

TOWN OF FALMOUTH
SELECT BOARD
Meeting Minutes
Open Session
MONDAY, JULY 12, 2021
SELECT BOARD MEETING ROOM
TOWN HALL
59 TOWN HALL SQUARE, FALMOUTH, MA 02540

Present: Doug Brown, Chair; Nancy Taylor, Vice Chair; Megan English Braga; Sam Patterson; Onjalé Scott Price.

Staff Present: Julian Suso, Town Manager; Peter Johnson-Staub, Assistant Town Manager.

1. **Chair Brown called the open session to order at 6:30 p.m. and motioned to convene the executive session under 1. M.G.L. c.30A s.21(a)(3) – To consider settlement of police officer personal injury claim because to not go into executive session could prejudice ongoing negotiations. Mr. Patterson seconded the motion. It was followed by a unanimous roll call vote in Open Session to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the above-listed items, and to return to Open Session after discussion. Yes-5. No-0.**
2. Chair Brown reconvened the open meeting.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Proclamation – Falmouth Historical Society – Heritage Awards

Mr. Patterson announced the names and read the proclamation in the packet. 21st Annual Heritage award 9/22/21 at 5pm. The five recipients were Penelope Duby, Margaret Gifford, Barbara Kannellopoulos, Sharon Nunes, and Pamela Rothstein. It is recognition of the awarding of this by the Falmouth Historical Society.

Mr. Patterson read the recognition certificate in the packet as a motion. Second Ms. English Braga. Yes-5. No-0.

5. Recognition
Chair Brown noted a couple weeks ago a resident of Black Beach called him and said that someone put a trash barrel out on Black Beach and it is already full. The Department of Public Works (DPW) sent a truck out there and they took the barrel and other trash. The next day he sent another email to the DPW regarding safety issues, the DPW workers took care of those safety issues. Ms. English Braga noted that the DPW is consistently responsive to the community needs and services at the highest level.
6. Announcements

Ms. Scott Price announced that at noon on 7/15/21 there will be an annual Dr. Ambrose Jearld, Jr. lecture, it is about the community being more diverse and welcoming. Woodsholediversity.org to register for the Zoom meeting, and streamed live on FCTV.

Ms. English Braga said the Portuguese American Association is having a clam boil open to the public this Saturday, if interested go to the website, call, or contact Ms. English Braga.
7. Public Comment
Barb Schneider, Precinct 4, wants to make sure the Town is doing something proactive for the bylaw on single use plastic bottles sales ban on Town property. On Town land we are not supposed to be selling

plastic bottles of water beginning September 1, 2021. Three warnings are included. The Town does not have a compliance person, she hopes that there can be a discussion on what will happen on this issue.

Mr. Suso confirmed the Health Department staff has notified all licensed stores of the bylaw as of 9/1/21.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

1. Licenses

- a. Approve application for Sunday Entertainment License – Barnstable County Agricultural Society, Inc. – Cape Cod Fairgrounds – Sunday, 7/25/21

Mr. Patterson motion approval. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.

- b. Application for Special One-Day Wine and Malt Beverages License – Gray Matter Marketing, - Cape Cod Brewfest – Cape Cod Fairgrounds – Saturday, 9/25/21

Ms. English Braga motion approval. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.

2. Administrative Orders

- a. Bond Refinancing

Jennifer Mullen, Finance Director, referred to the memo in the Select Board's packet. Ms. Mullen explained that she went to the Select Board in May 2021 for permission to look at a refinancing. As of that date, it appeared that the Town may be able to save of \$1.6 million of interest over 10 years. Went out to bid in July, received a number of bids, lowest was .72811 interest, will save the Town \$1.9 million. She asked the Select Board to vote to accept the refinance and bid.

Mr. Patterson motion approval. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.

- b. Vote to sign Preservation Restriction for 533 Woods Hole Road (the Dome)

Atty. Bob Ament representing Woods Hole Partners. This is a straight forward request, a lawsuit was resolved in favor of the Town and with the lower court's decision the developer will proceed at his risk with the project. List of obligations/tasks is long, one is to complete a preservation restriction; the document provided to the Select Board has been approved by MA and Falmouth Historical Commissions. The Select Board would accept, then it would go back to the State for signature before being recorded. The Commission voted to approve it a few weeks ago. The MA Historical Commission asked for each of the Select Board signatures be notarized, Atty. Ament feels it is unnecessary but better to do as requested. He is willing to notarize their signatures. The former motel buildings are in complete disrepair and a danger, the first step is to take them down.

Ms. English Braga motion to accept. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.

- c. Vote to accept donation from David's Old Silver Swim, Inc. (Robert & Susan Catalano) in the amount of \$500.00 to the Beach Department Donation Account

Ms. English Braga motion to accept. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.

- d. Vote to accept donation from Teaticket Civic Association in the amount of \$600.00 to the Veterans Department Donation Account

Ms. English Braga motion to accept. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.

- e. Approve request to refinance affordable home mortgage, 3 St. Marks Rd. Information in the packet.

Mr. Patterson asked if there is a capital gains required as a result of getting cash out of this. Mr. Johnson-Staub noted they are taking equity out of their house, rolling the \$10,000 into the refinance of the house. Mr. Johnson-Staub asked the Select Board to vote to refinance up to \$199,228.00.

Ms. English Braga motion to approve the refinance up to \$199,228.00. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.

- f. Vote to appoint member of the Select Board to the Steamship Authority's Woods Hole-Falmouth Noise & Traffic Mitigation Working Group

Mr. Suso suggested if the Select Board would like to assign it to a qualified staff member, he can do that on the Select Board's behalf.

Ms. English Braga suggested a couple of staff that can share that responsibility.

Mr. Suso will explore this.

Mr. Patterson motion to defer matter to Mr. Suso to recommend an appropriate individual. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.

Chair Brown requested Mr. Suso inform the Select Board of the staff member(s) via email.

3. Special Events

Recurring - Recommended:

- a. Buzzards Bay Watershed Ride – Bike path to Swope Center, MBL, Woods Hole – Sunday, 10/3/21 – 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Ms. English Braga motion approval. Second Mr. Patterson. Yes-5. No-0.

- b. Annual Summer Bazaar - Waquoit Congregational Church – Parsons Lane One-Way – Friday and Saturday, 7/16 and 7/17/2021 – 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Chair Brown said the FPD recommended to prohibit parking along Route 28 for safety.

Ms. English Braga motion approval. Second Mr. Patterson. Yes-5. No-0.

New – Recommended:

- a. Blues & Views Concert – William Maurer – Bandshell – Wednesday, 8/18/21 – 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Ms. Scott Price motion approval. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.

- b. Beach Wedding Ceremony – Falmouth Heights Beach – Jaquith – Friday, 9/10/21

Dr. Taylor motion approval. Second Ms. Scott Price. Yes-5. No-0.

- c. Beach Parking – Mill Road parking lot – Moore – Thursday, 7/29/21

The Select Board cannot guarantee spots, it is nice to have a heads up. The fee for a permit says they are guaranteed the spots, Dr. Taylor does not feel the Select Board should entertain these permits.

Mr. Mogardo said that when there is an applicant wishing to use beach property, they reach out via phone for information to make a more successful event. He explained to Mr. Moore spaces are not guaranteed and are subject to availability, but vehicles need to be out before the lot closes. Mr. Moore will contact Mr. Mogardo the day before the event with any changes.

Mr. Johnson-Staub explained the distinction is that we need to have a prearranged understanding of when the lot closes. The fee ensures there is this individualized dialogue so both sides know what is expected. He encourages a process that ensures the one on one dialogue continues.

Ms. English Braga suggested reviewing the policy in the future on that issue, maybe a lessor fee or call it a communication.

Ms. English Braga motion approval as outlined in the packet. Second Mr. Patterson. Yes-4. No-1 (Dr. Taylor).

7:30 p.m. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Application for an Alteration of the Licensed Premises of an All Alcoholic Common Victualler License – Chapoquoit Grill, Inc., located at 410 West Falmouth Highway, West Falmouth. Continued from April 26, 2021; May 24, 2021; June 7, 2021; June 21, 2021.

Ms. English Braga read the hearing notice.

Atty. Kevin Klauer was present representing the Manager, John Reed. Atty. Klauer explained that the continuances were based on a revised site plan that has been submitted. The Town Planner made a referral that no change to parking could occur without approval by the Planning Board, and Atty. Klauer disagrees. The revised plan submitted today corrected the proposed parking on front of the street and does not require Planning Board review, there is no existing site plan review; they do not meet the requirements for site plan review given they are reducing number of parking spaces and keeping the same number of seats.

Chair Brown noted that Town Manager recommended tabling the hearing at this time. Technically they may not need site plan review, when taking front parking to back to accommodate dining, that is concern. Atty. Klauer said that seven spaces are in the back lot, by restriping there is a chance to restripe parking in the front and back lots. Chair Brown said the Planning Board has guidelines, the Select Board would need to send it to them. Atty. Klauer said that at this time Planning Board review is not required, however they are willing to do what they need to do to make this happen.

Chair Brown explained that Planning Board review is best government practice.

Ms. English Braga said the Select Board did not have weigh in from Town Counsel from this yet, she would like to have Atty. Duffy give a read on this so the Select Board can hear directly from him to have a sense of how he sees this type of circumstances before she is comfortable referring to the Planning Board.

Mr. Suso noted that Town Planner Tom Bott had a conversation with Town Counsel and recommended reduction of 16 seats in restaurant to accommodate what is being proposed. Mr. Suso is convinced that Mr. Bott needs to complete his review and determine whether it needs to go to the Planning Board, given this is located in a sensitive area and existing litigation with tenants there. The premises has a permit for the next several months, no time emergency at this point, and the Select Board can take the time to do this properly.

Atty. Klauer said that he spoke with Mr. Bott, who suggested reduction of 16 seats if the applicant wanted to proceed with just eliminating the parking there today without replacing it. The loss of the 16 seats would counter any benefits to the outdoor seating.

Chair Brown is in support of this, appreciates the benefits to outside dining.

Atty. Klauer noted there is still a pending case with one tenant in the complex, Atty. Mullin has been in touch with the other party.

Dr. Taylor would like to see the legal issues cleared up, an agreement with Town Planner, and have a weigh in from Atty. Duffy.

Atty. Klauer asked if it would make more sense to table it, he is not familiar with this.

The Select Board supports tabling this hearing, however prefers not to set a date at this time.

Mr. Suso will reach out to Atty. Duffy.

Ms. English Braga suggested the folks sit down with the Chair or member of the Select Board and get it done. Mr. Suso noted what they received arrived 3pm today, which is why the Select Board received it so late.

Ms. Scott Price suggested the Select Board make a clear list for Atty. Klauer of what the Select Board expects from him before coming back the next time. Dr. Taylor would appreciate something written coming out of the meeting with the parties.

Mr. Suso will set meeting with Town Counsel, Mr. Bott, and Atty. Klauer or a representative of Atty. Klauer to start.

Anthony Jeffery, Murphy's Package Store, litigation is alive and well, he is open to sitting in on a meeting with his attorney to talk things out. He has been affected by the patio out front and has some ideas that may provide solutions to the applicant. The patio has impacted his business and can comment in the future. The Select Board suggested that may be a conversation between the lawsuit parties and the Town likely would not be involved in that.

Ms. English Braga noted his presence is appropriate when they have the hearing, he may comment at that time and the Select Board can consider the impact to Mr. Jeffery's business.

Ms. English Braga motion to close the hearing. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.

Ms. English Braga motion to table this hearing to a future date. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.

BUSINESS

1. Discussion/update on COVID-19 issues

Scott McGann, Health Agent, reviewed vaccinations to date, the Town is averaging about 100 new and 150 second doses per week. Almost 70% of residents are fully vaccinated. About 6-8% have not gotten their second dose. There have been 192 cases since 4/1/21; 94% of those cases were people either not vaccinated or not fully vaccinated. The cases have dropped off, 7 total since 6/1/21. Delta variant is 20-30% of cases in MA, vaccines appear to be effective. He has no information on boosters. The cases he gets are only residents, he is only allowed to see Falmouth cases. We would see the rise in increase in Falmouth numbers if people were bringing it into Town. Every week he will put the information on the Town website.

Ms. English Braga asked if we are thinking about ways to keep the road race safe now that the Delta variant is an emerging issue. Mr. McGann said the numbers do not bear out that we need to start doing anything. The risk is cramming in 103,000 people on the ancillary events around the race.

Mr. Suso noted the Select Board previously voted transition from mandatory masking mandate to an advisory.

2. Fire Department Status Report

Chief Small reviewed the report in the Select Board packet. Updates on areas including staffing, in recent weeks there has been a better response from personnel to take overtime in the West Falmouth Station, call volume remains unchanged, about one call per day. The engine in West Falmouth Station responds to other areas as well. West Falmouth Station staffing has been challenging because there have been increased time off requests, injury and military leave. New recruits are to the point where they have been added to the shift strength. FFD has been able to bolster their shifts, they gave a 14 man minimum and have leveled off at 15 per shift. Two additional recruits will become shift strength soon. Six additional personnel will attend the academy, upon their graduation in October there will be another six recruits who will attend the academy. By the first of the year or soon thereafter, those twelve personnel will be part of the shift strength. That will bring them to eighteen personnel per shift. He appreciates the support, they had challenges to fill positions and were able to get it done. The Select Board noted that Chief Small set out a timeline and he is making it. Chief Small explained that it goes to the staff, they

continue to follow what their goal was last summer, kept on it, they had many phone calls with civil service regarding when they would receive a new firefighter list. They were looking at people from way beyond the Town's borders. Getting the second list finalized and obtaining it, and then work on it, gave him the opportunity to hire residents off the second list. The recruits going to the academy have been in the station regularly, providing information, getting their gear, and oversight; they are eager and excited to work at FFD.

FFD mechanics are actively maintaining and servicing equipment, they also service police cruisers on Thursdays. They provide maintenance on a regular schedule so they can foresee an issue. The new apparatus that was approved at Town Meeting, is in final phase of design, then will develop the contract; right now goods/services and demand for equipment is rising. There are a lot of issues with computer chips out there. They have been working with their in house committee going over all their equipment and having the new ladder truck in service. Chief Small hopes to order the new apparatus soon. The used truck has been a difficult search, they have been looking and working with vendors/dealers for a suitable apparatus. The inventory for the size apparatus that needs to fit in the W. Falmouth station is difficult to find, vehicles come quickly and go out just as quickly. Vehicles coming in do not match the size needed for that station. They were able to work with the garage door company to get it as high as possible, they only added 2-3 inches more height. The overall height is 9'5" that would fit in that station, however the truck needs to be below that because when backing the truck in is on an angle. A New England dealer has a truck that is currently being leased, it will work height wise, but he needs to get all information and go see it. It is not available for another 30 days or so, apparatus deliveries are delayed and that is why that truck is not available yet. The engine that has been in that station and all other apparatus has been in good mechanical shape as of late. They continue to follow through with their contingency plan for staffing West Falmouth Station, there have only been about 16 times since January 2021 where they have had to relocate apparatus. They managed five stations, working with DPW and Facilities Manager to address other stations as needed and prioritize. In June and July 2021 the FFD answered an average of 26 calls per day, some days up to 46 calls.

The plan is if they get this spare engine, the existing engine in West Falmouth Station would be housed in East Falmouth Station. The vehicle that is currently on lease is not equipped, Chief Small is confident the funds are available to outfit that engine fairly quickly.

Ms. English Braga noted that this is important because a lot of folks come here, get training, and then go back from where they came from; vast majority of employees left to go back to the towns they originated from. So many resources go into training a firefighter, have them here a year or two, and then they return to where their roots/family/can afford to live.

3. Report – Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Scott Lindell, Chair, made a PowerPoint presentation. The Town adopted a Complete Streets plan, the Town has a contract with the Cape Cod Commission and their transportation experts to prioritize this. Goodwill crossing is at the final stages of the design, if we have engineered projects ready, then we are shovel ready, and there will likely be infrastructure funds available from the federal government; the shovel ready projects will likely be prioritized. Safe Routes to School, they have engaged the Superintendent, Principals, Wellness Committee, and lots of synergy for the Katharine Lee Bates design for bikes and pedestrians. There is a gap because we do not have the funding, we need to be creative, sources of funding may include Complete Street Grants, Shared Streets and Spaces, Chapter 90 monies for road maintenance, and the Stay Safe Routes to School program. We need to appropriate something in the Town budget, about \$200,000 would be a good start, most of that would likely be directed towards the engineering plans to be ready for infrastructure initiatives. There is an automatic counter on the bikeway; 250,000 trips were seen last year. Renewed the Bicycle Friendly Community Award, received bronze status. Bicycle education in schools and among adults is needed; however, there is no one in the Town whose job is dedicated to those issues. Vision for the future; network of separated paths or lanes along major arteries, connect village centers, and schools.

Complete Streets benefits include improve safety, better health, stronger economies, reduce costs, provide choices, and smarter growth.

There is one light-activated tracker on the bike path located near the Steamship Authority parking lot; they hope to have a second installed.

The \$200,000 could be in the DPW budget.

Mr. Brown said that the Transportation Management Committee was also talking about \$200,000; they will have something more formal at their next meeting.

Mr. Suso noted that it needs to be recommended back to the Select Board, ideally voted by the committee, and then transmitted from the Chair to the Select Board.

Mr. Johnson-Staub said \$200,000 would be for the capital planning budget, submissions were due today. If a committee is seeking to initiate a capital request, the more backup information the better so that the Finance Committee has that information. He could provide the form for submission now or future capital rounds.

Ms. English Braga said the department that the committee thinks the money will live in should support the objective as well. Mr. Lindell talking about engineering for projects coming forward, we have a substantial budget for maintenance, and the DPW is at their maximum regarding projects. When you look at being shovel ready, money may flow to us if the project is shovel ready.

Mr. Suso explained there are significant monies to operate and maintain bikeways in the existing budget; what is being talked about would be capital funding.

4. Update on Traffic Improvements – Jones/Gifford Intersection and Route 28 Corridor from Falmouth Heights Road to Sandwich Road – Department of Public Works

Peter McConarty, DPW Director, they have many transportation initiative projects in line at this time. Three major projects will be reviewed tonight. Route 28 Segment 2, which has 3 major intersections, it is a large project so it may be broken up into smaller projects. John Diaz was present to speak on the projects. This is a brief presentation to show what they are working on, they will have public meetings later in the summer and the public will have the opportunity to comment.

John Diaz, GPI, talked about the Route 28 Corridor, going through the development and traffic counts. MA DOT is looking at Route 28, they would like it to look consistent throughout the cape. Falmouth Heights Road is the first intersection, they would like to put a roundabout in at this location. Next, Dillingham Ave. intersection, they are looking at several concepts including a traffic signal, aligning the two side streets, adding turn lanes on Route 28, and exploring ways of looking at turn restrictions there. Route 28 at Sandwich Road they are looking at concepts, such as better defining the turn lanes on Route 28 and considering a roundabout.

Ms. Scott Price asked about Route 28 between the Heights Road and Sandwich Road, proposed section is 52 feet wide, the current right of way. Mr. Diaz noted fitting within the right of way in that section, so there would not be any major land takings. Mr. Diaz explained that Sandwich Road plans have no major impact on the right of way. The roundabout by Falmouth Heights Road would not be major right of way taking either.

Mark Gaylord asked about impact on utility poles? Mr. Diaz said that they will look at relocating utility poles as necessary, whether raising them or keeping them in the buffer strip. Utility design will be part of the overall design.

Chair Brown asked about breaking this up into two sections, would Davis Straits be first?

Mr. McConarty explained that once you see the design with 3 intersections, the cost will likely be higher than the original amount for the original project. If we were able to design it as a whole and break it up

individually, there would be a better chance to put this on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). This is what Mashpee did. They would like to continue working with the Planning Board; the streetscape and this design will work together. There will be additional vehicles and pedestrians if there are more residents in the area, so it would affect the design and likely help out.

Mr. Diaz said there would be public informational meetings.

Mr. McConarty explained they work off of a five-year plan, every year some projects drop out. Falmouth would have a better shot if they design it as a whole and individual segments. If they are on the TIP for next year, looking at 2026/2027 for the work.

Mr. Diaz noted Gifford Street at Jones Road is moving forward to final design. Route 151 at Sam Turner Road is moving forward with the signalized intersection to final design. The signal is vehicle responsive.

Mr. McConarty said that Route 28 is going through TIP, what they anticipate for Gifford Street and Route 151 was to go through the Town. After Labor Day they will do the intersection improvements on Route 151 and Sandwich Road.

5. Sign Variance Request – Promotional Signage in excess of days permitted under Section 184-30 of the Sign Code – John Wesley United Methodist Church – Pet Stuff Sale, Rummage and Yard Sale, and Vacation Bible School

Ms. English Braga motion approval. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.

6. Vote committee reappointments
Non-regulatory boards – incumbents with uncontested seats:
 - a. Affirmative Action Committee – Lynne Rhodes
Ms. English Braga motion reappointment of Ms. Rhodes to a term ending 6/30/24. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.
 - b. Veterans Council Committee – Robert Foos (at-large position)
Ms. English Braga motion reappointment of Mr. Foos to a term ending 6/30/22. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.
 - c. Veterans Council Committee – Carissa April (Joe Q Veterans Coffee Break, Inc. representative)
Ms. English Braga motion reappointment of Ms. April to a term ending 6/30/22. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.
7. Interview, vote and appoint committee members
 - a. Cable Advisory Committee – Anne Pride
Ms. Pride is a long time Falmouth resident and maker of bimonthly calls to Comcast. She worked with the Boston Globe and got Comcast customers in New England a credit because there were no regional sports during COVID, however customers were billed for that service. She spent 15 years in database development, 15 years in construction management.
Ms. English Braga motion reappointment of Ms. Pride to a term ending 6/30/24. Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.
 - b. Cultural Council – Stacey Wiessbock
Ms. Wiessbock has lived in Falmouth for three years, she is a change consultant, looks for opportunities to evolve, grow, and give. She feels they can use her impact, they are talented but there is a disconnect between the people the council is trying to reach and technology. Tech innovation and people do not need to live separately. She can help facilitate growth and make a difference in Falmouth.

**Ms. English Braga motion reappointment of Ms. Wiessbock to a term ending 6/30/24.
Second Dr. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.**

8. Discuss potential request for \$200,000 in construction engineering design for proposed FalmouthNet

Art Gaylord, FalmouthNet Board Member, explained they put this request in front of the Select Board in April 2021 for potential use of the COVID relief money that the Town was to receive. They have pursued all possible avenues to get funding, Senator Moran submitted a budget amendment request of \$150,000, as of Friday that was still in the fiscal year 2022 budget, barring a veto by the Governor they may have access to the funding they need. He requests the Town reserve a potential budget article for Town Meeting. They have done the feasibility study, will do an actual street plan for a network throughout Town, this information would be needed if there was a bond project, grants, and private investors. This is a critical next step for the project. He asked the Select Board to give it consideration because it will impact every citizen in Town. Mr. Gaylord believes this project could also address digital equity by addressing the issue of people who are not able to afford cable internet. He would like to move forward as quickly as possible with formation of a working group.

Mr. Suso suggested if the Select Board is agreeable, he will come back with a draft mission statement so they have some demarcation of what the Select Board intends short term and long term.

Ms. Scott Price asked if the Select Board would have to put together the mission statement and then have people apply to the working group. Ms. English Braga explained that usually the mission statement is voted and published in the paper.

Mr. Gaylord said the \$150,000 in the State budget would be sufficient funding, the timeline is unknown except that it is in the current fiscal year.

Chair Brown noted this was discussed as a long-term objective and Town Meeting may be the appropriate route.

Dr. Taylor asked if FalmouthNet can do a placeholder to put in for the \$200,000 request of Town Meeting. Mr. Suso noted better a petitioner article because it can be withdrawn. Ms. English Braga felt a vote of Town Meeting is a strong message to developers, a project of this size will go through Town Meeting and having Town Meeting be in on it at the beginning, it is a venue to get education out to members and the public.

Mr. Gaylord noted FalmouthNet is making an effort to educate the public; he would be comfortable with doing a petitioner's article for the \$200,000. Chair Brown noted if he does that, the Select Board will decide whether to endorse it, then it would go to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Patterson asked about articles on the warrant, are Select Board members able to work on it. According to Mr. Suso, it may place other members of the Select Board in an uncomfortable role. Ms. English Braga noted you could disclose it.

Courtney Bird said the working group is a critical element with the mission of identifying what role the Town should play in this; funding the feasibility study is critical. They are pleased the State delegation was able to secure the funding, by doing so they endorse FalmouthNet. If they get the State money, it will come to FalmouthNet, Inc. directly. They have raised \$25,000, which will go to fund the study. They want to follow a process just as they are a Town body, they will put this out to bid, write an RFP, and want to involve folks from the Town. Things like this can be done well, they can get creative with the funding and will use the expertise of the working group.

Ms. English Braga suggested Mr. Gaylord, Mr. Bird, and the FalmouthNet group to send a draft mission statement to Mr. Suso.

Mr. Suso noted a number of priorities were delegated to staff, and asked the Select Board to be cautious to committing large numbers of staff to initiatives without removing them from existing assignments. He would like to talk about this on another night, the priorities have been set and voted and given directive to proceed. Mr. Patterson does not want to hear no, do not look forward, he would like to look at staffing if needed; what is required for staff to be able to handle these kinds of issues. Mr. Suso noted staff is incredibly busy, they can always hire additional staff subject to budget appropriations, he wants to make sure staff are working on the Select Board's highest priorities. Staff members need to oversee those priority areas to make sure it is done the proper way. The Select Board has asked Mr. Suso to work with the Fire Chief to locate an area for the North West Fire Station.

Mr. Patterson said that the Select Board needs to hear from Mr. Suso about staffing and/or budgeting.

Ms. English Braga said one of the biggest challenges are that there are unfilled positions, Asst. Town Planner, Asst. Deputy of Public Works, so it would be helpful for Mr. Suso to come back and dive deeper into what was discussed at the Select Board's Strategic Retreat; are we on the right pay scale, what else can be done to fill these positions? She would like to have a conversation around the staffing piece so that we can get those positions filled. If the Select Board has a deeper understanding, it allows them to create policy around priorities. Having updates on hiring when Mr. Suso does his report may be helpful, then the Select Board can delve into that issue so that the public understands. When you craft a mission statement specific and oriented towards a tight result, then it will hopefully narrow the time staff have to put into it.

Chair Brown has solicited that input and received it. He suggested an agenda item to review all things the Select Board have been asking staff to do. He feels the FalmouthNet project is important.

Mr. Patterson expressed concern that decisions were being made not to hire for the positions to save the money and increase the Town's AAA bond rating and has heard this from citizens. He believes the Town needs to invest in people and resources.

Dr. Taylor said the idea that people are playing games is offensive to her and out of line.

Mr. Suso noted the newly hired Asst. Town Planner began working today. The advertising for Deputy Director DPW is underway. Personnel does an extraordinary job, they want all these positions filled, had similar issues with wastewater positions.

Ms. Scott Price said it would be helpful to share ideas and questions with the public about what they want an update on, priority for a report. How is the Select Board more effective with Mr. Suso, and specify what subject matter they want updates on. If you want an update, send it to Chair Brown and cc Mr. Suso. Dr. Taylor said being more specific with the agenda and what the Select Board needs to know would be helpful.

Wednesday mornings Chair Brown and Dr. Taylor will review agendas.

Mr. Patterson suggested reporting on positions routinely.

The Select Board talked about wanting quarterly updates from the Personnel Director on positions, contracts, and other issues as requested.

Dr. Taylor feels it is incumbent upon the Select Board to ask for what they need.

Dr. Taylor said they will look to petitioner's article, track money potentially coming from the State budget to FalmouthNet Inc. and working group, and create mission statement.

Mr. Bird suggested Mr. Gaylord draw up points for the charter focus and circulate it to Mr. Suso, Mr. Johnson-Staub, and the Select Board as soon as it is put together and not wait until the next Select Board meeting.

9. Individual Select Board Members' Reports

Ms. Scott Price:

Last Wednesday there was a new display at Woods Hole Library and museum on Jewel Cobb, another event will come up on 7/29/21 in honor of Jewell Cobb.

Dr. Taylor:

The second round of interviews for the Affirmative Action Diversity Officer position will take place on 7/20/21 and they are down to their last three candidates.

Chair Brown:

Attended the Transportation Management Committee meeting.

Spoke with Chair of the Planning Board who reminded him that they are meeting tomorrow night to discuss potential rezoning in business districts for affordable housing.

10. Town Manager's Report

Mr. Suso is awaiting confirmation from Joint Base Cape Cod on a potential public meeting date of 7/29/21 and when confirmed will advertise.

The Select Board's next regular business meeting will be held on 7/26/21.

Ms. English Braga motion to adjourn at approximately 10:03 p.m. Second Ms. Taylor. Yes-5. No-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Chaves

Recording Secretary