

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Open Session Meeting Minutes
35 Central Street – Town Hall
Second Floor Conference Room
June 30, 2016**

NB: This meeting was moved to the Hearing Room because of the large number of public members present. Signs were posted outside of the conference room stating that the meeting had been moved to the Hearing Room.

Members Present: Chairwoman Ann Marie O'Neill, Vice Chairwoman Caroline Colarusso, Secretary Anthony Wilson, Selectman Thomas Boussy, Selectman George Seibold

Also Present: Attorney William Solomon, Attorney Robert Galvin, Acting Town Administrator Robert Markel, Attorney Robert DeWeese

Call to Order: Chairwoman O'Neill called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Agenda Item 1: Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item 2: Proposed Eversource Transmission Line (345-kV) – Woburn to Wakefield (through Stoneham) – Update on consultants, Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board process, and Host Community Agreement

Town Counsel Solomon gave an update on the Eversource project and discussed the role of the consultants. He stated that there is a hearing scheduled for August 9, 2016, and that part of the Town's argument will be that the route as originally presented by Eversource is not accurate and that a construction supervisor will be needed to ensure the preservation of the Town's infrastructure and should be paid for by Eversource. Selectman Wilson requested that curb to curb paving, the Town's preferred route, connection between Stoneham and Wakefield bikeways and EMF reduction be included in the Host Community Agreement. Markel stated that this project is going to be an enormous disruption to the Town and could be paralyzing to certain streets. He stated that the Town should seek to modify the project and seek mitigation, but in his experience, the project is going to move forward. Selectwoman Colarusso stated that the Town's preferred route will be longer than the proposed route and that needs to be taken into consideration when we ask for mitigation. Solomon stated that the legal documents will be reviewed by Attorney DeWeese and that the cost of the consultants is estimated at \$53,825. Selectman Seibold asked where the funding would come from. Solomon stated that the funding will come from the unclassified account. Selectwoman Colarusso stated that we could seek reimbursement for the Town's experts in mitigation. Selectman Seibold stated that he was under the impression that former Town Administrator Ragucci was doing a good job and asked why the TA can't negotiate this without experts. Chairwoman O'Neill stated that citizens have a right to expect protection from a project like this and if the project was going by Selectman Seibold's house, he would want experts to provide ways to make this project safer. Selectman Boussy moved to spend up to \$65,000 for consultants to assist with filing this matter up to the direct case. Selectwoman Colarusso

seconded the motion. Selectman Wilson stated that the experts already hired in this case suggested the method for lowering voltage exposure and this is the type of expertise we need. He stated that the Town needs some leverage and the only way to get that leverage and present the best case is with experts.

Voting in Favor:

Chairwoman O'Neill
Vice Chairwoman Colarusso
Secretary Wilson
Selectman Boussy

Voting Against:

Selectman Seibold

Motion carries (4-1).

Agenda Item 3: To consider the appointment by Town Administrator, David Ragucci, of Erin Sinclair as Office Manager in the Stoneham Police Department notice of which was received at the Selectmen's office on June 22, 2016, pursuant to Section 13 of the Selectmen-Town Administrator Act

Attorney Galvin stated that the Board has approval authority over all appointments under Section 13 of the Selectmen-Town Administrator Act and that under the Act the Board has seven days to reject any appointment. Galvin continued that in the present matter the position of Office Manager to the Chief of Police is going to be vacant due to a retirement in July, that it is a union position, that the position had been posted for two weeks, and that two candidates were interviewed for the position. Sinclair was appointed to the position by Ragucci on June 20, 2016, and that the appointment becomes effective July 25, 2016. He stated that the Town Charter requires that the Board be given notice of all appointments and, in this case, the Board was not given notice until Town Counsel Solomon picked up Sinclair's appointment letter from the Town Administrator's Office Manager on June 22, 2016. Galvin stated that the process followed for the appointment was "very normal" and that the Board could now move to affirm the appointment, move to reject the appointment, or take no action on the appointment, thereby making the appointment permanent. Markel asked where the process had broken down. Galvin stated that the Board did not receive notice of the appointment as it normally would. Selectman Wilson moved to accept Sinclair's appointment. Selectmen Boussy seconded the motion.

Voting in Favor:

Chairwoman O'Neill
Vice Chairwoman Colarusso
Secretary Wilson
Selectman Boussy
Selectman Seibold

Motion carries (5-0).

A motion to adjourn was made by Selectman Boussy 6:50 p.m. This motion was seconded by Selectwoman Colarusso. Voted unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dava Feltch Kilbride
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen