

SELECT BOARD MEETING

April 10, 2023

Chair Judith L. O'Connell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in Room 9 of the Town Hall. Present were Select Board members Gregory B. Bendel, Kevin A. Caira, Gary B. DePalma and Lilia Maselli.

A motion was made and duly seconded and by the affirmative roll call vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Select Board enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategies with respect to potential litigation associated with cost recovery for the Wildwood School oil tank breach in accordance with Massachusetts General Law (MGL) Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)3 as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating or litigating position of the Town and for the purpose of discussing the purchase, exchange, lease or other acquisition of real property at 333 Andover Street in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a) 6 as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Town and further to consider Executive Session Minutes from November 22, 2021, March 14, 2022, April 25, 2022 and May 23, 2022 in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, Section 22 with the intent to return to open session.

Chair Judith L. O'Connell reconvened the meeting at 7:10 p.m. in Room 9 of the Town Hall. Present were Select Board Members Gregory B. Bendel, Kevin A. Caira, Gary B. DePalma and Lilia Maselli. Also present was Town Manager Jeffrey M. Hull.

Chair O'Connell asked those present to rise and she led the pledge of allegiance. Chair O'Connell thanked members of the Board, Town Manager and the Recording Secretary for wearing an item of blue in recognition of April being Autism Awareness Month.

TREASURY WARRANTS

Chair O'Connell asked for a motion to accept the Treasury Warrants. A motion was made by Select Board Member DePalma, seconded by Select Board Member Bendel and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Select Board accept Treasury Warrants 202339, 202339WIRES, 39A, 202340, 202330WIRES & 30A.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Select Board Member DePalma, seconded by Select Board Member Maselli and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Select Board approve the minutes of their meeting held March 27, 2023 and that all actions taken are hereby ratified and confirmed.

RECOGNITION OF JUDITH L. O'CONNELL (PER REQUEST OF SELECT BOARD MEMBER GREGORY BENDEL)

Chair O'Connell noted that this item is on the agenda at the request of Select Board Member Bendel and it is his request to chair this portion of the meeting. Select Board Member Bendel stated that he believes it is appropriate to recognize Chair O'Connell's commitment to the community. He recognized special guests that were in the audience including former Select Board members, former Town Manager Michael Caira and department heads. Select Board Member Bendel provided background on Chair O'Connell including that she grew up in Wilmington and is

part of a large and well-respected family. Members of the audience offered comments and well wishes. Speakers included Michael Champoux, Diane Allan (remotely), Lou Cimaglia, Michael Caira and Jenn Bryson, School Committee Chair.

Members of the Select Board offered comments. Select Board Member Maselli expressed her appreciation to Chair O'Connell for her role as an educator. She stated that the Chair's public service has touched many people including the impact on the lives of Wilmington's children.

Chair O'Connell thanked the speakers for their comments. She thanked Select Board Member Bendel for placing this item on the agenda and opined there are others who have served and she didn't get to her position alone. Chair O'Connell thanked those in attendance, members of the Town Manager's office, the voters, colleagues on the Select Board and members of her family. She indicated her intent to continue to serve as a member of the Select Board until April 22. Her last event will be to attend the Little League Parade on April 22.

THERESA MARCIELLO, DIRECTOR, ELDERLY SERVICES, RE: UPDATE ON PROGRAMS AT SENIOR CENTER

Ms. Marciello was present with Laura Pickett, Case Manager, to provide an update on activities of the senior center. Ms. Marciello expressed her appreciation to Chair O'Connell for taking the time to visit the Senior Center and inquire as to their needs.

Ms. Marciello provided statistics on attendance at the Senior Center, noting that Tuesdays and Wednesdays are the most active.

Ms. Pickett provided information on the Care Giver Support Group. She stated the group is an opportunity to share information. She stated that approximately 35-40 people have participated and it is an opportunity to disseminate information on how the Elderly Services Department can provide assistance. On June 1, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. the Department will host an Elder Care Attorney. Topics will include Health Care Proxy, Power of Attorney and Changes in Elder Law. On June 6 there will be a virtual dementia experience.

Ms. Pickett stated that the Care Giver Support Group will have guest speakers, short videos or speaking with peers. One common topic is the difficulty in getting help in the home. The Elderly Services Department has established a volunteer program and currently have 7-8 people willing to help and provide caregivers with respite.

Ms. Marciello stated that volunteers have stepped forward to help with activities including a No Sew Quilt Class, Chess Program, Cribbage Group, Corn Hole and Building Birdhouses. She stated that fun nights will be starting again on a monthly basis from May to September and Coffee with a Cop. Another program is Civics 101 to provide a better understanding of the responsibilities of town departments. She stated that Jamie Magaldi, DPW Director, already provided a session and she is working with Valerie Gingrich to provide the next discussion relative to housing.

Ms. Marciello stated that volunteers from AARP completed tax returns for 144 seniors. She stated that Sonja, the van driver, has been very busy. Ms. Marciello also stated that the number of home delivered meals is high and attributes that to the difficulty in getting in-home care, it is necessary for them to receive meals.

Chair O'Connell thanked Ms. Marciello for the information. She noted that members of the Select Board were in receipt of the Buzzell Buzz and commented that is action packed.

LOU CIMAGLIA, DIRECTOR, VETERANS' SERVICES, RE: PROPOSED WORLD WAR II MONUMENT PROJECT

Mr. Cimaglia was present with Michael Frotten, Veterans' Services Officer, and Patti Meehan, Case Worker/Program Coordinator Assistant. He advised the Board that funding has been made available to the Town to erect a World War II memorial. He stated that there was an honor roll that was located in front of the old Town Hall on Middlesex Avenue, dedicated in 1943 to the 423 men serving from Wilmington. He stated that the census indicates Wilmington's population in 1940 was 4,000. Mr. Cimaglia stated that Mr. Frotten has begun to pull rosters and there are over 1,000 names.

Mr. Cimaglia stated that the location of the original honor roll is unknown. He believes that, because it was made of wood, it may have rotted.

Chair O'Connell stated that she is confident the Select Board will be supportive and asked how the Board can help. Mr. Cimaglia stated that if a resident knows of someone who served to let his office know. He stated that the proposed monument will be made of granite with bronze. He advised that the funding must be spent by the end of this fiscal year.

Town Manager Hull stated that the funds have been made available through the legislative delegation which earmarked \$25,000 for the project. He advised that the money has to be committed by the end of the fiscal year. Town Manager Hull stated that an estimate is needed as well as to develop specifications.

COMMUNICATIONS

Town Manager Hull reviewed a letter from Select Board Chair O'Connell to Girl Scout Troops 70424 & 70425, where she responded to questions raised at the March 13, 2023 Select Board Meeting. Two questions required additional Town research. The questions were regarding the Town Seal and the use of stars on the American flag.

Town Manager Hull reviewed a memorandum from William Cavanaugh, Fire Chief, and Joseph Desmond, Police Chief, regarding \$50,000 in State earmarks that was awarded to address storage shortfalls at the Public Safety Building. Chief Cavanaugh and Chief Desmond opted to purchase two identical outside storage containers which will be placed in the rear parking lot. The police have identified a need for additional firearms storage and a secure box will be purchased for that purpose. A 'day box' for discarded, unwanted or confiscated fireworks, road flares and other incendiary devices will be purchased and be used by both departments. The remaining funds will be utilized for site preparations that will be necessary to correctly install the containers and wiring to bring power to the containers.

Town Manager Hull reviewed a letter from Karl Brown, AIA Design Director, Massachusetts School Building Authority, who wrote regarding the Wildwood Elementary School Designer Selection Panel (DSP) meeting. On Tuesday, March 28, 2023, the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Designer Selection Panel interviewed the finalists for the Wildwood Elementary School project. The Town Manager, School Superintendent and School Committee Vice Chair represented the district. The DSP voted to rank the finalists in order of qualifications as follows: 1. Dore + Whittier and 2. Studio G Architects, Inc. The Town should now take the appropriate local steps necessary to award the contract for designer services to the first ranked firm and authorize fee and contract negotiations.

Town Manager Hull reviewed his memorandum regarding the Wildwood Elementary School project. He advised the Board that, following the notice that Dore + Whittier has been selected as the Town's architect/designer for the feasibility study portion of the MSBA Wildwood School project, Dore + Whittier is expected to submit a fee proposal to the Town for their services. Once the fee is negotiated an agreement will be signed. Over the next few months, Dore + Whittier will seek to fully understand the existing conditions within the elementary school grade levels. Public meetings will be conducted with the Wildwood School Building Committee to discuss the options being considered. One goal is to reduce the number of options and building sites under consideration by August of this year. Following the start of the new school year, Dore + Whittier and SMMA will work with the Town to conduct visioning sessions during which residents will be invited to learn about options being considered and to ask questions and offer their vision for a future elementary school. A key component of the feasibility study efforts will be to hear from all the key stakeholders including teachers, parents, students and residents of the community. Presentations are expected to be made to the School Committee, Select Board and finance Committee along the way. A prepared design plan is expected to be developed by December of 2023 which will be presented to the MSBA Board.

**BOARD TO CONSIDER SIGNING PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 28, 2023
ARBOR DAY IN THE TOWN OF WILMINGTON**

Town Manager Hull stated that Mr. Magaldi has provided a memo the past few years and advised that there are certain criteria that must be met to earn Tree City. Chair O'Connell asked if there were any questions, comments or a motion. A motion was made by Select Board Member Bendel, seconded by Select Board Member DePalma and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Select Board declare April 28, 2023 Arbor Day in the Town of Wilmington and sign the proclamation in affirmation.

**BOARD TO CONSIDER REQUEST OF BRENDA ACKERLEY TO PLACE SIGNS OF
GRADUATING WILMINGTON SENIORS OF SHAWSHEEN VALLEY REGIONAL
VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL ON TOWN COMMON**

Town Manager Hull advised that the request has been approved in the past and the signs have been allowed on the common for a week in advance. Chair O'Connell asked if there were any questions, comments or a motion. A motion was made by Select Board Member Bendel, seconded by Select Board Member Cairra and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Select Board approve the request of Brenda Ackerley to place signs of graduating Wilmington seniors of Shawsheen Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School on Town Common.

**BOARD TO CONSIDER REQUEST OF JEANETTE QUIRK, PRINCIPAL, WILMINGTON
MIDDLE SCHOOL, TO USE THE TOWN COMMON AND GAZEBO ON THURSDAY, JUNE
15, 2023, 6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M., FOR THE 8TH GRADE MOVING ON CEREMONY**

Chair O'Connell asked if there were any questions, comments or a motion. A motion was made by Select Board Member Bendel, seconded by Select Board Member DePalma and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Select Board approve the request of Jeanette Quirk, Principal, Wilmington Middle School, to use the Town Common and Gazebo on Thursday, June 15, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the 8th Grade Moving On Ceremony.

BOARD TO CONSIDER ISSUING A SUNDAY ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE TO CUSHING AMUSEMENTS IN CONJUNCTION WITH FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

Chair O'Connell asked if there were any questions, comments or a motion. A motion was made by Select Board Member DePalma, seconded by Select Board Member Bendel and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Select Board issue a Sunday Entertainment License to Cushing Amusements in conjunction with the Fourth of July Celebration.

Chair O'Connell asked to confirm that the application is in agreement with the Board of Appeals decision. Town Manager Hull stated that he will confirm.

BOARD TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM BRETT SAWIN, RECREATION DIRECTOR, TO USE THE TOWN COMMON AND GAZEBO FOR THE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES ON WEDNESDAYS, JULY 5, JULY 12, JULY 19 AND JULY 26. (RAIN DATE THURSDAYS, JULY 6, JULY 13, JULY 20 AND JULY 27 RESPECTIVELY AND AN ADDITIONAL RAINDATE OF WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2)

Chair O'Connell asked if there were any questions, comments or a motion. A motion was made by Select Board Member Maselli, seconded by Select Board Member DePalma and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Select Board approve the request of Brett Sawin, Recreation Director, to use the Town Common and Gazebo for the Summer Concert Series on Wednesdays, July 5, July 12, July 19 and July 26. (Raindates Thursdays, July 6, July 13, July 20 and July 27 respectively and an additional raindate of Wednesday, August 2)

BOARD TO CONSIDER REQUEST OF CHRISTINA STEWART, LIBRARY DIRECTOR, TO USE THE SWAIN GREEN ON TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2023 FROM 6:30 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M. FOR THE LIBRARY PROGRAM "INTRO TO DISC GOLF" PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, JULY 13

Chair O'Connell asked if there were any questions, comments or a motion. A motion was made by Select Board Member Bendel, seconded by Select Board Member Maselli and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Select Board approve the request of Christina Stewart, Library Director, to use the Swain Green on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the library program "Intro to Disc Golf" previously scheduled for Thursday, July 13.

BOARD TO CONSIDER RECOGNIZING AUGUST 9 AS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY

Select Board Member Cairra stated that he requested this to be included on the agenda. He stated that August 9 has been on the Town calendar. He stated August 9 has been observed as Indigenous Peoples Day since 1982 by the United Nations. The date raises awareness and protects the rights worldwide of indigenous people. Chair O'Connell asked if there were any questions, comments or a motion. A motion was made by Select Board Member Cairra, seconded by Select Board Member Bendel and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Select Board recognize August 9 as Indigenous Peoples Day.

BOARD TO CONSIDER SUMMER MEETING SCHEDULE: PROPOSED DATES – JULY 17, AUGUST 14

Chair O'Connell asked if there were any questions, comments or a motion. A motion was made by Select Board Member Bendel, seconded by Select Board Member DePalma and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Select Board establish their summer meeting schedule as Monday, July 17, 2023 and Monday, August 14, 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Frank West, Birchwood Road, offered congratulations to Chair O'Connell on her tenure.

Mr. West advised that at 2:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 15, the Wilmington Minutemen will reenact the March to Concord. He advised that they will meet at the Town Common and, with a police escort, march up Church Street. He stated that they will be firing their muskets. He stated that residents attend and invited members of the Select Board to attend.

Mr. West stated that the Wilmington Minutemen also collect used unusable flags. They are looking for volunteers to help fold flags. The Retirement Ceremony will be held on Flag Day, June 14, at 6:30 p.m. at Minuteman Headquarters. He invited members of the Select Board to attend.

Mr. West stated that relative to Sciarappa Farm, he asked whether additional information will be available before Town Meeting. Town Manager Hull stated that he expects to have information prior to Town Meeting but it is not available at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Select Board Member Bendel thanked Chair O'Connell for her service and wished her well.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

IMPORTANT DATES

Town Manager Hull reviewed important dates including:

April 10-

April 14 – Curbside Collection of Leaves/Grass

April 12 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

April 12 – Last Day to Register to Vote in the Annual Town Election/Annual Town Meeting
Town Clerk's Office Open Until 5:00 p.m.

April 15 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

April 17 – Town Offices Closed – *Patriot's Day*

April 19 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

April 22 – Annual Town Election – Polls Open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

April 22 – Little League Opening Day Parade

April 22 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

April 24 – Select Board – Town Hall – Room 9 – 7:00 p.m.

April 24-

April 28 – Curbside Collection of Leaves/Grass

April 26 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

April 29 – Brush Drop-Off – Old Main Street – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

April 29 – Annual Town Meeting – High School Auditorium – 9:00 a.m.

May 3 – Town Hall / School Administration Building Committee – Town Hall – Room 9 – 6:00 p.m.

May 8-

May 12 – Curbside Collection of Leaves/Grass

May 10 – Senior Center Building Committee – Town Hall – Room 9 – 6:00 p.m.

May 12 – Special Olympics – Wilmington High School – 9:30 a.m.

May 12 – Good Guy Award Dinner – Knights of Columbus – 6:30 p.m.

May 13 – Household Hazardous Waste Day – 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
West Intermediate School Parking Lot

May 17 – Wildwood School Building Committee – TBD – 6:00 p.m.

SALUTE TO SERVICE

Select Board Member Bendel recognized the service of Kenneth L. Michaud. Mr. Michaud served in the United States Navy from 1964 to 1966 and was awarded the National Defense Service Medal. Mr. Michaud has volunteered to play Taps at veterans' funerals, monument dedications and rededications. In just one day, the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend, Mr. Michaud will play Taps over 30 times. Mr. Michaud and his wife Theresa are long-time Wilmington residents, where they raised three sons and remain active in the community.

The Select Board and citizens of Wilmington salute Kenneth L. Michaud and thank him for his service to our country and our community.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Select Board Member DePalma, seconded by Select Board Member Bendel and by the affirmative vote of all, it was

VOTED: That the Select Board adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Recording Secretary