

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting  
Open Session Meeting Minutes  
35 Central Street – Town Hall  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
June 21, 2016**

**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 DeWeese, and Gale Ohanesian, Director, gopower inc.

**Call to Order:** Chairwoman O'Neill called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

**Agenda Item 1: Pledge of Allegiance**

Selectman Boussy stated that there were several personnel contracts that were signed by the Town Administrator that the Board had not been made aware of prior to his departure and should be discussed by the Board. Chairwoman O'Neill stated that this matter could not have been reasonably anticipated when the agenda was posted, or 48 hours prior to the meeting. Selectman Boussy stated that he would like to meet on Thursday and have a representative from MIAA and Attorney Robert Galvin, outside labor counsel, at the meeting to discuss the contracts in detail. Selectman Seibold stated that the question of conducting a meeting regarding the contracts should go to the Board for a vote. Selectman Boussy stated that the Town Administrator signed Chief McIntyre and Grafton's contract without meeting with the Board. Selectman Seibold asked if he was also referring to the secretary to the Police Chief. Selectman Boussy stated that he did not know if that was a union position, but that there is a seven day provision in the Town Code that would allow the Board to review union appointments. Selectman Boussy moved to meet on June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. to discuss these matters. Selectman Wilson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in Favor:

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

**Motion carries (5-0).**

**Agenda Item 2: Proposed Eversource Transmission Line (345 – kV)- Woburn to Wakefield (through Stoneham) – Update, Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board**

**(“EFSB”) process and proceedings to date and going forward, route and alternative route discussion, retaining of expert witnesses, discussion with outside counsel regarding the EFSB proceeding and potential services, and mitigation and host community agreement by and with Eversource.**

Town Counsel Solomon stated that he is continuing to gather information as the Town heads toward entering a Host Community Agreement. Right now it is pretty certain that the transmission line will run from Woburn down Montvale Ave., down Main Street, down Elm Street and Albion Street. Gale Ohanesian, director of gopower inc. stated that Eversource did not give the Town adequate information regarding route options and material options to make a good and informed decision for the Town. Town Counsel Solomon stated that he is drafting the Host Community Agreement to include all costs of this project as the Town should not have to bear any expense with respect to this matter. Attorney DeWeese stated that he has worked on agreements like this one and it is not practical to think that Stoneham can keep Eversource out, but you have to get as much as you can in the Host Community Agreement to protect the Town and cover its expenses. Selectman Seibold asked Attorney DeWeese who generally wins litigation regarding utility matters. Attorney DeWeese stated that the utility will win when it comes to placement. Ohanesian stated that the Siting Board wants the Town and the utility to enter an agreement and if Stoneham can meet with the other communities involved and agree to the big and obvious matters such as footprint and EMFs, then the Town is in a better position to get what it needs regarding those matters. Selectman Boussy moved for the Town to notice the direct case and find three consultants to represent the Town to get the best deal possible. Selectman Seibold asked where the money would come from and what the estimate is. Town Counsel Solomon stated that the money would come from unclassified and that Attorney DeWeese is working at a significant discount. Selectman Wilson moved to proceed to file the direct case and hold on retaining experts until the cost is determined. Selectman Seibold stated that he is concerned that he doesn't know the cost of the experts. Selectman Boussy moved for the Town to notice the direct case. Selectwoman Colarusso seconded the motion.

Voting in Favor:

Chairwoman O'Neill  
Vice Chairwoman Colarusso  
Secretary Wilson

Voting Against:

Selectman Seibold

**Motion carries (4-1).**

The Board did not enter executive session.

A motion to adjourn was made by Selectman Wilson at 7:04 p.m. This motion was seconded by Selectwoman Colarusso. Voted unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dava Feltch Kilbride  
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen