

SELECT BOARD MEETING
January 13, 2022 5:30PM
Town Hall/Hybrid

Quorum noted

5:30 PM: Meeting called to order by Chairperson Donhauser.

A. Roll Call: Mr. Donhauser, Mr. McPherson, Mr. Widi, and Ms. Dow.

Absent: Mr. Orestis (resignation accepted at tonight's meeting).

B. Pledge of Allegiance recited

C. Public Hearing: Sweet Dirt 2, LLC Renewal Tier IV Cultivation License

5:31 Public Hearing opened.

Justice Rines, Esq. was present for this license renewal.

There was no public comment.

Mr. Widi moved, second by Ms. Dow, that the Select Board accept the Sweet Dirt 2, LLC Renewal for a Tier IV Cultivation License.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Donhauser – Yes

Mr. McPherson - Yes

Mr. Widi – Yes

Ms. Dow - Yes

Unanimous vote to approve motion.

5:33 PM Public Hearing closed.

D. Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

E. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

5:31 PM Motion by Mr. Donhauser, second by Mr. McPherson, to approve the minutes of October 14, 2021, as amended.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Donhauser – Yes

Mr. McPherson - Yes

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Mr. Widi – Yes
Ms. Dow - Yes

Unanimous vote to approve motion.

Motion by Mr. Donhauser, second by Mr. McPherson, to approve the minutes of October 28, 2021, as written.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Donhauser – Yes
Mr. McPherson - Yes
Mr. Widi – Yes
Ms. Dow - Yes

Unanimous vote to approve motion.

F. Department Head/Committee Reports

NOTE: Mr. Sullivan apologized that the next two items did not get on the agenda. The information is in the packets.

5:37 PM 1) Planning Board By-law Amendment

Mr. Sullivan said that there is a staff report from the Planning Director, who is here tonight. It is a proposal to amend the PB by-laws with respect to meeting attendance and creating a threshold of creating 25%.

Mr. Brubaker said that this is pretty straightforward. In Chapter 2 of the Town code there are already attendance standards for committee members, basically over a 12-month period if you have an unexcused absence 25%, or more, of the meetings then you're liable to be dismissed from that committee for lack of attendance. This is just bringing that from the Town code officially into the PB by-laws. I know the PB was interested in an additional standard where, if you have three consecutive unexcused absences, you could potentially be recommended for dismissal, as well, but I think they wanted to stay true to what the Town code says in Chapter 2. The by-laws change also creates an option where the Board can determine whether a Board (PB) member has an unexcused absence. Certainly, there are many different reasons for excused absences and that requires the committee member reaching out to the Chair before the meeting to say why they can't be there.

Ms. Dow asked what the previous way absences were excused or not excused.

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Mr. Brubaker said that it was just the Chair determining whether it was unexcused or excused. Now, it's just formal in saying that the Board (PB) will determine that.

Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Mr. McPherson, that the Select Board approve the amendment, as presented and requested by the Town Planner and further instruct the Town Manager to prepare a warrant for the June 2022 Town Meeting. The warrant to be approved in its final form at a future meeting of the Select Board.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Donhauser – Yes

Mr. McPherson - Yes

Mr. Widi – Yes

Ms. Dow - Yes

Unanimous vote to approve motion.

5:40 PM Town Manager Report

Mr. Sullivan said that my report is available in the packet and online. I discuss about the **start of 2022**, some of the **training** we're doing, and a little bit about **Town Hall renovations** and where that process is with the Town Hall Building Committee. The report has been submitted and I encourage people to take a look at it.

G. New Business:

5:41 PM 1) Fiscal Year 2023 Budget

Mr. Sullivan said that last night we had the Town Manager's presentation of the budget. We went over the budget process, some of the investments that I'm hoping that will be part of this budget, and really talking about investing in roads, and sidewalks; investment in staff and trying to work to retain staff and how we can improve service through greater training. I think all members of the Budget Committee were there and members of the Select Board. I appreciate everyone's attendance and attention. It's incredibly important. I'm hoping we can have a smooth budget process and, as I said last night in earnest, I created that budget as the Town Manager is responsible to do and certainly with the help from some great staff here in Town Hall. It is an honest reflection of what I believe is needed for 2023 to make sure we invest properly in the Town of Eliot and be all that we want it to be. Again, thank you to everyone who attended last night. It was greatly appreciated by the Town Manager.

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5:43 PM Mr. Donhauser said that I thought it was very-well done. You did a great job.

Mr. Sullivan said that I encourage members of the public, members of committees, to send me questions. I prefer through the Chair, with respect to the committees, but I will take them any way I can get them. I have created a new Town Manager's budget page on the Town website. All the information will be updated. There is quite a bit of information already populating that page and I encourage the public to get familiar with the budget and the budget process.

5:44 PM **2) Acceptance of Alex Orestis Resignation (Select Board).**

Mr. Sullivan said that although I only got to work with Mr. Orestis for a short two months, I really appreciated him. I know it was a hard decision for him, as we discussed at the last meeting where we had gotten an email late that he was thinking about resigning. I was instructed by the Vice Chair to contact Mr. Orestis, which I did via email and is in your packet. He had neglected to put a date for his resignation. He said that he has resigned as of January 1, 2022 and that is what is before you tonight.

Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Mr. McPherson, that the Select Board accept Mr. Orestis' resignation, effective January 1, 2022.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Donhauser said that I'm saddened. He was a great fellow to work with

Mr. McPherson said that I agree with Mr. Donhauser. He's a tough guy to lose.

5:46 PM Mr. Widi said that Mr. Orestis was very liked. For those of you who don't know, he got mold in his home so his family was forced to move into a motor home in their driveway for a period of time. There was a GoFundMe and I think with that money they bought a bus to turn a negative into a positive, take a trip of a lifetime and travel around and see things. Being on the Select Board is kind of unique because, sometimes, you get emails at 1:47 AM. I want to take some time to explain how Mr. Orestis can actually be on this Board, if he chooses, but I will respect his wishes. Section 2.2 of the Charter says: "Only qualified voters of the Town shall be eligible to hold the office of member of the Select Board." A qualified voter is determined by the State, not by Charter. We have people who participate on, as an example, the Budget Committee who has members who live in Florida 3-4 months out of the year and there is no issue. There is one more part of the Charter, Section 7.9, that essentially says that you can be removed from office if you have removed from the municipality. Again, it said earlier in the Charter that, as long as you are a qualified voter, you can be on the Select Board. It's assumed that removal from the municipality means that you registered to vote with a different municipality or different state. Even though I feel that Mr. Orestis

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could still be serving remotely, taking the trip of a lifetime with his family I will respect his wishes and let him do his thing.

DISCUSSION ENDED

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Donhauser – Yes

Mr. McPherson - Yes

Mr. Widi – Yes

Ms. Dow - Yes

Unanimous vote to approve motion.

5:48 PM a) Reorganization Vote

Mr. Donhauser said that the next step is to have a reorganization of our Board. We do that by ballot and each of you have ballots given to you by the Town Manager. I am actually in California and have already submitted my vote to Mr. Sullivan. I am going to pause for 2-3 minutes while the SB makes their votes for Chair and Vice Chair of the Select Board.

Mr. Sullivan counted the votes placed for Chair and Vice Chair for the Select Board.

Chair: Richard Donhauser received four votes – elected as Chair

Vice Chair: Bill Widi received three votes – elected as Vice Chair
Bob McPherson received one vote

Mr. Sullivan said that I will submit those to the Clerk tomorrow.

Mr. McPherson will continue as Secretary on the Select Board by consensus of the SB members.

5:52 PM b) Set Special Election for Vacancy

Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Mr. McPherson, that the Select Board have the election of that seat available for the election period that is in June at our normal Town voting for the remaining two years of the term.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Donhauser – Yes

Mr. McPherson - Yes

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Mr. Widi – Yes
Ms. Dow - Yes

Unanimous vote to approve motion.

5:53 PM c) Dana Lee Charter Violation Complaint

Mr. Sullivan said that on December 4th we received a request for a hearing of a Charter violation from former Town Manager, Mr. Lee. Subsequently, on December 24th we received a withdrawal of that request. If the SB so chooses, we would entertain a motion to accept the request and the withdrawal. The matter was that he felt that there was a violation because the Chair Orestis was no longer a resident of Eliot. I think that Member Widi summed it up well and cited the appropriate parts of the Charter that would indicate that, even today, as we checked with Clerk Rawski, he is a qualified voter in the Town of Eliot and, therefore, if he chose to, he could serve. You have accepted Mr. Orestis' resignation, so, it's just a matter if you want to accept the request and recension or whether there was a violation, or not.

5:55 PM Mr. Donhauser said that, as a matter of discussion, I don't believe there was a violation of the Charter. I think that Mr. Orestis, at any moment in time, could continue on the Board.

Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Ms. Dow, that the Select Board does not have a Special Hearing and honor Mr. Lee's withdrawal of his request.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Donhauser – Yes
Mr. McPherson - Yes
Mr. Widi – Yes
Ms. Dow - Yes

Unanimous vote to approve motion.

5:56 PM 3) Acceptance of Resignation of Melissa Magdziasz (Planning Board).

Mr. Donhauser said that she does intend to come back, as I understand, when it is possible.

Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Ms. Dow, that the Select Board accept Melissa Magdziasz' resignation from the Planning Board, effective January 1, 2022.

Roll Call Vote:

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Mr. Donhauser – Yes

Mr. McPherson - Yes

Mr. Widi – Yes

Ms. Dow - Yes

Unanimous vote to approve motion.

5:57 PM 4) Acceptance of Treasurer Jordan Miles Resignation

Mr. Donhauser said that I'm really saddened that Mr. Miles took that position. It was a great move on his part.

Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Ms. Dow, that the Select Board accept Mr. Miles' resignation, effective January 13, 2022.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Donhauser said that he has accepted a great position in Old Orchard Beach and I wish him well.

Mr. McPherson said that I would like to thank Mr. Miles again. He helped me a lot, personally, with a lot of things that I tried to learn over the several years that I've been here, now. He has tremendous talent and it's tough to lose. We all need to think, us and the public, that we really need to put our thoughts into how we can keep these very talented employees. I think we know how we need to do it. We need support from the public to make this happen. We're losing some serious talent in this building and we need to be able to keep them. Thank you, again, Mr. Miles.

Mr. Sullivan said that I just want to say what a pleasure it was to work with Mr. Miles. It was only a short time but I recall, even in my interviews, that I made comments about the talent that I recognized when I watched your meetings on video. He is a true talent. Old Orchard Beach is very lucky to have him coming to them and we can all hope that someday he comes back to the right position under the right conditions. Congratulations to him. I can't say enough good things about him.

DISCUSSION ENDED

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Donhauser – Yes

Mr. McPherson - Yes

Mr. Widi – Yes

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Ms. Dow - Yes

Unanimous vote to approve motion.

6:00 PM a) Appointment of Interim Treasurer

Mr. Donhauser asked that, with respect to an Interim Treasurer, Mr. Sullivan fill us in on how he sees that happening.

Mr. Sullivan said that it was explained to me and I appreciate that. I appoint myself as the Treasurer and the Select Board is tasked with making a motion to confirm my appointment as Treasurer. This is only temporary. Just so the SB and public know, we are interviewing; that we've had three interviews today. We have a couple more scheduled for next week. We hope to get some quality candidates and find the right candidate. To all the department staff and department managers and Town Hall, I really appreciate the fact that they've really pitched in and supported us in trying to learn the different aspects and to share the work. With that, I'm sorry to see Mr. Miles go and hope we can have someone new. Again, thank you to everybody that has really gathered around and is supporting the Town in this time of loss, personnel-wise. If the SB wants to make a motion to confirm my appointment.

Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Mr. McPherson, that the Select Board appoint Mike Sullivan as our Interim Treasurer.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Donhauser – Yes

Mr. McPherson - Yes

Mr. Widi – Yes

Ms. Dow - Yes

Unanimous vote to approve motion.

H. Old Business:

6:02 PM 1) Agriculture/Food Security Commission

Mr. Sullivan said that we talked about this a little at our previous meeting. I submitted some guidelines and outlined what we want to do with this committee. As is stated, it's to "*promote local agricultural-based economic opportunities; preserve, revitalize, and sustain the Eliot agricultural industry and encourage the pursuit of agriculture as a career opportunity and lifestyle. Furthermore, to advise on issues and challenges in respect to food security and accessibility to healthy foods for all residents.*" I think this is a really exciting commission. It

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would be an ad hoc commission and my suggestion was to have five initial members. If you approve it tonight, I will start the process of advertising it and looking for people to participate. I would really encourage the members of the SB to help me with that task. There is a lot of interest and I think it's very forward, progressive thinking. From my research, I think it will be only the third or fourth such food commission in Maine. I think there's only one or two in New Hampshire. So, it's really cutting-edge and I think it could be very exciting for Eliot. I'm thankful to Leslie Stevens and Selectman Widi for bringing this forward. It was very interesting to do some research on this.

Mr. Widi moved, second by Ms. Dow, that the Select Board accept, as proposed, the Agriculture and Food Security Commission and furthermore direct the Town Manager to solicit candidates from the public to serve on the ad hoc Agriculture and Food Security Commission for 30 days and to submit a list of candidates to the Select Board for appointment following the solicitation period.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Donhauser said that I think this is a really good thing we can do as a Board for the Town.

Ms. Dow agreed. A great thing.

DISCUSSION ENDED

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Donhauser – Yes

Mr. McPherson - Yes

Mr. Widi – Yes

Ms. Dow - Yes

Unanimous vote to approve motion.

6:05 PM

2) American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Mr. Sullivan said that Eliot is to receive \$729,594 through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). We have already received \$364,797. The balance of these funds will arrive in May of this year. The funds are to be used for recovery efforts and for expansion of healthy and safe ways for communities to expand. I did send some of the more involved standards that were just promulgated yesterday by the federal government and is being circulated. What I propose for expenditures in the plan would meet all of those standards. I tried to look at things that benefitted the whole community were items that are important investments. The other issue,

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although I think you have a couple years more to spend this money, I think it's important to have this money allocated so that it's going to some projects that are thoughtful. He read the list of projects:

Pedestrian/Cycling Report Implementation	\$225,000	Planning, Jeff Brubaker, Steve Robinson
Sewer Design and Technical Assistance	\$100,000	Planning, Jeff Brubaker
Qualified Assistance Program for Sewer/Septic	\$15,000	Planning, Jeff Brubaker
Records Retention filing system (initial)	\$29,000	Town Hall, Mike Sullivan, Wendy Rawski
Fogg Library Addition	\$25,000	Library Lydia Goodwin, Sharon Kibut
Employee Payroll System (3 year)	\$16,000	Town Hall, Mike Sullivan, Melissa Albert
Fire Department Equipment/ ATV/Trailer	\$85,000	Fire Department, Jay Muzzeroll
Police Station Building Improvements	\$75,000	Police Department, Elliott Moya
Play Surface Repairs	\$60,000	CS Heather Muzzeroll, Steve Robinson
Transfer Station Compactor Replacement	\$35,000	DPW, Steve Robinson
Employee Pandemic Compensation	\$63,000	Town Hall, Mike Sullivan
Total	\$728,000	

Mr. Sullivan said that there is a lot of enthusiasm around cycling and safe pedestrian pathways in Eliot. Sewer design/technical assistance will benefit not only the present project but some ancillary projects that might benefit some of the more affordable housing in the Town of Eliot. Regarding the sewer/septic assistance program, ARPA is designed to help communities that are underserved – low-income communities, and I will say that there are a lot of those qualifications in Eliot. There are some people who are struggling and think this would be a good program to help people.

6:10 PM NOTE: At this time, the fire alarm went off and Mr. McPherson left the meeting. He returned at 6:16 PM.

Mr. Sullivan continued to discuss the list of projects during the alarm. The Fire Station needs some equipment and the Police Department needs to do some work to the police station structure and accessibility to the structure. Play Surface Repairs would help re-coat basketball and tennis courts to help install some pickleball courts. I attached the employee compensation language in my staff report. He explained the design of the Employee Pandemic Compensation Guidelines, both Tier I and Tier II. There is no easy way to split up this funding. There were a number of employees that didn't come to work, as I understand, but there were 2.5 to 3 months they did come in to work and were paid. They

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wouldn't qualify for this; that we felt that was a cut-off point. It's certainly not a lot of money but it indicates to those frontline workers that put in their time that the Town of Eliot really appreciates those efforts during trying times that, hopefully, we're headed out of. I encourage the SB to support and approve the plan and we can then start to move forward. None of the money would be expended until it comes in and, under the ARPA, it is solely the executive body (SB) that approves this spending.

Mr. Donhauser asked if there was an action to be taken tonight.

Mr. Sullivan said that I would like to. I'd like to get started on these. We've talked about it once before and I'm just fearful of a couple things; that we'll keep on putting it off. These are all working projects. The second one is that there is always the threat that the feds will come out with additional money and, if you haven't initiated your process, they may not fund you in the next round. Those that are thinking of sitting on this, I think are making a tactical mistake.

6:15 PM Ms. (Lori) Oeser was very excited that pickleball was included. We've been playing at Frost Tuft's Park and the service is not great, the lines. We're sharing with tennis players. This summer it was actually getting to the point where it was dangerous. There was grass 16" long growing up through the cracks that we were tripping over. Not a good situation and we need some help there. It would be great if we could get some dedicated pickleball courts. You could put new pickleball courts in the space of two tennis courts. With pickleball, there are usually four playing on a court at a time and that's 32 people. A small space can take up a lot more playing so we hope the SB has some support for the sport. It is growing across the country. It's growing here. Kittery is going to be building some new courts. Dover has just built some state-of-the-art courts. They say that Portsmouth just took some of their courts at South Mill Pond to convert two tennis courts into eight pickleball courts. It's a great sport. We've been working with the Aging-in-Place Committee, who have been supportive of this. I just wanted to put in my support. There are a lot of people out there looking at this, hoping that some of the money can be directed toward this sport in Town.

6:18 PM Mr. Sullivan said that I appreciate the comments. I think that pickleball, expansion of safe pedestrian and bike paths in Town, all lend themselves to the idea that during 2021 nothing good came out of the pandemic. People got outside more and they are looking to enjoy outdoor spaces and investment in those outdoor spaces, like repairing surfaces and upgrading walkways and bikeways are really something that's popular in Eliot and beyond. So, I would encourage your consideration in it. Certainly, I would love to get it approved tonight but, if you feel you need to have more public input, I'll follow your lead.

Mr. Donhauser said that I am actually for moving forward on this as quickly as possible. It's a good plan that has been submitted.

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Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Mr. McPherson, that the Select Board make this a permanent document as our plan going forward for the American Rescue Plan Act monies we have received to date.

DISCUSSION

6:20 PM Mr. Widi asked if we have any idea dedicated pickleball courts would be, price-wise. I know it's all variable.

Mr. Sullivan said that \$60,000 isn't nearly enough. What we were hoping to do with this money is get started and repair surfaces and have pickleball maybe in one court. But this would be about enough to cover to repair the basketball surface and the tennis court surfaces, according to estimates from Mr. Robinson and Ms. Muzeroll-Roy.

Mr. Widi said that my other question, and I'm asking only out of curiosity, the Transfer Station compactor, for instance, I feel is more like a regular budgetary thing than a Rescue Plan fund but you certainly have more experience than I do. I'm trying to figure out if we could scrape some money together. Maybe not eight surface pickleball courts but maybe a set of two or a set of four or something along those lines.

6:21 PM Mr. Sullivan said that, certainly, the idea with the Transfer Station is that one of them is a 1989 compactor and the other one is like a 1991. We probably wouldn't replace them both at the same time so, if you wanted to make an amendment and, say, move \$20,000 from that over to the pickleball and court resurfacing, it certainly would be helpful.

Ms. Dow said that I think, generally, I had a similar thought about the utilization of the funds for Town needs that might typically fall under the Town budget, like the Police and Fire Department improvements. I believe all these things should happen so I'm in support of all these things being funded, somehow. I fully agree with the idea that creating outdoor spaces and creating more equity within the community for people to utilize these spaces would be a wonderful use of the funds. It's an opportunity that we wouldn't typically have. So, what could we do that would be outside of the typical funding cycle that would create something longer-lasting for our Town. It seems like pickleball is something we can really put money into that the whole community could use. I understand that, like the Fire Department, we obviously use those things and they are important. Did you reach out to the Community Services Department to get that request, did they put a request in for the surface at the [park].

6:23 PM Mr. Sullivan said that I reached out, and after I'd spoken to the Aging-in-Place Committee and some of the work that they are doing, and Ms. Muzeroll-Roy was

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very supportive of it. With the Police and Fire Departments, the idea was that they serve all aspects of everyone in the community. Traditionally, for some of the types of work that they want to do, it hasn't been easy to get that funded. Unfortunately, an article comes along and, because the SB is more sensitive, or more inclined, than some other boards are to fund projects like this, it gave us kind of an internal opportunity, as well, to get some of these things done. So, when we talk about Police, Fire, or the DPW, the idea is those serve all aspects, all economic, and all areas of a diverse community. Certainly, if the SB...

Ms. Dow said that I recognize that when needs come, someone would need to be spearheading this so what I was thinking is Community Service has ideas about this but if nobody is really coming forward then it would be a difficult sell. We can't make up a magical scenario.

Mr. Sullivan said that I tried to be creative. I think that the qualified assistance program is something new for Eliot. We would model that after some other similar programs for people with septic or sewer who are having repair problems. That was the area we really might have thought about expanding a little bit to include handicap accessibility, as well; particularly for people who are economically impacted. I think that's an exciting one. The sewer design, I think Mr. Brubaker will tell you, we want to focus that on some of the areas of Town that are not as affluent to see if we can extend and get some design money to get them to those affordable housing; that maybe we can spur some growth in that area. Certainly, if you're going to build the economy on Route 236, you're going to have to entry-level workers and we need to find a way to house them in Eliot. It's a long task and it's a very little bit of money. When you talk about \$225,000 for pedestrian and cycling, you can easily spend \$225,000 in improvements right along 'here' (State Road in the Village), even though the sidewalk is established. Certainly, if the SB feels that this needs more work, I'm open to it if you want to make some amendments. Whatever you think. I just think there's a need to move this along because we'd like to get some of this money into play for the spring and start to make those improvements. Particularly if we go through a fall where we have a relapse or whatever they're calling it now.

6:27 PM Mr. Widi asked Mr. Brubaker asked how far \$225,000 gets us on the sidewalk/bike path project.

Mr. Brubaker said that it helps us start designing a critical, medium-term project.

Mr. Widi asked if you could make do with, say, \$200,000.

Mr. Brubaker said that I would be open to that.

Mr. Widi said that I was just trying to think if we can get \$25,000 from there, maybe \$20,000 from the compactor; that I know the Police Department has a little

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bit in Undesignated Fund and maybe we could pull a little bit there, maybe we can put together something for a pickleball court. I don't know how that would be received by you guys. I'm a team player. I'm willing to adjust my thoughts as needed.

Mr. Sullivan said that I think we can also take \$10,000 from the Town Hall Employee Compensation. The total would give you \$105,000.

Mr. McPherson asked where this pickleball court would be.

The general consensus was at Frost Tuft's Park.

Ms. Dow suggested it could convert one of the tennis courts into a pickleball court.

Ms. Oeser said that that would be a very basic move. I hate to turn down any kind of help at all but the way things are set up down there, it's difficult to try to play there for pickleball on top of the tennis court. Various reasons – the markings, you can't play at night even though we have great lighting down there because the light in the parking lot shines directly on the court. So, there's things that definitely need fixing. I would like to think that Eliot could be forward-looking enough to think about even building some place else, either another area at Frost Tuft's, maybe the Boat Basin where there's already parking and facilities. I don't know about the center area 'here' where we have volleyball. There are spaces that we hope the Town might look at. The vision of Mr. Brubaker fixing a couple tennis courts that we already have and ask us to share with the tennis courts; that it just makes it difficult for tennis and pickleball to play together. When you start putting competing lines on the same surface, and the nets are different, the lighting. It would be great to get the fixes but we'd like to see you even take an additional step of maybe establishing some new courts on some Town land somewhere.

6:31 PM

Mr. Donhauser said that I want to stay on topic with the motion. We're starting to run off on a tangent with respect to one. I'm all for the discussion but we need to come back to the motion. And I appreciate all the comments. I think they're valid comments but we don't want to spend a whole bunch of time sort of engineering something that we're not talking about. We're really talking about a motion, and I'm not opposed to amending the motion to change the numbers. It's just authorizing the Town Manager to go forward with some form of program; even if we say, knowing we're going to spend \$728,000, we form a subcommittee of the SB, or something of that nature, to massage the numbers. I'd like to stay on task with respect to the motion. The motion before us is that we have to use this plan, as presented, to effectively spend this ARPA money and, again, I'm not opposed to changing the numbers. I've heard a lot of valid comments from Mr. Widi and Ms. Dow. I think it makes sense to move some of that money around and,

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perhaps, I should withdraw the motion and let's spend another couple weeks on it, with each of us individually talking to the Town Manager, and see if we can't come to some consensus. We're not all going to agree where the money should be spent but I think there's some really good things to be done with this money and we do want to spend it in the wisest way. I don't mean to squash all conversation so I would like more comments, if possible, or I'll remove my motion. Whichever way the SB feels.

6:34 PM Mr. McPherson said that I think we need more time.

Mr. Donhauser said that makes sense and I agree.

**Mr. Donhauser withdrew his motion. Mr. McPherson withdrew his second.
MOTION IS WITHDRAWN.**

Mr. Sullivan said that I will bring this back on January 27th for the SB. I just want to reiterate that, first of all, I'm not going to spend the money until we have it all in-house for but we do want to know that the money is there so the Planner can start his process and all the department heads can start their processes. It would be helpful coming into the construction season, if we want to get the surface re-done, to have that money available. If it pleases the SB, I'd like to bring it back the 27th. Hopefully, we can get it done by then.

6:35 PM Mr. Donhauser said that that makes sense to me. Do the rest of the SB members agree.

The SB members all agreed.

Mr. Donhauser said that we don't need to approve the entire amount for specific amounts. For example, the pedestrian/cycling, we could approve a certain amount and just address that one issue with this money. We don't have to do all the money at one time, correct.

Mr. Sullivan said that you could. Other communities are struggling probably because it kind of erodes away that way. One project gets approved, another project comes along.

6:36 PM Mr. Widi said that my only fear was delay. The problem with putting it on the next agenda is that you are going to have 40 people with 40 ideas on where the money should be spent and it will muddy it more. I just have the three amendments - \$20,000 from pedestrian walkways, \$15,000 from the Transfer Station, and \$53,000 from the Town Hall Employee Pandemic Compensation, and I'm good. All that for resurfacing for pickleball. I'm fine with that but if you guys want to wait.

SELECT BOARD MEETING
January 13, 2022 5:30PM (continued)
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Mr. McPherson said that my point to that, and I certainly think that pickleball is terrific but, if we're going to spend that money, I think we need a plan of where we're going to put it. Otherwise, that creates that we're going to have to spend more money so we're going to have to come up with money to finish this project, which is going to have to be budgeted for. So, I guess that's why I asked the question. I think it's terrific but, if we're only going to appropriate so much money, where are we going to get the rest of the money so we can do this terrific project., if there's not enough to do it. That was my question with where is it going to go. The other ones are allotting money for certain things. Mr. Brubaker is planning that part but that's a big-picture item. This is a big-picture item but we're going to have to come up with more money to finish this project. My question of where will these pickleball courts go and not knowing what pickleball really is. Pickleball is a great idea but, if it's going to take more money, we need a plan on the other end of that.

6:38 PM Mr. Donhauser said that I think we have consensus that we're going to go on to the next meeting and bring it back with a little more information. Knowing Mr. Widi's interest in certain items is fine with me. I don't think a couple weeks is going to kill us. Is it okay if we bring it back next meeting.

Mr. Sullivan said that whether you do it this evening or do it next meeting, I think you're right. It's not going to make a drastic difference. The other thing I offer, whether you do it tonight or next time, I would suggest you approve the expenditure areas and ask that, for final approval for any project, it comes back to the SB for a final vote. So, we'd have more time to pre-plan but at least department heads would know what they have to work with so they can go out and use that as a parameter. Maybe you use this as a second reading process, where you have the first reading on what we'll spend the money on but no money will get spent until it comes back to SB for a final approval for each expenditure. Don't do anything tonight. I'll clarify that process and bring it back to the next meeting. You would have the added safety valve of making sure that, however the money is going to be spent, the SB would see a more developed plan for each before it gets spent.

Mr. Donhauser said that's great. I understand we have consensus and we are going to move on to another topic.

I. Approval of Warrant(s):

6:40 PM Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Mr. Widi, that the Select Board approve A/P Warrant #48 in the amount of \$193,961.95, dated December 10, 2021; A/P Warrant #50 in the amount of \$1,112,863.26, dated December 20, 2021; A/P Warrant #54 in the amount of \$105,027.41, dated December 29, 2021.

Roll Call Vote:

SELECT BOARD MEETING
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Mr. Donhauser – Yes
Mr. McPherson - Yes
Mr. Widi – Yes
Ms. Dow - Yes

Unanimous vote to approve motion.

J. Selectmen's Report:

1) Seeking Committee Members Listing

This was not discussed.

There were no Selectmen's reports tonight.

K. Executive Session (not called for)

L. Adjourn

Mr. Donhauser moved, second by Mr. McPherson, that the Select Board adjourn.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Donhauser – Yes
Mr. McPherson - Yes
Mr. Widi – Yes
Ms. Dow - Yes

Unanimous vote to approve motion.

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Lemire, Recording Secretary

S/ Robert McPherson, Secretary

Date approved: January 27, 2022