

Danvers Select Board Minutes

January 17, 2023

The regular meeting of the Danvers Select Board was held on Tuesday, January 23, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. in the Daniel J. Toomey Hearing Room, Town Hall, 1 Sylvan Street, Danvers. Present: Daniel C. Bennett, Chair; Matthew E. Duggan; David A. Mills, and Gardner S. Trask III (Select Board member Bernard was absent). The **Pledge of Allegiance**, led by Select Board member Duggan, was recited by all in attendance.

Select Board member Trask motioned the Board to approve the **Minutes of December 20, 2022**, seconded by Select Board member Mills, and voted 4-0.

New Public Business: Bill Bradstreet, TMM Precinct 1, inquired as to whether there would be any improvements to a Town-owned parcel on North Putnam in concert with the *“massive construction project (Maple Square) at the intersection of Hobart, Maple and North Putnam.”* Some long-range plans may result in an outcome of that nature; stay tuned.

A **public hearing** was held under Chapter 138 of M.G.L. on the application of **Modern Butcher**, d/b/a The Modern Butcher, 36 Maple Street, Warren Means, Manager, for a Wine and Malt Common Victuallar License at that location. In preparation for an expected opening in March 2023, owners Warren Means and Lisa Nichols, are requesting a license to sell beverages (beer & wine) for on-site (indoor) consumption only (no alcohol service to outside tables) to *“add to the experience”* and allow the store to be more competitive. Mr. Means is TIPS-certified, the licensee of record, and present when the restaurant is open (Tue-Fri 11-5; Sat 11-4; and Sun 11-2). Menu to include 5-6 sandwiches, with one different “special sandwich,” each day. Select Board member Trask motioned to close the public hearing, seconded by Select Board member Mills, and voted 4-0. Select Board member Trask motioned to approve the application as presented, seconded by Select Board member Mills, and voted 4-0.

In accordance with M.G.L. chapter 44, §53A and on a motion by Select Board member Trask, seconded by Select Board member Mills, the Board voted 4-0 to **accept two (2) gifts (with an appropriate letter of appreciation):**

- (1) \$20,000 from the Friends of Endicott Park to re place 1970’s equipment on the two-mile fitness trail; and
- (2) \$5,000 from a private citizen (Carolyn T.) to benefit the Senior Center’s Transportation Revolving Fund.

The Board discussed the amended **Budget Goals & Objectives for Fiscal year 2024** which added under Ongoing Strategic Objectives the following section 2, Balancing Competing Needs: “Also, specifically in terms of education, work with necessary parties to achieve a more equitable, predictable, and proportional assessment from Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School.” Select Board member Trask motioned to accept the amended version of the above-referenced document, seconded by Select Board member Mills, and voted 4-0.

The Select Board heard a presentation by Town Clerk Cathy Ellsworth about **early voting and/or vote by mail** for the May 2, 2023 local Town election. After a brief discussion, and by means of a Roll Call Vote (RCV), Select Board member Trask motioned to “opt out” of vote by mail for the 5/2/23 Annual Town Election, seconded by Select Board member Mills, and voted 4-0 (RCV). In addition, Select Board member Trask motioned to designate Town Hall, 1 Sylvan Street, as the in-person early voting location for the 5/2/23 Annual Town Election, with in-person early voting to be held on Saturday 4/22/23 from 10 A.M.-4 P.M. in the Toomey Room at Town Hall, 1 Sylvan Street, seconded by Select Board member Mills, and voted (RCV) 4-0. In closing, the Town Clerk noted that nomination papers will be available February 1 for six (6) TMM seats in each precinct; one (1) Town Moderator; one (1) Select Board member; two (2) School Committee members; and three (3) Library Trustees.

The Select Board discussed the appointment of ZBA Alternate member Corinne Doherty to full membership for an unexpired one (1) year term. Select Board member Duggan noted that *“Corinne attends all meetings, is fully engaged, does her homework, and asks good questions.”* Agreeing with those comments, Select Board member

Trask motioned to appoint Corinne to full membership on the ZBA for a one-year term (expiring January 2024), seconded by Select Board member Mills, and voted 4-0.

Town Manager Update

- A number of open board/committee seats (including Beverly Airport Commissioner). An “advertisement,” notifying people of openings is contemplated as a means to keep public informed and perhaps engaged. Talent Pool forms often include letter stating a candidate’s particular interest(s).
- Airport Manager Screening Committee meeting (virtual) to review 20 applications.
- CAFR review on Select Board February 7 agenda with Melanson representative at meeting.
- Last evening’s MLK celebration at the High School was a beautiful event, with the music a highlight of the evening (groups representing Brandeis U., St. John’s Prep, and Danvers High) and recognition of Dr. Charles Desmond. Wonderful work by Dee Djoko, Jasmine Ramón, and HRIC.
- Strategic Plan Visioning workshop on Thursday, January 19, 6-8 P.M. at Holten-Richmond Middle School. All welcome and bring a friend.
- January 26 new website launching; available for public viewing on Friday, January 27.
- School committee voted to appoint Dan Bauer as DPS Superintendent. Current Marblehead High Principal chosen from three strong candidates.
- Student Advisory Committee applications being accepted until the end of next week; they’ll be reviewed and a slate of recommended candidates brought to the Select Board.
- On January 23, 7:30 P.M. short, one hour film on anti-Semitism, courtesy of Lappin Foundation. More information available on social media.

Select Board member Trask motioned to accept the **Consent Calendar** as presented, seconded by Select Board member Mills, and voted 4-0.

Common Victualler

- RR Bena Inc., d/b/a Maple Street Café’, 68 Maple Street
- Putnam Pantry, LLC, d/b/a Putnam Pantry, 255 Newbury Street
- Berati Inc., d/b/a Supreme Roast Beef, 18 Maple Street
- Isla Bonita Nutrition, d/b/a Isa Bonita Nutrition, 52 Maple Street
- Kaffmandu, LLC, d/b/a Kaffmandu Coffee House, 8 Maple Street
- Daily Harvest Café’, Inc., d/b/a Daily Harvest, 103 High Street

Class 2 Dealer

- Ferncroft Motor Car Company, 100 Ferncroft Rd, Unit 210
- Joseph A. Flammia, Jr, d/b/a Flammia Auto Brokers, 27 Andover Street

Livery Service: OTR Limo Inc., d/b/a OTR Limo, 500 Maple Street (3 buses)

Correspondence, Select Board “*New Business*,” previous “*New Public Business*” updates, and **Select Board closing comments.**

Select Board member Mills

- “*Senior Center publishes booklet, and it contains lots of things to do; great programs at Danvers YMCA; don’t stay home.*”
- Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration a “*real treat*” last night. Maybe we should publicize the event more.
- “*Jump on new website when it goes live; let us know if you find it user friendly, because this is the way we communicate.*”

- Future code requirements might consider water heaters located at point of use, rather than basements.

Select Board member Trask

- MLK Event was terrific; couldn't have chosen a more deserving "Drum Major for Justice" candidate than Charlie Desmond.
- Be cautious about data collected on different topics (i.e., article on building electrification). *"The article was informative and interesting, but correlation is not causation,"* based on one or two articles.
- Danvers Housing Assistance meeting on Wednesday, January 18.
- River Committee meeting on Thursday, January 19. Both public meetings.

Select Board member Bennett

- Received e-mail from resident questioning a policy for building electrification, particularly in new buildings. Select Board member Bennett noted that the Town has a Climate Action Advisory group meeting tomorrow (January 18) in the Math & Science Building at North Shore Community College from 10:30-12:30.
- Through Resilient Danvers, we're also looking forward to the CASPR (Climate Action, Sustainability, Preservation and Resiliency) report expected by end of the year and anticipate it will involve lots of guidelines and good goals.
- If you meet a veteran, thank him or her for their service

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

Prepared by Ann Freitas

Attest: Catherine S. Ellsworth, Town Clerk