

GOSNOLD BOARD OF SELECTMEN

December 16, 2022

Meeting took place at Buzzards Bay Coalition, Gosnold Town Hall and via Zoom.

Meeting open @ 10:38 AM.

At Buzzards Bay Coalition: Sarah Berry, Gail Blout, Stewart Young, David Warr, Allen Decker

At Town Hall: Lisa Wright

Via Zoom: Leo Roy, Sarah Smith, Jon Winet, Boone Porter, Duane Lynch, Rosie Goesttiche, Marla Garfield, Paula DiMare, George Shaw, Seth Garfield, Phil Houha, Carlyn Nunes

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

A motion was made to approve the minutes of October 7, 2022. Duly seconded. Roll Call: Sarah Berry – here, Stewart Young – here, Gail Blout – here. Unanimous vote.

Allen Decker of the Buzzards Bay Coalition reported that Wyatt and Rachel Garfield own 3.25 acres on Copicut Neck. They are putting this property in a conservation restriction and donating that restriction to the Buzzards Bay Coalition. This will be a priority for rare species and critical natural landscape. They are giving up rights of future development and personal and public access will be allowed for passive recreation.

Stewart Young made a motion to approve the conservation restriction for this property owned by Wyatt and Rachel Garfield, and to convey the conservation restriction to the Buzzards Bay Coalition. Duly seconded. Roll Call: Sarah Berry – Abstain, Stewart Young – Yes, Gail Blout – Yes.

The Town of Gosnold would like to thank Wyatt and Rachel Garfield for their generosity.

There was discussion about the new septic upgrades the DEP has been discussing in many towns adjacent to Buzzards Bay, and on the Cape and Islands. Changing Title 5 regulations could be very costly to homeowners. There is no clarity about the impact these regulations would have on the Town of Gosnold and we need to understand the impacts of nitrogen levels in our estuaries. Comments are due to the DEP by 1/30, we will discuss this further at the January 9th meeting.

Boone Porter presented documents relating to easement issues around his property. There is no recorded easement for the sidewalk from Broadway to the Joseph property. Mr. Porter is working on a license agreement for the alley between his property and Stevens. Dan Perry will review the documents.

Gail reported that we received funding for the public toilet replacement project and the fuel farm project from the Seaport Economic Council. The bid for the fuel farm came in at just over 1.4 million. The Selectmen would like to ask the contractor for a bid acceptance extension so they can figure out the

funding for the fuel farm. Susan Nilson called the contractor and they were granted a 6 week extension. We will have a Special Town Meeting on January 23, 2023 to raise additional funds for the fuel farm and public toilet projects. The articles will ask to borrow up to \$500,000 for these projects and also there will be a transfer of \$200,000 from Harbor Special Projects as a match for the Seaport Economic Council Grants.

Leo indicated that it's important for the town to pursue a Town Administrator as there are pressing needs for the town.

Warrants will be circulated to the Selectmen.

Duane Lynch requested guidelines for installing solar panels on his house.

HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

A motion was made to approve the wharf tenants for the 2023 calendar year. Duly seconded. So moved. Roll Call: Sarah Berry – here, Stewart Young – here, Gail Blout – here. Unanimous vote.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

David Warr reported that he toured the pump house with Dale and the Conservation Commission can review that area impacted by the water project and eventually issue a Certificate of Compliance. He would like to review the Chapter 91 licenses that the town has on file.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER:

Stewart has been in touch with the Mass Police Training Academy. He is thinking that a retired person may be a better fit for Cuttyhunk than someone in training.

WIFI:

Sarah Berry had a conference call with Ellen Cummings at Verizon and Michael Hale. Ellen reported that it would cost \$300,000 to change the dish in New Bedford that is currently being used for our landline phone service. Verizon feels that infrastructure for WIFI equipment will be a challenge to maintain.

WATER PROJECT:

Leo reported that the water project is nearly complete. DEP is scheduled to perform their inspection on Monday. We have the final bill from Pawtucket Hot Mix and are awaiting the final bill from Dig It. EP and Foth will work on Certificates of Compliance for the Conservation Commission. Leo is working on the final accounting and believes the project will come in under budget. There will be a federal audit of the project after FY 2023 closes.

A motion was made to approve the final payment to Pawtucket Hot Mix in the amount of \$662,435.86. Duly seconded. Roll Call: Sarah Berry – here, Stewart Young – here, Gail Blout – here. Unanimous vote.

A motion was made to adjourn. Duly seconded. Roll Call: Sarah Berry – here, Stewart Young – here, Gail Blout – here. Unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned @ 1:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Lisa Wright

Sarah Berry

Gail Blout

G. Stewart Young

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February 10, 2023