

**MARION BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING MINUTES  
May 17, 2016**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jonathan Dickerson, Chairman  
Stephen Cushing  
Stephen Gonsalves

**ALSO PRESENT:** Paul Dawson, Town Administrator  
Robert Raymond  
Bill Saltonstall  
Meg Steinberg  
Jon Henry  
Robert Lane  
Steven Kokkins  
Ted North  
Debra Paiva, secretary  
Others who did not sign in

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Town House conference room. Mr. Cushing announced that the meeting would be televised and video recorded by ORCTV and audio recorded by Town of Marion staff. Mr. Cushing and Mr. Dickerson welcomed Mr. Gonsalves to the Board.

**Reorganization of Board**

Moved by Mr. Gonsalves and seconded by Mr. Cushing to appoint Mr. Dickerson Chairman. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Dickerson and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to appoint Mr. Cushing Vice-Chairman. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Cushing and seconded by Mr. Dickerson to appoint Mr. Gonsalves Clerk. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Gonsalves and seconded by Mr. Cushing to appoint Mr. Dickerson Parking Clerk. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Dickerson and seconded by Mr. Cushing to appoint Mr. Gonsalves to the Marion Affordable Housing Trust. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Gonsalves and seconded by Mr. Dickerson to appoint Mr. Cushing to the Buzzards Bay Action Committee. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Dickerson and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to appoint Mr. Cushing to the Town House Building Committee. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Cushing and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to appoint Mr. Dickerson to the Music Hall Advisory Committee. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Dickerson and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to appoint Mr. Cushing to the Capital Improvements Planning Committee. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Dickerson and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to appoint Mr. Cushing to the Plymouth County Advisory Board. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Dickerson and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to appoint Mr. Cushing to the Southeastern Massachusetts Commuter Rail Task Force. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Dickerson and seconded by Mr. Cushing to appoint Mr. Gonsalves to the Community Preservation Committee. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Cushing and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to appoint Mr. Dickerson to the Marion Pathways Committee. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Dickerson and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to appoint Mr. Cushing as the Board's representative to the Carver Marion Wareham Regional Refuse Disposal District. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Cushing and seconded by Mr. Henry to appoint Mr. Dickerson as the Board's School Committee liaison. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Dickerson and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to appoint Mr. Cushing as the Board's Clerical Union liaison. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Gonsalves and seconded by Mr. Cushing to appoint Mr. Dickerson as the Board's DPW Union liaison. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Gonsalves and seconded by Mr. Cushing to appoint Mr. Dickerson as the Board's Police Union liaison. VOTE: 3-0-0

Moved by Mr. Dickerson and seconded by Mr. Cushing to appoint Mr. Dickerson to the Parks/Tree Committee. VOTE: 3-0-0

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – May 3, 2016**

Moved by Mr. Cushing and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to approve the minutes. VOTE: 3-0-0

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Water/Sewer abatement request – 9 Holly Lane**

An application for an abatement of water/sewer charges at 9 Holly Lane and comments from the DPW Superintendent were reviewed and discussed. Review of the information revealed the following:

- The increase in water consumption was the result of a leak that began on February 16, 2016;
- Water Department staff noticed and notified the property owner of very high water consumption;
- The water meter, which has been replaced, was tested and found to be frozen and leaking but still calculating;
- The water was not consciously used and did not enter the sewer system;
- The Department of Public Works recommended the granting of an abatement of the sewer charges.

Moved by Mr. Cushing and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to grant an abatement of the sewer charges only of \$1649.08. VOTE: 3-0-0

### **APPOINTMENT**

#### **Town House Building Committee**

Committee chairman Bob Raymond was present with committee members Meg Steinberg and Bill Saltonstall to discuss a revised concept design. During the presentation the issues discussed included:

- Cost estimates - Construction costs (\$10.5 million), Demolition costs (\$1 million)
- T2 Architects proposal to complete Phase 1 of Schematic and Design Development Documents for \$316,194
- Proposed HVAC system
- Upcoming meeting with CIPC

- The Committee requested that the selectmen endorse the concept and approve the use of earmarked CPC funds

Moved by Mr. Cushing and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to endorse the concept submitted tonight and to authorize the release of Community Preservation Funds. VOTE: 3-0-0

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Request for appointment to Cemetery Commission – Helen Hills**

The application for appointment and chairman recommendation were reviewed and briefly discussed.

Moved by Mr. Gonsalves and seconded by Mr. Cushing to appoint Helen Hills to the Cemetery Commission. VOTE: 3-0-0

### **Discussion – Selectmen representative to SRPEDD**

Mr. Henry has offered to continue to serve one more year as the Selectmen representative to SRPEDD.

Moved by Mr. Cushing and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to allow Mr. Henry to continue as the Selectmen’s representative to SRPEDD. VOTE: 3-0--0

Moved by Mr. Cushing and seconded by Mr. Dickerson to continue Rob Zora as the alternate representative to SRPEDD. VOTE: 3-0-0

### **Request for approval of Remote Meeting Participation policy – Marion Planning Board**

Planning Board Chairman Robert Lane was present for this discussion. Town Counsel has advised that acceptance of this policy would apply to all boards and committees and also that it could be approved for a one year trial period and then rescinded if necessary. After discussion it was agreed to try the policy for one year.

Moved by Mr. Cushing and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to accept the policy for one year, effective immediately, with an expiration date of May 17, 2017. VOTE: 3-0-0

### **Water/Sewer commitment – Final Readings - \$1019.09 (5/11/16)**

Moved by Mr. Cushing and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to move the commitment. VOTE: 3-0-0

### **Water/Sewer commitment – FRMA & sewer service - \$10,404.50 (5/11/16)**

Moved by Mr. Cushing and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to move the commitment. VOTE: 3-0-0

### **Discussion regarding 91 Water Street water and sewer bill**

At a meeting in early February the property owner met with the selectmen and requested abatement of the water bill based on his belief that there were no leaks at his property and the meter must be faulty; it was agreed at that time that the meter would be tested. Subsequent to the meeting the meter was tested and found to be operating properly. It was noted that the request for abatement was made six months after the bill date, well past the 30 days required under the Town’s regulations.

Moved by Mr. Dickerson and seconded by Mr. Cushing to deny the request. VOTE: 3-0-0

### **Discussion regarding donation of funds to Council on Aging**

The Council on Aging Director has requested that the selectmen accept a donation of \$800 from the Friends of Marion Visiting Nurses. The funds would be used to underwrite new COA programs (Memory Café, Living with Dying Café) and would supplement a \$2500 grant from the Massachusetts Association of Councils on Aging.

Moved by Mr. Cushing and seconded by Mr. Gonsalves to accept the donation of \$800 from the Friends of Marion Visiting Nurses. VOTE: 3-0-0

**Building Commissioner request to carry over vacation time**

The Building Commissioner is requesting approval to carry over 22.5 hours of vacation time to Fiscal Year 2017.

Moved by Mr. Dickerson and seconded by Mr. Cushing to authorize the Building Commissioner to carry over the vacation time. VOTE: 3-0-0

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

**Update – Future Generation Wind Project**

Mr. Dawson provided the following information:

- Future Generation Wind is now a subsidiary of Con Ed Solutions (ConEdison)
- The turbines, located in Plymouth, have been installed
- The court has dismissed legal challenges by the Bourne Board of Health and some nearby residents
- The first turbine will be live at the beginning of June, the remaining turbines will be live no later than August
- The installation of communication lines and wireless backup has not yet occurred.
- The Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) proposed that the Town would receive net metering credits on electric bills; however, Eversource has elected to make payments to communities in place of net metering credits
- The PPA will likely need modification to accommodate payments rather than net metering credits and is being reviewed by Town Counsel
- The PPA is for 20 years, extendable to 25 years
- Bill Saltonstall explained the purpose of the communication lines
- Ted North voiced concern that the Power Purchase Agreement had an expiration date of December 31, 2013, resulting in a loss of \$200,000 in economic opportunity. He recommended that the contract be given a “good scrubbing” and advised that once the Town takes delivery of the electricity it cannot get out of the contract.
- Mr. North noted that no lease had been signed for the landfill solar array and advised that it could be available for Town use.

**Discussion – Electric Car Grant Program**

The selectmen had originally authorized grant applications for three vehicles; an application for one vehicle was submitted and approved and the Recreation Department is now using that vehicle. Mr. Dawson has been informed that if applications for two more vehicles were submitted the potential reimbursement for the charging stations would be substantially less than if applications for three more vehicles were submitted. After discussing use of the vehicle for the Council on Aging (Meals on Wheels, transporting seniors to local appointments), it was agreed that Mr. Dawson would find out what is the local average mileage of the Meals on Wheels program. Grant applications for the two vehicles will not be submitted until a decision has been made regarding a third vehicle.

Ted North voiced concern for the costs associated at the end of the lease, the calculated fuel savings, and loss of assets when used police cruisers are not passed along to other departments.

**Discussion – Eversource billing issues**

The Town has approximately 50 electric meters and accounts for its facilities and receives multiple bills. Mr. Dawson explained that over the past two years payments have been misapplied to accounts, resulting in large credits in some and late fees in others. After several unsuccessful attempts to correct the issue he recently contacted the Eversource government representative, requested that all late fees be waived, and has not yet received a response.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence items were briefly discussed:

- #7 - Letter of resignation – Ora Mae Torres, Marion COA Outreach Worker
- #16 - Letter from VFW Post #2425 regarding Memorial Day Parade and Observances

**OTHER**

Mr. Dickerson announced the cancellation of the 2016 Fourth of July fireworks due to lack of funds.

The selectmen discussed conducting department head meetings on a quarterly basis and agreed that evening meetings would be held at the Music Hall in June, September, and December.

Moved by Mr. Dickerson and seconded by Mr. Cushing at 8:45 p.m. to adjourn. VOTE: 3-0-0

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen C. Gonsalves, Clerk  
Date approved: June 7, 2016

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MARION BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
CLERK

**MARION BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**DOCUMENTS REVIEWED AT MEETING – May 17, 2016**

Meeting Minutes – May 3, 2016  
Town House Building Committee presentation  
Water/Sewer abatement request – 9 Holly Lane  
Request for appointment to Cemetery Commission – Helen Hills  
Request for appointment as Selectmen representative to SRPEDD – Jon Henry  
Request for approval of Remote Meeting Participation procedure – Marion Planning Board  
Water/sewer commitment – final readings - \$1019.09 (5/11/16)  
Water/sewer commitment – FRMA & sewer service - \$10,404.50 (5/11/16)  
Discussion regarding 91 Water Street water and sewer bill  
Discussion regarding donation of funds to Council on Aging  
Building Commissioner request to carry over vacation time

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Letter from Tabor Academy regarding live entertainment 6:00 p.m.–11:00 p.m. (6/12/16)  
Water/sewer abatement request – 17 Wilson Road  
Letter regarding Feast of St. Anthony 12:00 noon – 6:00 p.m. (6/12/16)  
Letter regarding sewer pump inspection – 163 Cross Neck Road  
Letter of resignation from Music Hall Advisory Committee (Sheila Powers Converse)  
Memo from Town of Carver – Board of Selectmen reorganization  
Letter of resignation – Ora Mae Torres, Marion COA Outreach Worker  
ZBA notice of decision – 20 Old Indian Trail  
ZBA notice of decision – 34 Piney Point Road  
ZBA notice of decision – 240 Converse Road  
ZBA notice of decision – 248 Converse Road  
ZBA notice of decision – 8 Park Street  
Request for appointment to Council on Aging – Kathleen Moore  
Request for appointment to Council on Aging – R. Henry Norweb III  
Letter from Jay Hiller, Jr. regarding Parlowtown Road  
Letter from VFW Post #2425 regarding Memorial Day Parade and Observances  
Letter from Eversource regarding 2013-2017 Vegetation Management Plan  
Request for appointment to Council of Aging – Margaret Gee  
Letter from Verizon regarding upcoming Fios TV programming change  
Copy of letter from Conservation Commission regarding Grassi Bog  
Email from MMA regarding Zoning and Planning statutes  
Letter from DMF regarding shellfishing status – Burr Brothers Boat Yard  
Notice of Chapter 91 Waterways License application

**OTHER BOARDS**

Agenda - Planning Board Master Plan Subcommittee Infrastructure Advisory Group – 5/9/16  
Agenda – Planning Board – 5/16/16  
Minutes – Upper Cape Regional Technical School District Committee (4/21/16)