

**Board of Selectmen
Agenda
Municipal Center Resource Room
Tuesday March 1, 2022**

7:00 PM

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Chairman Announcements
- Citizen's Forum

1. Public Hearing for Pole Petitions on Oak Street– Possible Vote(s)
2. Discussion Regarding Licensed Entities Hours of Operation – Possible Vote(s)
3. Approve Minutes – Possible Vote(s)
4. Town Administrator's Report
5. Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting
6. Executive Session
 - a. Collective Bargaining
 - b. Interest in Real Property
 - c. Investigation
 - d. Litigation
7. Adjournment

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Note: Times are estimates unless denoted as a Hearing.

The Town of Douglas is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022
MEETING MINUTES

Attendance: Chair Kevin Morse, Vice Chair David Cortese, Tim Bonin, Mike Fitzpatrick, Harold Davis (remote), Matthew Wojcik (Town Administrator), Lisa Freeman (Executive Assistant), Matt Benoit (Community Development Director)

Chair Kevin Morse calls meeting to order at 7:01 PM

(0:06) Pledge of Allegiance

(0:25) Chairman Announcements: NONE

(0:33) Citizen's Forum: NONE

1. (0:45) Public Hearing for Pole Petitions on Oak Street – Possible Votes

To install poles P5-50, P6-50, P8-80, P9-50, P10-50 & 16-50 and relocate poles P8, P9, P17 & P19 on Oak Street. The National Grid representative is not present at tonight's meeting. Mr. Fitzpatrick wanted to mention that this is a scenic road, and the jurisdiction falls under the Planning Board. Mr. Fitzpatrick suggests sending this back to them for approval on the scenic road permit and site plan approval permit before the Select Board votes on this matter. Matt Benoit Community Development Director states that the Planning Board has not yet had a chance to re-review this after issuing the original conditions.

(6:48) Motion to recuse this issue and send it back to Planning Board made by David Cortese, seconded by Mike Fitzpatrick. Roll call vote – Mike Fitzpatrick - aye, Tim Bonin - aye, Kevin Morse - aye, David Cortese – aye, Hal Davis – aye.

2. (7:10) Discussion Regarding Licensed Entities Hours of Operation – Possible Votes

This discussion came up because of the cannabis licensing and hours of operation, and what entity has the authority to establish hours of operation. The site plan review doesn't refer to hours of operation however, on the CCC application it does site the days and hours of operation. TA Wojcik stated that Town Councils' opinion on this is that the Planning Board may regulate the hours of operation so long as the regulation of the hours is relevant to the concern raised in the conditions of the site plan. TA Wojcik stated that when it comes to alcohol and cannabis the licensing authority should have the authority to establish hours of operation. He also stated that the Planning Board has a broad sweeping general authority of site plan review to establish hours of operation of a business except when it's a licensed business. The discussion went back and forth about how to rectify this issue also because the hours of operation are recorded at the registry. Mike Zwicker from the Planning Board stated that the hours are decided when the Planning Board asks the applicant what hours they are looking for and they approve the hours of operation that way and that is what gets recorded. What was ultimately suggested was that if it comes before the Planning Board and it is a licensed business that the Planning Board forward their request to the Select Board (the licensing board) before having it put on record in the future. Mr. Zwicker asked the if the Select Board could send a list over to the Planning Board so that they are aware of what would need to be sent to them for licensing. The Select Board agreed to come up with the list and to submit it to the Town Administrator and make it a policy.

3. (21:30) Approve Minutes – Possible Votes

(22:02) Motion to approve 2/1/2022 general session meeting minutes made by Tim Bonin, seconded by Kevin Morse. Roll call vote – Mike Fitzpatrick - aye, Tim Bonin - aye, Kevin Morse - aye, David Cortese – aye, Hal Davis – aye.

(22:28) Motion to approve 2/1/2022 Executive Session meeting minutes and retain all made by Tim Bonin, seconded by David Cortese. Roll call vote – Mike Fitzpatrick - aye, Tim Bonin - aye, Kevin Morse - aye, David Cortese – aye, Hal Davis – aye.

(22:48) Motion to approve the 2/15/2022 Executive Session meeting minutes made by David Cortese, seconded by Mike Fitzpatrick. Roll call vote – Mike Fitzpatrick - aye, Kevin Morse - aye, David Cortese – aye, Hal Davis – aye. Tim Bonin abstained.

4. (23:13) Town Administrator's Report

TA Wojcik recommends that the board strike Interest in Real Property from the Executive Session tonight on the record in open session because there won't be any discussion of property. TA Wojcik announced that the health insurance renewal for active employees will be a zero percent change which is very good news because every 1% is about a hundred thousand dollars, and it is important to stabilize the health insurance going forward especially with the future growth of the town. The bad news is that the school bus transportation costs are going to significantly increase. The K-12 busing it is about a 13% increase and for special education transportation we are looking at a very large increase. Which translates to the budget going from about 1.5 million to just about 2 million which will wipe out the health insurance savings. TA Wojcik recommends to the board and to FinCom that they inquire about these issues as to why the town is going to be picking up such a large increase. TA Wojcik will be submitting his budget to the Finance Committee in about week, which will give the Select Board a couple meetings until they receive it. He would also like to put out there to the towns people that they are looking for members for some boards and committees.

5. (35:50) Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting

Mr. Wojcik mentioned that he will give a formal notice but wanted to let the board know that we are back down to zero for snow and ice and the department head has asked for another \$75k.

6. Executive Session

(39:48): Mr. Bonin made a motion at 7:41 pm to go into Executive Session for the purpose of Collective Bargaining, Investigation, and Litigation, and to return to Regular Session for the purpose of adjournment. Mr. Fitzpatrick seconded the motion, all in favor. Roll call vote: Fitzpatrick - aye, Bonin – aye, Morse – aye, Cortese – aye, Davis-aye.

7. Adjournment

Mr. Bonin made a motion at 8:04 pm to leave Executive Session and return to Regular Session for the purpose of adjournment. Mr. Fitzpatrick seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Fitzpatrick – aye, Bonin – aye, Morse - aye, Cortese - aye, Davis – aye.

Respectfully submitted,


Stephenie Gosselin
Recording Secretary