

**Board of Selectmen
October 10, 2023
Town Hall
Veteran's Memorial Hall, Town Hall
308 Main Street, Sturbridge**

This meeting is available on line at :

<https://sturbridge.vod.castus.tv/vod/?video=74c622c4-a15c-457d-a8b5-6c5f9daec36f>

Present:

Jamie Goodwin, Chair
Chase Kaitbenski, Vice Chair
Mary Dowling, Clerk
Selectman Mary Blanchard
Selectman MaryLou Volpe

Staff:

Robin A. Grimm, Ph.D., Town Administrator

Chair Goodwin called meeting to order at 6:30p.m.

Chair Goodwin read the agenda.

The Selectmen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence for all suffering from violence.

Town Administrator Update

Administrator Grimm discussed possible Hometown Heroes initiative for banners. Board members discussed merits of the program and concerns about time involved. Chair Goodwin, Selectmen Kaitbenski, Selectman Volpe, and Selectman Dowling supported the effort. Selectwoman Blanchard was not in favor of following the program.

Action Items:

- A. Consideration and possible action to authorize the Town Administrator to execute the Notice of Award and Contractor Agreement for the Senior Center Building Project.

Administrator Grimm gave an overview of the changes in the Senior Center project design from the initial bid to the current bid – indicating that most of the reduction of nearly \$1 million was due to more competition in HVAC bids resulting in a lower price. Additionally, some trim was changed as well as the move from a dry sprinkler system to a wet/dry system. William Chamberland and Mike Walker from the building committee were present to answer any questions.

Motion: To authorize the Town Administrator to execute the Notice of Award and Contractor Agreement for the Senior Center Building Project.

By: Selectman Mary Blanchard

2nd: Selectman MaryLou Volpe

Vote: 5-0-0

B. Consideration and possible action to authorize the Town Administrator to execute contracts related to the Senior Center Building Project within the total appropriation. Administrator Grimm indicated that there may be small ancillary contracts related to the Senior Center project that were included in the total cost but would be contracted separately. She was looking for authorization to sign. The Board discussed briefly if there should be a threshold. Administrator Grimm indicated that any contract of significant value, i.e. over the \$50,000 range she would bring forward. The Board asked to err on the side of caution.

Motion: To authorize the Town Administrator to execute contracts related to the Senior Center Building Project within the total appropriation.

By: Selectman Mary Blanchard

2nd: Selectman MaryLou Volpe

Vote: 5-0-0

C. Consideration and possible action to authorize the Town Administrator to execute the Water and Sewer Asset Management Plan loan/grant program.

Motion: To authorize the Town Administrator to execute Water and Sewer Asset Management Plan loan/grant program.

By: Selectman MaryLou Volpe

2nd: Selectman Mary Blanchard

Vote: 5-0-0

Old Business:

Selectman Mary Dowling asked for a route 20 update. Administrator Grimm explained that the Department of Public Works Director, Heather Blakeley emailed the Department of Transportation for an update.

New Business:

Administrator Grimm advised the Board of the Sturbridge/Stourbridge Rotary greetings.

Correspondence

Approval of Minutes

Citizen's Forum

Adjourn:

Motion: To adjourn

By: Selectman Mary Blanchard

2nd: Selectman MaryLou Volpe

Vote: 4-0-0

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Michelle Garman

Clerk of the Board: Mary Dowling

Date signed: Nov 6 '23