

**Stoneham Select Board
Open Meeting
Tuesday, September 9, 2025
7:00 p.m.**

Open Session

Members Present: Timothy Waitkevitch – Chair, David Pignone – Vice Chair, Ryan Foreman – Clerk, Heidi Bilbo; Raymie Parker

Also Present: Town Administrator Dennis Sheehan

Document List: Proclamation for Suicide Action and Awareness Month; Licensing materials for Angelo’s Pizzeria & Ristorante, Email from Maria Salvagi dated 8/29/25; Letter from Anthony Chiu undated: Livery License application from Circuit; Email from Brian McNeil dated 9/3/25; Minutes dated 8/28/25 and 8/12/25 Town Meeting calendar; Town Meeting warrant.

Agenda Item 1: Call to Order: Waitkevitch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Foreman moved to open the meeting. Parker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Timothy Waitkevitch
David Pignone
Ryan Foreman
Heidi Bilbo
Raymie Parker

Motion passes (5-0)

Agenda Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item 3: Suicide Action and Awareness Month 2025 Bilbo read a proclamation for Suicide Action and Awareness Month.

Agenda Item 4: Citizens’ Comments No comments were offered.

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

Voting in favor:

Timothy Waitkevitch

David Pignone
Ryan Foreman
Heidi Bilbo
Raymie Parker

Motion passes (5-0)

Agenda Item 5: Angelo's Pizzeria & Ristorante, Inc. Application for Amendment Parker read the hearing notice. Attorney Charles Houghton appeared for the licensee, Angelo's Pizzeria & Ristorante, Inc. Houghton stated that the application for amendment, which requests a change in ownership interest, change in stock interest, and change in officers is part of succession planning for the restaurant. He stated that the owners are transferring ownership to Angelo Caruso. Parker moved to approve the amendment. Pignone seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Timothy Waitkevitch
David Pignone
Ryan Foreman
Heidi Bilbo
Raymie Parker

Motion passes (5-0)

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

Voting in favor:

Timothy Waitkevitch
David Pignone
Ryan Foreman
Heidi Bilbo
Raymie Parker

Motion passes (5-0)

Agenda Item 6: Appoint Election Officers – Democratic Town Committee Parker moved to appoint the following election officers from the Democratic Town Committee August Niewenhaus as Clerk, Joan Quigley as Deputy Clerk, John Fusco as Inspector, and Susan Lippman as Deputy Inspector (this motion was amended by Parker to properly reflect the appointment of election officers). Pignone seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Timothy Waitkevitch
David Pignone
Ryan Foreman
Heidi Bilbo
Raymie Parker

Motion passes (5-0)

Agenda Item 7: Stockwell Trust Request – Board of Health Influenza Vaccines Sheehan stated that the Board of Health has requested \$10,000 from the Stockwell Fund to purchase flu vaccines. Parker asked if the Board had ever approved this type of request and also requested a trust balance. Sheehan stated that the Board has approved many of these requests over the years and Kilbride stated that she would send the Board the current balance of the Stockwell Fund. Parker moved to approve the request from the Board of Health. Foreman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Timothy Waitkevitch
David Pignone
Ryan Foreman
Heidi Bilbo
Raymie Parker

Motion passes (5-0)

Agenda Item 8: Livery License Attorney David Pang appeared for Circuit requesting a livery license for the vehicles used by the Circuit Shuttle. He stated that Circuit no longer fits under the current regulatory system provided by the state and it needs to be moved to local jurisdiction. Waitkevitch asked if there would be any impact to users. Pang stated that there will be no impact at all. Parker moved to approve the livery license for Circuit. Foreman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Timothy Waitkevitch
David Pignone
Ryan Foreman
Heidi Bilbo
Raymie Parker

Motion passes (5-0)

Agenda Item 9: Special Municipal Employee Designation – Facilities Custodial Service

Parker moved to designate the position of Facilities Custodian as a special municipal employee. Foremen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Timothy Waitkevitch
Ryan Foreman
Heidi Bilbo
Raymie Parker

Motion passes (4-0-1) with Pignone abstaining.

Agenda Item 10: Approve Minutes – 8/12/25; 8/28/25 Pignone moved to approve the minutes of 8/12/25. Foreman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Timothy Waitkevitch
David Pignone
Ryan Foreman
Heidi Bilbo

Motion passes (4-0-1) with Parker abstaining.

Parker moved to approve the minutes of 8/28/25. Pignone seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Timothy Waitkevitch
David Pignone
Ryan Foreman
Heidi Bilbo
Raymie Parker

Motion passes (5-0)

Agenda Item 11: Override Discussion

a. Override Study Committee Update Sheehan stated that the Committee has been meeting weekly and that there will be public comment this week and the delegation will be presenting at the 9/16 meeting. Pignone asked if the Board can expect a recommendation and a number from the Committee. Sheehan stated that the charge requires both a recommendation and an override number. He stated that the Committee voted in favor of the override, but that there has been no real discussion about the amount of the override. Bilbo stated that there has been a lot of progress made off line and that there will be a meeting to discuss and debate the report and number.

b. FY 27 Budget Process Sheehan stated that both the Select Board and the Finance and Advisory Board have requested an expedited budget process for FY27. He stated that he does not want to roll out budget numbers without the Study Committee's report. He stated that there is no real way to discuss FY27 until the Study Committee presents an override number. He stated that the School Department has not given him any budget information and that there really is no way to present a budget with any type of confidence.

Parker stated that she wants to see the budget without an override so that the residents can see what will be lost and the negative impacts on staffing and services. She stated that the negative impact conversations need to happen. Foreman stated that he always appreciates Sheehan's conservative approach to releasing budget numbers prematurely, but the number is as simple as revenue plus 2 ½% plus new growth minus the cost of services. He stated that the residents will engage with a number and we have to be prepared for a shortfall.

Sheehan stated that he would like to allow the Study Committee to do what they were charged to do. Waitkevitch stated that he would like the Board to be able to compare the budget number with the Committee's recommendation. Sheehan stated that he will do what the Board requests, but that there is too much uncertainty to give any kind of meaningful budget number.

Parker stated that without an override we know that the library, the senior center, and recreation will be on the chopping block. She would like to know what else could be lost. Foreman stated that he is looking for a simple shortfall number to inform the residents. Parker stated that residents need to know what is at stake. Bilbo and Waitkevitch cautioned the Board about releasing a number too soon and without the Committee's recommendation. Sheehan suggested that the Board give the Committee a hard deadline on 9/30 and then the Board can start discussing the override number and the FY27 budget.

Bilbo stated that the Committee's goal is 9/30, but that the biggest question remains the school. She stated that she does not want to make the mistake that the Select Board made in June by prematurely acting. Parker requested that the next agenda should have a Board vote to support or not support an override. Foreman stated that he appreciates the

Committee's work, but there is a strong preference for them to release the report on 9/30/25.

c. Review Calendar and Timeline for Override Foreman stated that he would like to select a date for the ballot so that it can be discussed at Town Meeting. Waitkevitch stated that before anything can be decided the Board need engagement and feedback on the Study Committee's report. Foreman stated that he would like a presentation of the report as a public forum. Sheehan stated that the Board needs public input following the report. Waitkevitch stated that he would like to hear from the public and then have a Board discussion. Parker suggested that there could be a public forum on 10/7 and then the Board could meet following the public forum.

d. M.G.L. Chapter 53 §18B Foreman stated that he would like a public engagement session after the "red books" are mailed out so that the engagement session date can be on a flyer or booklet. He stated he would like to vote on both Chapter 53 and the date of the ballot at the next meeting.

e. Dates for Select Board Public Engagement Parker suggested the following dates for engagement sessions and meetings: 9/30/25 (meet following the release of the Override Study Committee report); Tri-Board 1st week in October; 10/4/27 Select Board public engagement; 10/7/25 Select Board meeting; 10/14/25 Select Board meeting; 10/20/25 public engagement following Town Meeting; 10/21 Select Board meeting. The Board will continue to discuss public engagement and refine the meeting schedule.

Agenda Item 12: October Town Meeting Calendar and Discussion Sheehan stated that he has been working on the warrant and will circulate it when it is complete.

Agenda Item 13: High School Building Project Parker announced that the high school building dedication is taking place on 9/27/25 at 10:00 and that the public is welcome to come and see the new building and grounds.

Agenda Item 14: Town Administrator's Report Sheehan stated that the auditorium window project is complete, the library renovation has been started in the youth room, Capital Committee is meeting to prepare for October Town Meeting, and that there is a tri-chair meeting this Friday.

Agenda Item 15: Non-Deliberative Announcements Parker announced that the 300th Anniversary parade will take place on 10/4/25 at 3:30 and the drone show will take place on 10/4/25 at 7:00. She stated that Town Day in on 9/20/25 and Recovery Fest is on 9/29.

Agenda Item 16: Adjourn Parker moved to adjourn. Pignone seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Timothy Waitkevitch
David Pignone
Ryan Foreman
Heidi Bilbo
Raymie Parker

Motion passes (5-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Dava Kilbride – Office Manager