

TOWN OF IPSWICH  
Select Board Meeting  
Monday, May 15, 2023 at 7:00 PM  
Ipswich Town Hall, Meeting Room A  
25 Green St. Ipswich, MA

Pursuant to Open Meeting Law M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §§ 18-25, a written notice posted by the Town Clerk and delivered to all Board members, a meeting of the Select Board was held on Monday, May 15, 2023 at Town Hall, 25 Green Street.

Select Board members present: William Whitmore (Chair), Sarah Player (Vice Chair), Linda Alexson

Select Board not members present: Kerry Mackin

Also Present: Stephen Crane (Town Manager)

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Welcome/Announcements – W. Whitmore**

- The Veterans District Board meets Wednesday night at 6:30 downstairs in the Veteran’s Office.
- The Healing Waters Picnic and Paddle will be held at the Ipswich Watershed Association on Saturday, May 20.
- Tomorrow is local election day.
- William read a proclamation in recognition of Sheila Taylor’s retirement and the Board thanked her for all she has done for the town and its residents over the years.

**3. Citizen Queries – W. Whitmore**

- None

**4. Boards and Committees – W. Whitmore**

- a. Edward “Ted” Dillon, 13 Spring Street, seeking new appointment on the Electric Light Subcommittee, said he recently moved to Ipswich and has spent most of his career in clean energy. He is currently the COO at Clean Energy Ventures. He is interested in clean energy both professionally and personally.
  - Motion to appoint Ted Dillon to the Electric Light Subcommittee made by Linda, seconded by Sarah  
→ *Motion passed unanimously, 3-0*
- b. Raymond Putnam, Confirmation of Town Manager Conservation Commission Reappointment
  - Motion to confirm reappointment of Raymond Putnam to the Conservation Commission made by Linda, seconded by Sarah  
→ *Motion passed unanimously, 3-0*
- c. Stephen discussed the Public Safety Property Re-Use working group timeline. Because the Public Safety Building has been impacted by economic factors, the Re-Use Working Group is also impacted. It was previously suggested that the group pause its work, but would like formal guidance from the Select Board. Stephen said they can’t do much until the building is built. Linda said they will be making a formal recommendation to the Select Board regarding the community gardens.

- William made a motion for the Public Safety Re-Use Working Group to conclude their efforts with the community gardens and then go on pause until reactivated by the Select Board, seconded by Linda

→ *Motion passed unanimously, 3-0*

- d. The Design Review Board is seeking some resident members. Ideally, they are looking for architects and landscape architects to serve on the board.

## **5. PUBLIC HEARING: Discuss/Vote on Request to Name Public Property at 54 County Street “Jenny Slew Park”**

– W. Whitmore

- William read the legal notice.
- Motion to open the Public Hearing made by Sarah, seconded by Linda

→ *Motion passed unanimously, 3-0*

- Heather Leonard, 9 Bush Hill Road, representative of the Human Rights Commission, read a letter of support for the naming of the park to Jenny Slew Park. Heather said she is excited that the people in town will have the opportunity to learn about all that Jenny Slew did, and also to have the difficult yet authentic conversations about the complexities of our history.
- Christine Sarantopoulos, 7 Brownville Ave, said she has lived in town her whole life and has seen many changes in to the town. She believes this change will be a positive one.
- Rachel Meyer, 104 High Street, provided the history of Jenny Slew and spoke about how she empowered others to fight for their freedom.
- Isaac Ross, 32 Summer Street, said he was surprised when he learned the details of the history of slavery in Massachusetts and he thinks this is something that others should learn about as well.
- Francine Makuwa, resident, said she finds there to be a lack of diversity and lack of lessons regarding diversity in town. She would like this to be a conversation in schools and in the park where children play, that all skin colors are accepted and tolerated. This is a beginning step of this community extending beyond just one race.
- Sarah said that we celebrate so much of our town’s history but that we are missing the other half of the story. We celebrate the comfortable parts and sometimes miss the hard stuff. This is a good opportunity to start these conversations.
- Linda said she thinks this is a great step for the community to start this conversation.
- William said he thinks this is a way to make Ipswich better and a great example of a community driven change. He thanked the group for their efforts.
- Motion to name the park Jenny Slew Park, made by Linda, seconded by Sarah.

→ *Motion passed unanimously, 3-0*

- Motion to close the Public Hearing made by Linda, seconded by Sarah.

→ *Motion passed unanimously, 3-0*

## **6. Annual Town Meeting Recap – W. Whitmore**

The overflow room was used and the clickers worked well for voting. Stephen said the town budget was overwhelmingly approved as was the school budget. Whittier and Essex Tech assessments were approved. Linda asked what Ipswich’s assessment will be for the new Whittier School. Stephen said he isn’t sure yet. Sarah said we could ask them to come give a presentation to us. Stephen suggested having our representative come to a meeting first. The annual capital plan was also approved, the Empower Act was not approved, and the changing of the seal was approved. The dam article was approved as were the easements. All of the school roofs were approved as was the Marini Farm lease.

**7. Consent Calendar – W. Whitmore**

1. One Day Wine and Malt Liquor License Application(s) – W. Whitmore
  - i. Elenor Harbeck of Appleton Farms for Wood-Fired Pizza Picnics at Appleton Farms, 219 County Road on June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, July 7, 14, 21, 28, August 4, 11, 18, 25, and September 1, 8, 2023.
  - ii. Jessica Porter of Appleton Farms for Wood-Fired Pizza Picnics at Appleton Farms, 219 County Road on September 15, 22, 29, October 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2023.
  - iii. Raymond Pickup for Rockport Brewing for Appleton Pizza Picnics at 219 County Road on June 3, 10, 17, and 24, 2023.
2. Street or Sidewalk Blocking Application(s)-
  - i. Jamie Green Klopotoski of 40 New Way Lane has applied for a Total Street Blocking of 2 Brewery Place and portions of Brown Square on Saturday, June 24, 2023, and Sunday, June 25, 2023, for a Good in the Hood Block Party.

- Linda moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Sarah

→ *Motion passed unanimously 3-0*

**8. Select Board Subcommittee Updates – W. Whitmore**

- The Affordable Housing Trust and Ipswich Housing Partnership met last week and saw a presentation from Habitat for Humanity looking at options for affordable housing.

**9. PUBLIC HEARING: Alteration of Premises Application for Section 12 On-Premise All Alcohol Liquor License Holder Medusa Corp. d/b/a Zabaglione Restaurant at 1 Market Street – W. Whitmore**

- William read the legal notice.
- Motion to open the Public Hearing made by Sarah, seconded by Linda

→ *Motion passed unanimously, 3-0*

Peter Ross, lawyer representing Medusa Corp (Zabaglione Restaurant), submitted a scale drawing to the board and also cut back on the number of chairs. They are looking to have 5 tables with a maximum of 12 chairs. The tables are 30” in diameter. Linda asked what has changed since they last spoke about the capacity. The capacity is 49. Peter said he has researched and called the ABCC, and there are no restrictions regarding increasing capacity for outside seating. There are restaurants in Boston that have 10 inside seats and 30 outside seats. Linda said she was going by the ABCC’s guidelines for outdoor alcohol and beverage services. Linda said she thought the issue was if it rains, you cannot bring those chairs inside. Peter said the ABCC said that is not a law, and it is a local issue. Peter also talked to Chief Nikas about it. Stephen said he can look for a bylaw to see if restaurants can add outdoor capacity without taking away from the inside capacity. Sarah said Chief Nikas recommended a review of the number of table and chairs. Sarah went over the

requirements including bringing everything in at night, having someone in line of sight of the outdoor area at all times, and not having any bussing or garbage outside. William asked the board if they could make a motion to support this as long as it is consistent with the bylaw. Linda said the building inspector indicated that 5 tables could not be in the space so she is not comfortable voting for this if he doesn't approve it, that is his area of expertise.

- Sarah made a motion to approve this application contingent on it being consistent with town bylaws and ordinances, seconded by William.

→ *Motion passed, 2-1 (Linda opposed)*

- Motion to close the Public Hearing made by Linda, seconded by Sarah

→ *Motion passed unanimously, 3-0*

## **10. Town Manager Report – Stephen Crane**

Stephen said he made a change to the “new business” section of the agenda so it will also say “future business”. William said he wouldn't mind if “Citizen's Queries” is changed to “Citizens Comments”. Sarah also said they should try to do a better job about getting back to people regarding comments.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and Colleen Furman provided some links with information.

There was a reported incident at one of the elementary schools and Stephen worked with the Chief of Police and Dr. Blake to bring in an additional School Resource Officer for the remainder of the year. They are planning to use a private company to hire the resource officer because it is not in the Police budget.

There are three regulatory permitting meetings for the Public Safety Building project. The committee went before the Design Review Board last week and had a good conversation about the building and its design.

Letters are being sent out to the applicants for the Rec Committee and Stephen will announce who they have chosen for that committee once they have confirmed.

Linda said they received an email from Tammy Jones as their representative for the Public Safety Committee and asked if that would be discussed. Stephen recommended they put it on an agenda. The letter was requesting the Select Board to direct the Public Safety Building Committee to rethink the approach to dispatch in the building. Linda said she was going to ask if the update was representative of the committee or was that her personal update. William said his impression of it was it was her feedback and her personal concerns. Stephen said he supports the design they have and he does not think that it closes the conversation for future ideas about regional dispatch.

## **11. New Business/ Future Business – W. Whitmore**

- Sarah said they should have a goal setting session and operations meeting about how the board does business.

## **12. Miscellaneous and Correspondence – W. Whitmore**

- Linda thanks Kerry for all of the hard work she has done over the last few years with the Select Board and over her career.
- Motion to adjourn made by Linda, seconded by Sarah.

→ *Motion passed unanimously, 3-0*

Respectfully Submitted By  
Alyson von der Esch  
5-22-2023