questioned why West Street is not higher on the list. Chairman Whitney noted the safety order of projects would place the bridge first, then Gould Road. Mr. Beckley noted there is an old system of water lines on West Street, making it a lengthy and costly project. Selectman Opalinski noted the population density shows many residents are walking to get essentials. Chairman Whitney noted that West Street is third, and requested the list be placed in outline order as Mr. Beckley has indicated. The Board will take a vote on June 16, 2020.

New Business

- **CARES Relief Funding Request Approval**

Mr. Beckley noted the CARES act amount of approximately \$28,836. Selectman Opalinski asked if a new drop box or plexiglass or cameras were included; Mr. Beckley noted that the camera may be part of next year’s funds. Selectman Talbot noted the early voting postage costs.

Selectman Kruckas made the motion to approve the request as presented. Selectman Carroll seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 5 Yes, 0 No.

- **Extension of Option, Forefront Solar**

Mr. Beckley noted the town receives \$1,000 monthly. There has been a connection issue with National Grid, and the study is completed. Selectman Opalinski questioned, and Mr. Beckley noted that town counsel wrote the first agreement. Selectman Kruckas would like to see further opinion from town counsel.

Selectman Talbot made the motion to table to June 16, 2020 meeting. Selectman Carroll seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 5 Yes, 0 No.

- **Reappointment: Chuck Dowd, Zoning Board of Appeals, Term to Expire June 30, 2023**

Selectman Kruckas made the motion of reappointment. Selectman Talbot seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 5 Yes, 0 No.

- **Reappointment: Phil Hamel, Zoning Board of Appeals, Term to Expire June 30, 2023**

Selectman Kruckas made the motion of reappointment. Selectman Talbot seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 5 Yes, 0 No.

- **Reappointment: Paul Opalinski, Tax Increment Financing Authority, Term to Expire June 30, 2023**

Selectman Kruckas made the motion of reappointment. Selectman Talbot seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Selectman Opalinski).

- **Reappointment: Paul Opalinski, Community Development Authority, Term to Expire June 30, 2021**

Selectman Kruckas made the motion of reappointment for one year, as requested. Selectman Talbot seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Selectman Opalinski).

Comments and Concerns of Citizens

Resident Kevin Smith spoke about the vigil planned for Sunday, June 7, 2020 (by organizer, Tyson Delrosario). He stated that the Town should rethink this for 30 days, only allow residents, lockdown all town borders, or to bus people after tagging each. Mr. Beckley noted that town borders cannot be on lockdown and people are free to travel. Mr. Beckley noted that Mr. Delrosario wishes to hold the vigil now as the issues are timely. The Police Chief is supportive with continued planning of wearing masks and social distancing. Mr. Beckley noted this was just proposed yesterday, so there is no written information yet. Selectman Opalinski suggested the event could be moved to Grenville Park. Mr. Beckley noted there will be a start and end time to the vigil, with speakers. Selectman Opalinski noted there should be an organized outline. Chairman Whitney noted the risk and requested more details. Selectman Carroll praised and supported Mr. Delrosario's effort, and noted the event should take place on Main Street. Selectman Talbot also supported the vigil, and suggested a special Board meeting could be held by Zoom on Friday, June 5, 2020. Mr. Beckley noted he would speak with Mr. Delrosario and with Chief Crevier for more detail.

Town Manager Report

Upcoming Events:

June 4, CDBG Palmer Virtual Public Hearing – Microenterprise grant

Sunday, June 7, 1 p.m. – Vigil Town Hall

June 10 – CDBG Ware Virtual Public Hearing – Social Services Grant

Working with the Police Chief and Town Manager, a vigil/rally is proposed in response to the actions in Minneapolis and the reactions across the nation. The time is Sunday at 1 p.m. along the sidewalks by Veterans Park and Town Hall. For residents, police and officials to stand together (distanced and masked) is an important opportunity to make a community statement. Would the Board please suggest any concerns or conditions?

Grants: There are two public hearings in the coming week to review the applications for CDBG-COVID funds. The first is Thursday regarding the regional application for microenterprise assistance. The second is Wednesday, June 10 regarding the regional application for social services including domestic violence, outreach for seniors, and the literacy project. Both hearings are virtual with information posted on the Town's website.

114 Main Street . The structural review letter is attached. The Building Inspector is working with the Town Attorney to order action. This week, the property owner has been non-responsive. The Town has requested estimates for design and demolition costs. The Building Inspector will order the sidewalk in front of the building closed. The DPW Director and I will work with MassDOT and Ludlow Construction to determine the impacts on Main Street construction.

Selectman Talbot questioned if the taxes were up to date; Mr. Beckley confirmed this. Selectman Opalinski asked if the cost of the demolition would be included. Selectman Opalinski also questioned the progress of the bylaws; Selectman Talbot noted she would provide a report at the June 16, 2020 meeting. Selectman Opalinski questioned the possible lifting of restrictions on restaurants; Mr. Beckley provided more information below, and noted the changes may allow outside dining on a temporary basis. Selectman Kruckas questioned if tents would be used; these are options.

The Water Department is on its last area of flushing.

Re-opening. Preparations have begun for the beginning of Phase 2 openings. Part of this is allowing for outdoor dining that meets all the safety requirements. The state has allowed a streamlined process that will run through the

Select Board as the licensing authority. Mary has prepared a checklist that summarizes the details needed by restaurants to move forward if they wish. This option may be available as early as June 8.

Legislation is progressing on the reduced quorum allowance for Town Meeting. The Building Inspector is laying out the downstairs floor in case extra capacity is needed.

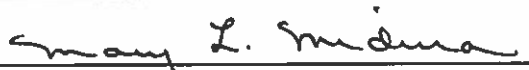
Selectman Opalinski asked the progress of the school audit for the USDA application regarding the Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Beckley noted this was not completed to date but he will check on the progress. Selectman Talbot noted the resurfacing of route 32 and route 9. Selectman Kruckas questioned if the upper portion of East Street could be done so that the Main Street work and East Street work is completed at the same time. Selectman Opalinski noted reports from residents of speeding cars on Eagle Street; Mr. Beckley and Chief Crevier will look at this situation.

Adjournment

Executive Session: M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a) #2 Non-Union Contract Negotiation – Police Chief

Selectman Talbot made the motion at 7:54 p.m. to Adjourn to Executive Session: M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a) #2 Non- Union Contract Negotiation – Police Chief, **NOT TO RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**. Selectman Kruckas seconded the motion. The motion passed on a roll call vote of 5 Yes, 0 No. Selectman Talbot will recuse from Executive Session.

Selectman Alan G. Whitney	Yes✓
Selectman John E. Carroll	Yes✓
Selectman Keith J. Kruckas	Yes✓
Selectman Tracy R. Opalinski	Yes✓
Selectman Nancy J. Talbot	Yes✓

Attest: 
Mary L. Midura, Executive Assistant to
Town Manager
Minutes VIA TV15 Video