

**Select Board  
Hearing Room  
Stoneham Town Hall  
35 Central Street  
Tuesday, April 23, 2019  
7:00 p.m.**

**Open Session (Hearing Room)**

**Members Present:** Chairwoman Shelly MacNeill, Vice Chairwoman Raymie Parker, Clerk George Seibold, Select Board Member Caroline Colarusso, Select Board Member Heidi Bilbo

**Also Present:** Town Administrator Dennis Sheehan

**Call to Order:** Chairwoman MacNeill called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. (To view this meeting in its entirety go to Stoneham TV on Demand available from the Town's homepage at [www.stoneham-ma.gov](http://www.stoneham-ma.gov))

**Agenda Item 1: Pledge of Allegiance**

**Agenda Item 2: Public Comment** Lisa Palmieri requested that the Board write a letter opposing the Roe Act, place the Roe Act on the next agenda for discussion, and request that Senator Lewis and Representative Day answer questions regarding abortion and the Roe Act.

**Agenda Item 3: Historic Preservation Month** Dolly Wilson, Co-Chair of the Historic Commission announced the events planned for Historic Preservation Month.

**Agenda Item 4: Arbor Day Proclamation** Parker read the Arbor Day Proclamation. Seibold moved to adopt the proclamation. Colarusso seconded the motion. Voted unanimously.

**Agenda Item 5: Memorial Day Parade/Walking Stick Program** Maureen Buckley, Chair of the Memorial Day/Veterans Day Parade Committee, requested street closures for the Memorial Day parade and described the walking stick program. Seibold moved to approve the parade route and the street closures. Colarusso seconded the motion. Voted unanimously.

**Agenda Item 6: Annual Committee Appointments** MacNeill read the list of those who applied for committee appointments: Board of Appeals: Raymond Dufour, Kevin McLaughlin, Mark Russel, Lucas Brown; Capital Improvement Advisory Committee: Tom Barry; Kara Johnston; Conservation Commission: Norman L'Esperance, Carolyn Jin; Jessica Gerke; Council on Aging: Maureen Buckley; Cultural Counsel: Nicole Tammaro, Herlongs Saitz, Lisa Gallagher; Disability Commission: Erin Alacron, Jonathan Arone; Framers Market: Tammy Fallon; Historical Commission: Hillary Fotino; Open Space: David Goodberg; Therese DiBlasi,

Stephen Sylvester; Water and Sewer: Therese DiBlasi. Colarusso moved to appoint all of the applicants. Seibold seconded the motion. Voted unanimously.

**Agenda Item 7: Appointment – Registrar of Voters** Parker moved to appoint George Georgountzos as Registrar of Voters. Bilbo seconded the motion. Voted (4-0-1) with Colarusso abstaining.

**Agenda Item 8: Approve Minutes** Colarusso moved to approve the minutes of 3/19/19. Parker seconded the motion. Voted (4-0-1) with Bilbo abstaining.

**Agenda Item 9: Common Victualler Licenses** Seibold moved to approve the Common Victualler licenses for 128 Franklin Street Donuts; 325 Washington Street BJ's; and Capi Donuts. Colarusso seconded the motion. Voted unanimously.

Seibold moved to enter into the Liquor Licensing Authority to return to the Select Board. Colarusso seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken

Voting in favor: Shelly MacNeill  
Raymie Parker  
George Seibold  
Heidi Bilbo  
Caroline Colarusso

Motion carries (5-0).

**Agenda Item 10: Special One Day Licenses** Colarusso moved to grant Zoo New England three Special One Day Licenses for 6/22/19; 7/27/19; and 9/14/19. Parker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor: Shelly MacNeill  
Raymie Parker  
George Seibold  
Heidi Bilbo  
Caroline Colarusso

Motion carries (5-0).

Colarusso moved to exit Liquor Licensing Authority and return to the Select Board. Bilbo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor: Shelly MacNeill  
Raymie Parker  
George Seibold  
Heidi Bilbo  
Caroline Colarusso

Motion carries (5-0).

**Agenda Item 11: Decorum – Cell Phone Use/Public Comment** Colarusso stated that she was hoping that the Board could better define “unbecoming,” but that some of the suggestions that she received were far reaching. After a brief discussion, MacNeill stated that Colarusso asked for input and she should incorporate it in the policy and present the suggested language to the Board. Colarusso stated that asking someone to step outside should be part of the criteria. MacNeill suggested that Colarusso draft a policy for the Board to consider.

Seibold stated that the Board should give the public its undivided attention and using a cell phone during a meeting sends the message that Board members are not paying attention or giving the public respect. Colarusso stated that there are laws that conflict with that such as FMLA and, since she takes care of her ailing mother, she needs a reasonable accommodation to use her phone during meetings. MacNeill stated that cell phone use is subject to the Open Meeting Law. Colarusso stated that it is HIPA protected. Parker stated that we all have families that need us and if the cell phone use is disruptive, the person should leave the meeting.

**Agenda Item 12: Huma Rights Commission** Colarusso stated that she is concerned that she was not given Town Counsel’s memo regarding the advisory role of the HRC. MacNeill stated that it was not a memo, rather an email stating that Town Counsel believed that the HRC should be advisory and that he added language to the HRC policy to reflect the same. Colarusso stated that the HRC should be advisory and should not report to the TA. MacNeill asked Colarusso to suggest language in a motion. Seibold stated that this has been in front of the Board three times and Colarusso has not suggested any language. Colarusso moved that the HRC function in an advisory capacity with no reporting requirements and promote positive initiatives in the community. Parker stated that Colarusso has not suggested a change in wording and that this is a positive step for the community. Colarusso stated that confidentiality is a concern. Parker seconded the motion. Motion fails 1-4 (with Colarusso voting in the affirmative).

Colarusso asked whether Bilbo should be permitted to vote based on her involvement in the national HRC initiative and whether Parker should be permitted to vote based on the reporting requirement in the policy and her job with the police department. Bilbo stated that she purchased a “Hate has no home here” sign on her own and she is not a member of the national initiative and Parker stated that there is no reporting requirement.

**Agenda Item 13: Attorney’s Fees** Colarusso stated that the Town budgeted \$100,000 for attorneys’ fees and has spent \$90,000 on labor counsel and \$25,000 on a criminal investigation. She asked why so many fees were directed toward employment, grievances, and criminal investigations. Sheehan stated that all legal requests should be managed through his office, but that he was not here to comment on the fees paid to Clifford and Kenny. Sheehan commented that legal fees come from the unclassified account. Colarusso asked Sheehan to put attorneys’ fees on the website. MacNeill stated that she is concerned because when Colarusso was asked to have the attorneys present to discuss fees, Colarusso refused.

Colarusso stated that there is an ongoing criminal investigation and the public would like to be made aware of the facts. MacNeill stated that the minutes cannot be released based on advice of counsel.

Colarusso requested receipts for snow and ice invoices and stated that she does not want a spread sheet.

**Agenda Item 14: Town Administrator's Report** Sheehan stated as follows: 1. Central Street paving is underway; 2. If the Board would like to comment on the Vale project, it may send its remarks to him; 3. There is an MWRA traffic meeting on Wednesday evening.

**Agenda Item 15: Non-Deliberative Announcements and Scheduling** MacNeill stated that she would like the Board to begin thinking about short term goals; Town Meeting is May 6, at 7:00 p.m.; and that Sapphire Award nominations are due on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Seibold thanked the Boys and Girls Club for all that it does and announced that Stoneham beat Wakefield in dodgeball. Colarusso requested that her whistle blower item be placed on the next agenda and that she is in favor of having a question and answer session on the Roe Act.

Parker moved to adjourn the meeting. Seibold seconded the motion. Voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dava Kilbride – Secretary to the Select Board