

Approved 3/29/2021

RECEIVED

2021-04-06

Town of Chelmsford Board of Selectmen Minutes  
Chelmsford, MA 01824

6:13 AM

TOWN OF CHELMSFORD

Virtual meeting via Zoom

PATRICIA E. DZURIS

Regular Meeting MINUTES  
January 11, 2021

TOWN CLERK

**Attending**

Kenneth Lefebvre, Chairman  
Virginia Crocker Timmins, Vice Chair  
Patricia Wojtas, Board Member

Paul Cohen, Town Manager

Not present

Emily Antul, Board Member  
George Dixon, Clerk

Please note that all documents referenced in these minutes are on file at the Town Manager’s Office, 50 Billerica Rd., Chelmsford, Mass. The meeting was recorded by Chelmsford Telemedia.

Chairman Lefebvre called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM, and read the following statement into the record:

Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Town of Chelmsford Board of Selectmen will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. 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 [www.chelmsfordma.gov](http://www.chelmsfordma.gov). For this meeting, members of the public who wish to watch the meeting may do so by accessing the Chelmsford Telemedia website [www.chelmsfordtv.org](http://www.chelmsfordtv.org)

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. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the Town’s website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

**PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Nomination Papers for Annual Town Election**

Board Member Timmins announced the next Town Election will be held on April 6, 2021. Election papers will be available until February 11, 2021, and must be filed with the Board of Registrars by February 16, 2021. A list of available positions and requirements were provided.

The last day residents can register to vote will be March 17, 2021.

**OPEN SESSION**

Board Member Timmins requested to read a letter dated January 7, 2021 into the record from the North Chelmsford Water District to Eric Woerl at the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

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The letter was written in regard to concerns at 54 Richardson Rd., particularly about PFAS contamination to nearby wells. Testing for PFAS concentrations was completed on October 20, 2020, and again on November 20, 2020. Results from the second test were elevated, and the Water District is requesting immediate response action. All of the Bomil wells are impacted. The District is requesting immediate action be put in place to prevent further contamination of the wells.

Water District Superintendent Bruce Harper was present for the call. He was advised that this matter will be further discussed at the January 25, 2021 meeting, as well as the February 8, 2021 meeting. A licensed site professional is working on this issue with Assistant DPW Director Steve Jahnle.

### **COMMITTEE VACANCIES**

Board Member Timmins read the list of current vacancies. Interested applicants can apply online at <http://www.chelmsfordma.gov> or through the Town Manager's office.

### **TOWN MANAGER REPORTS**

#### **Citizen Petition 2021 Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles**

Two Citizen Petition Articles were received by the deadline. One Article involves a resolution regarding climate change, and another is in regard to grinder pump appeals. The complete language of these Articles is in in the draft warrant for the Spring Annual Town Meeting.

#### **Draft List of Warrant Articles for 2021 Spring Annual Town Meeting**

Town Manager Cohen reported there are 41 articles at this time. Many are potential placeholders. About two dozen are financial articles, two are Citizen Petitions, several others are administrative, home rule petition articles, and transfer of parcels articles. The remaining articles involve multiple easements, four zoning bylaw changes, street acceptances, and other bylaw changes.

Further updates will be forthcoming. The Warrant will be signed at the meeting on February 22, 2021.

Board members asked questions regarding several of the articles. DPW Director Gary Persichetti explained the functions of the vacuum trucks that are being requested.

#### **Lowell Five Cents Savings Bank Donation**

Mr. Cohen announced that the Lowell Five Cent Savings Bank has donated a gift of \$2500.00 to the Town with the intent of funding a project for the diversity of the community. The Diversity, Racial Equity & Inclusion Committee has been notified, and will be discussing how to use the funds. The Diversity Committee will be invited to attend the Board meeting on January 25, 2021, for a presentation.

The Board anticipates hearing many presentations prior to Spring Town Meeting. Board Member Wojtas suggested that the Budget Presentation will need a substantial amount of time, requiring that some presentations may need to be deferred. Mr. Cohen will reach out to the various presenters to see if they can defer to another meeting.

### **TOWN MANAGER APPOINTMENTS**

#### **Community Preservation Committee: Robert Morse, unexpired 3- year term exp. 6/30/2022**

Mr. Morse was a former member of this Committee, and wishes to return to it.

**Motion:** by Board Member Timmins to approve the appointment of Robert Morse to the Community Preservation Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2022. Seconded by Select Board Member Wojtas.

**Roll Call:**

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Board Member Wojtas: Aye  
Board Member Timmins: Aye  
Chairman Lefebvre: Aye  
**Motion carries, unanimous, 3-0.**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Select Board Regular Session Minutes 09-14-2020**

**Tri-Board Regular Session Minutes 09- 21-2020**

**Select Board Work Session Minutes 09-22-2020**

On the Work Session Minutes, Board Member Timmins requested that on Page 4, Second paragraph, "Mrs." should be changed to "Board Member". Board Member Wojtas suggested that all females that are not Board Members be referred to as "Ms."

**Motion:** by Board Member Timmins to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2020, and the Tri-Board Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2021, as presented, and the Work Session Meeting Minutes of September 22, 2021, as amended. Seconded by Select Board Member Wojtas.

**Roll Call:**

Board Member Wojtas: Aye  
Board Member Timmins: Aye  
Chairman Lefebvre: Aye

**Motion carries, unanimous, 3-0.**

**SELECT BOARD MEMBER LIAISON REPORTS & REFERRALS**

Board Member Wojtas:  
No reports this evening.

Board Member Timmins:  
No Reports this evening.

Chairman Lefebvre:  
-Residents were encouraged to watch public meetings.

**PRESS QUESTIONS**

No one came forward at this time.

**ADJOURN**

**Motion:** by Board Member Timmins to adjourn this meeting at 5:32PM. Seconded by Select Board Member Wojtas.

**Roll Call:**

Board Member Wojtas: Aye  
Board Member Timmins: Aye  
Chairman Lefebvre: Aye

**Motion carries, unanimous, 3-0.**

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE: January 25, 2021**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Vivian W. Merrill,

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Recording Secretary

Supporting Documents:

- Announcement for the Availability of Nomination Papers for the Local Election
- Letter from the North Chelmsford Water District regarding PFAS contamination
- List of Committee Vacancies
- Language for the two Citizen Petitions for Spring Town Meeting
- 2021 Spring Annual Town Meeting List of Warrant Articles
- 2021 Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant
- Letter regarding the Donation from Lowell Five Cent Savings Bank to the Town
- Committee Application
- Draft Minutes
- Zoom Chat for this meeting