

Select Board Regular Meeting  
Monday June 17, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.  
Longmeadow High School, Room A15, 535 Bliss Road, Longmeadow, MA

**Present:** Chair Mark Gold, Marie Angelides, Richard Foster, and Tom Lachiusa

**Absent:** New member Marc Strange

**Also Present:** CFO Paul Pasterczyk, Debbie House, Moderator Rebecca Townsend

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Select Board Chair Mark Gold and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Announcements:**

1. Dwight Road paving will start Wednesday evening, weather permitting.
2. Both of the Town's main pools are open. The little kids pool is not open; repairs are needed to fix a leak.
3. The Two tennis courts are open.
4. A Measure and List Evaluation is required every 9 years. This will be starting on June 24 in precinct A & B. This requires manual inspections of properties. A consultant for the Town will be going around to homes to do the inspections.
5. Mr. Foster congratulated the boys and girls high school tennis teams on taking first place in the regional tournaments
6. Mr. Gold recognized Ernie Welker for his 12+ years of service on the Audit Committee.

**Resident Comments:**

1. Michelle Marantz, 117 Rugby Road – Ms. Marantz attended the meeting as a resident and as Chair of the Pipeline Awareness Group to reflect on the results of last week's town election in the hope that the Select Board will respond vigorously to the approval of question 2. She has also requested that the investigative process be transparent so that residents can be informed of any progress made during the next six weeks. The town needs current town pipelines repaired or replaced. Many residents do not want a dangerous high pressure pipeline to be built so that Columbia Gas can expand its infrastructure in order to export its product out of Longmeadow and Springfield. Another indicator of residents' opposition to this project is that two candidates elected to the Select Board were individuals who publicly opposed the meter station project. The group worked hard to educate voters about the importance of voting "yes" on question 2. Appearances were made on radio and television programs, new signs were installed and displayed, letters written to the editor, stand-outs were done, an information tent was staffed on election day, and about 1,000 flyers were distributed all within three weeks. Ms. Marantz asked that any information learned and the reasons behind any decisions about this issue be shared with residents.
2. Andrea Chasen, 236 Crestview Circle – Ms. Chasen thanked Michelle Marantz and informed the Select Board that if Ms. Marantz had not done this enormous amount of work as Chair of the Pipeline Awareness Group, we would not be where we are today.  
Ms. Chasen asked that the Select Board consider citizen input in the Town Manager search process.  
Ms. Chasen stated that she had just received an email from the Attorney General's office, a "powerful" eleven-page document that was just filed, regarding the TN Gas Pipeline. She read some of the highlights of the email. The conclusion of the document states, "the Environmental Assessment for the Project does not satisfy the National Environmental Policy Act because it inadequately analyzes reasonable Project alternatives, the indirect and cumulative upstream and downstream greenhouse gas impacts from the Project, and methane emissions from Project operation. FERC should remedy these defects."

**Select Board Comments:**

1. Mr. Gold thanked the voters for having confidence in him and re-electing him to another term. He thanked Bill Low for his 3 years of service to the Select Board and congratulated Marc Strange on his election to the Select Board.
2. Mr. Gold noted that the polls open at 8:00 a.m. but there are a number of people who show up at 7:00 a.m. The Select Board has the ability to change the time. Mr. Gold would like to look at opening the polls at 7:00 a.m. Mr. Gold has been told by residents that they want a comprehensive funding and maintenance plan for the fields in town. He is calling on Dave Horowitz, Chair of the Park and Recreation Commission to come up with this plan.

3. Mr. Lachiusa congratulated Mr. Gold on his re-election to the Select Board and thanked him for all of his work. He noted that Longmeadow schools ranked #1 in the state according to a survey that was in the newspaper last weekend. Mr. Lachiusa commented that he attended the LHS graduation and noticed that the graduating class is a very diverse group. Mr. Lachiusa corrected his comment at the last meeting by noting that the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment is celebrated in August.

### **Reorganization of the Select Board:**

*Mr. Foster made a motion to appoint Marie Angelides as Chair of the Select Board for the coming year. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. The vote was 3 in favor and 0 opposed. Mr. Gold voted present.*

*Ms. Angelides made a motion to appoint Richard Foster as Vice Chair of the Select Board for the coming year. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. The vote was 3 in favor and 0 opposed. Mr. Lachiusa voted present.*

*Mr. Foster made a motion to appoint Marc Strange as Clerk of the Select Board for the coming year. Ms. Angelides seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*

Ms. Angelides took over the meeting as Chair.

### **Town Managers Report:**

Town Manager Stephen Crane was absent, Assistant Town Manager Paul Pasterczyk attended the meeting. The IT Department applied for a cyber-security grant. The LPD is now a fully accredited department. Certain standards have to be maintained on a yearly basis to keep the accreditation status. Congratulations to the Police Department.

### **Old Business:**

1. Approve Minutes: *Mr. Gold made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from June 3, 2019 as presented. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*
2. Annual Appointments:
  - Mr. Foster made a motion to appoint Tom Ewing to the Building Committee for a term expiring June 2020. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*
  - Mr. Foster made a motion to appoint Marybeth Bergeron, Peter Greenberg, and Vincent McPartland to the Building Committee to terms expiring June 2022. Mr. Gold second the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*
  - Mr. Foster made a motion to appoint Albert Laakso and James Ryan to the Conservation Commission to terms expiring June 2022. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*
  - Mr. Foster made a motion to appoint James Russell, Saul Finestone, Judy Yaffe, Elizabeth Tyson, Eleanor Stolar, Philip Hallahan, and Marilyn Hurst to the Council on Aging Board of Directors for terms expiring June 2022. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*
  - Mr. Foster made a motion to appoint Elizabeth Woods, Rowland Hawthorne, and Caitlin Cronin to the Cultural Council for terms expiring June 2022. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*
  - Mr. Foster made a motion to appoint Jonathan Jordan to the Historic District Commission to a term expiring June 2020. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*
  - Mr. Foster made a motion to appoint Clifford Scott, Diane Fisher, and Ryan Shanks to the Historic District Commission to terms expiring June 2022. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*
  - Mr. Foster made a motion to appoint Margaret Rakas to the Parks and Recreation Commission to a term expiring June 2022. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. The vote was 3 in favor and 0 opposed. Mr. Gold abstained.*
  - Mr. Foster made a motion to appoint Dawn Barkman, Bob Spaulding, and Jeffrey Welch to the Recycling Commission to terms expiring June 2022. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*
  - Mr. Foster made a motion to appoint Kathryn Kucab to the Tree Committee to a term expiring June 2022. Mr. Gold seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*
3. Town Manager Search Committee – Mr. Lachiusa handed out a document, “Vision Task Force Request for Position Papers”, that he would like to distribute to some town employees and volunteers to receive feedback on what qualities we should be looking for in a Town Manager. Comments received will be compiled by the Vision Task Force. This will be additional and supplemental information for the consultant/search firm to use in the Town Manager search. Mr. Lachiusa would also like to have an open forum for residents comments in mid-July. The composition of the Town Manager Search Committee was discussed (number of members, gender equality, 2 at large...). Ms. Angelides will contact some committees and let them know what the Select Board is looking for. Members must be registered voters in town.

Interim Town Manager – Ms. Angelides called the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and the MMA looking for interims. She received three interested people. Mr. Pasterczyk and Ms. Angelides interviewed them, 2 in person and 1 by phone. Mr. Pasterczyk recommended James Moynihan who has a number of years' experience, has worked in Wilbraham, and was the General Manager in the electric light department. His last Town Manager experience was in 2005 and had 20+ years prior to that. This is a difficult time to hire an interim as 20 Town Managers across the state have resigned. The interim would start July 15 to overlap with Mr. Crane and could be here for up to 6 months. The interim would be expected to work 20-24 hours a week and attend the Monday Select Board meetings. The last interim the town hired was paid \$65 an hour.

*Mr. Lachiusa made a motion to hire James Moynihan as the Interim Town Manager. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*

Mr. Moynihan will be paid \$85 an hour and would like his contract to be for July 15 – October 31 then renew after that if necessary. A two week notice for separation will be required from either party. The Charter says that the Interim can designate Mr. Pasterczyk to work on certain items if needed.

4. Library Agreement Update – Mr. Lachiusa spoke with Atty. Rose Crowley about the Library agreement. Negotiations are moving forward. The Town should be getting something ready for August.
5. Street Lights – A subcommittee of Mr. Gold, Mr. Pasterczyk, and Mr. Strange would like to purchase the street lights then convert and integrate Wi-Fi.

*Mr. Foster made a motion to form a subcommittee of Mark Gold, Paul Pasterczyk, and Marc Strange to purchase street lights, convert, and integrate Wi-Fi. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.* The subcommittee is to come back to each meeting with an update.

6. Charter Review Committee Recommendations – Mr. Gold would like the Select Board to move forward with Charter Review Committee recommendations.

#### **New Business:**

1. InDialogue Project – Moderator Rebecca Townsend attended the meeting to present this program to the Select Board. The Moderator has held informal forums before town meetings to give residents more information and allow them to ask questions about article that will be presented for votes at town meeting. InDialogue is a software that allows residents to have discussions in person, on paper, electronically, and online. This is a test pilot program from Poland. The software will be free. Seventeen scholars will be studying the effectiveness of the software. The program is moderated and the forum would be open for two weeks. This would allow more participation at forums for people who cannot attend on a certain day. The School Committee has agreed to move forward with the program. The Open Meeting Law may be an issue, elected officials as a board cannot participate. *Mr. Foster made a motion to embrace the concept and move forward with it. Mr. Gold second the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.* Ms. Angelides will be the liaison.
2. Transfer of Appropriations – Mr. Pasterczyk presented three year-end transfer requests that need to be approved by both the Select Board and the Finance Committee. Fire Department overtime for \$60,000 was approved by the Finance Committee, softening the raised crosswalk for \$28,365 was NOT approved by the Finance Committee, and Glenbrook Middle School electric gear switch for \$50,000 was NOT approved by the Finance Committee; the FC felt a favorable vote would give no incentive to the School Committee to approve funding. The Finance Committee did approve \$20,000 to cover the costs of a search firm for the Town Manager search; this does not require Select Board approval. *Mr. Gold made a motion to approve the transfer of \$60,000 for Fire Department overtime that coincides with the Finance Committee recommendation. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.* *Mr. Gold made a motion to approve the transfer of \$50,000 for the electric gear switch at Glenbrook Middle School. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 3 in favor and 1 opposed. Mr. Lachiusa opposed.* Mr. Foster feels the Finance Committee should attend a meeting and explain their decisions. Mr. Gold would like to get a couple more quotes on the softening of the raised crosswalk. Mr. Pasterczyk stated that the transfers can be done up until July 15.
3. Tax Title Appointment – *Mr. Gold made a motion to appoint Town Treasurer/Collector, Cheryl Cudnik, Tax Title Custodian through June 30, 2020, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, Section 77B. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*
4. Counsel Appointments – tabled until July 1.
5. Fiscal Year 2020 Meeting Schedule – *Mr. Gold made a motion to approve the FY2020 meeting schedule as presented. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.*

06/17/19 Regular Meeting  
07/01/19 Approved

**Subcommittee Reports:** None

*Mr. Gold made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:33 p.m. and enter into executive session for the purposes of (1) Approve minutes from June 3, 2019, and (2) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation and the Chair hereby declares an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body, not to reconvene. Mr. Foster seconded the motion.*

***Roll call vote: Richard Foster–Yes, Mark Gold–Yes, Marie Angelides–Yes, Tom Lachiusa–Yes***

The next Regular Select Board Meeting will be on July 1, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie House

**Documents:**

Agenda  
Hand out from resident Michelle Marantz  
Cyber security grant  
May monthly reports from departments  
Draft Minutes 6/3/2019  
Board and Committee Appointments memo  
Historic District Commission MGL, bylaw, and Rules and Regs.  
Vision Task Force Request for Position Papers  
Street light purchase actions  
InDialogue Program memo  
Transfer of Appropriations memo  
Tax Title Custodian Appointment  
Counsel Appointment memo  
FY20 Meeting Schedule memo  
Westcomm Board of Director meeting minutes 5/30/19  
Correspondence: email from F. Cress