

# Town of Dudley

## Board of Selectmen

### Finance, Appropriation and Advisory Committee

Highway Commissioners

Cemetery Commissioners

May 11, 2020 @ 6:30pm

Dudley Municipal Complex

71 West Main Street

Dudley, MA 01571

**Approved May 18, 2020**

**Some matters have been taken out of agenda order but were typed up in agenda order for ease of locating information when necessary.**

#### **1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance:**

Steven Sullivan called the remote meeting to order at 6:33pm. In remote attendance were John Marsi, Paul Joseph, Jason Johnson and Kerry Cyganiewicz. Also in attendance remotely were Michael Mayotte (arrived at 6:50pm) and Mark Landry from the FAA. Included in this meeting were Chief Dean Kochanowski, Chief Steve Wojnar, Richard Carmignani, Treasurer/Collector, Debi Thibaudeau, Town Accountant, Lori Smith, Town Clerk and Health Agent, Tom Purcell. Also in attendance was Jonathan Ruda, Town Administrator and Michelle Jervis, Administrative Secretary.

Steven Sullivan stated that per Governor Baker all meetings will have to read a disclaimer at the beginning of each meeting and each vote will be voted by roll call vote.

*Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, this meeting of the Dudley Board of Selectmen will be conducted in total or in part via remote participation. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the Town's website, at [dudleyma.gov](http://dudleyma.gov). For this meeting, members of the public who wish to watch the meeting may do so in the following manner: via Facebook Live and/or posted link at [dudleyma.gov](http://dudleyma.gov) following the meeting. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means.*

A Roll Call Vote is required for all votes taken under this order.

#### **1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance:**

Steven Sullivan asked for a moment of silence for the all the Massachusetts residents and US Citizens that have died due to the COVID-19 virus.

#### **2. Acceptance of Minutes:**

- a. John Marsi motioned to approve the Minutes of April 27, 2020. Kerry Cyganiewicz seconded. Roll Call Vote:  
Steven Sullivan, Aye  
Paul Joseph, Aye  
John Marsi, Aye**

**Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye**  
**Jason Johnson, Aye**

3. **Appointments/Resignations:**

- a. **Veterans' Agent - Reappointment – Stephen Rogerson – Paul Joseph motioned to reappoint Stephen Rogerson as the Veterans Agent for the Town of Dudley with a term to expire April 30, 2021. Kerry Cyganiewicz seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Steven Sullivan, Aye**

**Paul Joseph, Aye**

**John Marsi, Aye**

**Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye**

4. **Public Safety Update on COVID-19:**

- a. **Board of Health – Tom Purcell, Health Agent** – Mr. Purcell gave members a brief update on the COVID-19 virus. The Town is doing well right now and our Public Health Nurse is doing contact tracing. This week Governor Baker has released a mandatory mask order for all public businesses and outdoors where social distancing cannot be done. He stressed the Stay at Home order and check with your neighbors and friends.
- b. **Fire Chief** – Chief Kochanowski stated that they have received 9 new units/adapters for protection. He is continuing to send receipts to FEMA for COVID-19 related purposes.
- c. **Police Chief** – Chief Wojnar stated that his officers are still maintaining and taking calls. Domestic abuse calls have gone up substantially and it is a tough challenge. His department has cleared out a portion of the dispatch and the Collector's Clerk is there receiving cash payments for real estate taxes in the morning for an hour. That is working out very good. Regarding firearms licensing, his department has not heard about any extension so they are just doing renewals with minimal contact. The Courthouse is still closed to the public so arraignments are handled over Zoom.

**John Marsi motioned to approve the reports of the Health Inspector, Fire Chief and Police Chief. Kerry Cyganiewicz seconded.**

**Steven Sullivan, Aye**

**John Marsi, Aye**

**Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye**

**Paul Joseph, Aye**

**Jason Johnson, Aye**

5. **New Business:**

- a. **Recycling Center – Public Invited to Attend – Discussion regarding the present model of trash/recycling at 7 Indian Road.** – Mr. Ruda stated that he wants everyone to know that he is not in favor of closing the recycling center. The recycling center budget has been in the red for years. In FY20 we were \$28,291.71 in the red. With the new bid figures going forward into FY21 we will be \$31,122.70 in the red. Paul Joseph requested receipts from Casella showing it cost them \$30,000 more to dispose of our recycling. Also he is concerned about the charge of \$250/month to leave the self-contained compactor at our site. Vinny Polletta stated that Mr. Joseph is correct but there are equipment rental fees on everything. It is a very expensive piece of equipment. He explained the need to review and consider other options for the center. Meeting was interrupted at 7:10pm. Resumed at 7:35pm with no public participation. Instead people can ask questions on Facebook Live and John Marsi will read them for responses. Mr. Ruda stated that he will be scheduling a Public Hearing after we hear from another bidder who will be discussing their model at the May 18, 2020 meeting. Our current situation at the recycling center is that at this time we have 873 permit

holders paying \$245.00/year; 323 senior that get a considerable discount of \$185.00/year and a few other half year and out of town permits. Costs have doubled for trash and recycling through Casella as well as indirect costs such as security, machinery operation and union employee costs need to be considered. Our vendor provides the dumpsters, equipment and hauling. Their increases have been passed down to the Town to absorb.

Dudley's population is 11,682 with 83% of residents using other means such as curbside pickup for their trash and recycling. Question came over Facebook Live asking why we need security at the recycling center. Mr. Ruda stated that we need it to deter vandalism and other deviant acts. Security is very expensive with \$150/month and if we go with a fiber connection it is \$400/month, way too costly for our budget. Paul Joseph stated that he is not in favor of turning over the recycling center to people who will be making money. He feels the current permit holders will be willing to pay more and still keep it going than using commercial pickup. Mr. Ruda stated that he wants to find a way for it to pay for itself and the only way to do that is increase fees. It must be understood by permit holders that an increase on an annual basis is necessary. We cannot keep operating in the red, it is not an option. Jason Johnson agreed and feels that we should not be closed minded and should review other options.

- b. **Review Spending Articles on Town Meeting Warrant** – Due to a lack of a quorum for the FAA, not vote was taken. Jon Ruda stated that he reduced the Annual Town Meeting warrant deferring any spending articles until the fall. He removed any requests for vehicles and we are not in any position for major capital purchases. Mr. Ruda highlighted several of the warrant articles. All agreed to vote on the warrant after the Capital Improvement Planning Committee meet and review two of the articles that were not approved for the water/sewer department.

6. **Old Business:**

- a. FY21 Budget Updates – Mr. Ruda reviewed the budget with both Board of Selectmen and two members of the FAA. There are many items that have been affected by COVID-19 such as meal taxes, lottery aid etc. At this time we have a \$1.1 million dollar deficit. The schools have adjusted their budget and that is good news. AT this time the bug unknown is state aid. We rely heavily on local aid and we need to get the numbers. Future cuts might likely take place.
- b. End of Year Transfers: Legal Expenses – Kerry Cyganiewicz motioned to approve the end-of-year transfers to Municipal Expenses Line Item 0001-156-5310-02 Legal Account to pay bill dated 4/28/20 from KP Law, P.C. by taking the following actions:

Transfer from

0001-240-5114-01 LEGAL POSTINGS \$35.90 (BOH) or other such amount

0001-240-5700-02 EXPENSES \$605.91(BOH) or other such amount

0001-240-5713-08 BOH Training \$1000 (BOH) or other such amount

0001-123-5700-02 EXPENSES \$430.19 (T. A. Expense Account) or other such amount

To pay for “Durgin Non-Litigation Matters”

Transfer \$962.00 or other such amount from 0001-176-5115-01 CLERICAL (Zoning Board Clerk) to pay for “CINI v. ZBA” and “Zoning Board of Appeals (Pierpont Estates)”

Transfer \$74 or other such amount from 0001-491-5112-01 CEMM COMM – CLERICAL (Cemetery Commission) to pay for “Cemetery Lot-Review”

Transfer \$608.50 or other such amount from 0001-176-5115-01 CLERICAL (Zoning Board Clerk) to pay for “Town Meeting (Stormwater Bylaw)”, “Packard Drive” and “Bylaw Recodification Draft Review and AG phone Conference”

Transfer \$55.50 or other such amount from 0001-176-5700-02 EXPENSES (Zoning Board) to pay for “Blackstone Properties”

Transfer \$37.00 or other such amount from 0001-152-5700-02 EXPS (Personnel Board) to pay for “Exchange emails-Exec Asst. and TA Savage Settlement”

Transfer \$1514 or other such amount from 0001-196-5115-01 LABORER-BLDG/GR to pay for “Bylaw Codification”, “Review and Analyze”, “Solar Pilot”, “Net Metering Amend” and “Email Correspondence”

Transfer \$721 or other such amount from 0001-433-5700-02 RYCL CTR – EXPENSES to pay for “Solid Waste Collections RFP Language, Transfer Station Operation RFPs”

Transfer \$3734.30 or other such amount from 0001-122-5705-02 OP. EXPS to pay for “Stevens Mill Redevelopment”

And from cumulative amount of said transfers, deposit a sum total of \$9,778.30 or other such sum into Municipal Expenses Line Item 0001-156-5310-02 LEGAL to offset the cost of legal bills through April 28, 2020 and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the End of Year Transfers on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. Paul Joseph seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Steven Sullivan, Aye

John Marsi, Aye

Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye

Jason Johnson, Aye

Paul Joseph, Aye

**7. Adjournment:**

**Paul Joseph motioned to adjourn at 9:32pm. John Marsi seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Steven Sullivan, Aye**

**John Marsi, Aye**

**Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye**

**Paul Joseph, Aye**

**Jason Johnson, Aye**

**Mark Landry, Aye**

**Michael Mayotte, Aye**

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Jervis

Administrative Secretary for the Board of Selectmen

Clerk for the FAA