

**Minutes - Open Session  
Stoneham Select Board  
Remote Meeting  
Tuesday, November 24, 2020  
7:00 p.m.**

**Open Session (Remote Access)**

**Members Present:** Chair Raymie Parker, Vice Chair Heidi Bilbo, Clerk George Seibold, Shelly MacNeill, Caroline Colarusso

**Also Present:** Town Administrator Dennis Sheehan

**Call to Order:** Parker 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: Open Meeting** Parker opened the remote meeting with roll call attendance.

**Agenda Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance**

**Agenda Item 3: Citizens' Comment** Kerri Burns of 124 Franklin Street, requested a meeting with Parker.

**Agenda Item 4: Public Hearing – Tax Plan Classification** Brian Macdonald, Director of Assessing, appeared on behalf of the Board of Assessors, to present information relevant to FY21 tax classification. Macdonald stated that the purpose of the hearing is to allow the Board to consider several options for tax shifts and exemptions and make a determination for the Town. The Board of Assessors recommended a CIP shift of 1.75 with a .9236 minimum residential factor. Colarusso asked what that recommendation would mean for single family home owners. Macdonald stated that the factor would result in an average tax increase of \$147/year for the single family home owners and an average tax increase of \$82/year for condominium owners. MacNeill moved to adopt a .9236 residential factor with a CIP shift of 1.75 as recommended by the Board of Assessors. Bilbo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Raymie Parker  
Heidi Bilbo  
George Seibold  
Shelly MacNeill

Voting against:

Caroline Colarusso

Motion Passes (4-1)

Macdonald discussed the residential exemption, stating that the intent is to allow property owners, domiciled in Stoneham, an exemption. He stated that with the vast of property owners domiciled in Stoneham, this would not be a recommended practice. MacNeill moved to not adopt a residential exemption. Bilbo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Raymie Parker  
Heidi Bilbo  
George Seibold  
Shelly MacNeill  
Caroline Colarusso

Motion Passes (5-0)

Macdonald next discussed the small business exemption stating that it decreases the assessed value of qualified commercial property by a percentage thereby shifting the tax burden to other commercial and industrial properties. Macdonald stated that the Board of Assessors does not recommend the adoption of this exemption. MacNeill moved not to adopt a small business exemption. Seibold seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Raymie Parker  
Heidi Bilbo  
George Seibold  
Shelly MacNeill  
Caroline Colarusso

Motion Passes (5-0)

The Board thanked Macdonald and the Board of Assessors for their hard work on the presentation and asked that it be placed on the Town's website.

**Agenda Item 5: Public Hearing – Site Plan – 54 Montvale Avenue** Bilbo read the notice of hearing. Charlie Houghton appeared for the petitioner and stated that the Board approved a Site Plan for Jumbo Storage 2 years ago and because of the significant amount of ledge and COVID restrictions, the developer is requesting a year extension to wrap up the project. Parker stated that the department head review was not completed and asked Houghton to outline the changes that the developer was requesting. Houghton stated that they are adding granite curbing, a side wall, rear fencing, and lighting. Seibold moved to approve the one year extension of the site plan with the approval of the department heads to each suggested change on the site plan. Sheehan stated that there is an issue of grading and resulting wall height and the zoning enforcement officer may need to make a ruling. Parker stated that the department heads need to review the changes as the Board's function is to review safety. Colarusso agreed stating that the process needed to be respected. MacNeill moved to approve the one year site plan extension and to

continue the hearing on any plan modifications to 12/5/20 at 6:00 p.m. Bilbo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Raymie Parker  
Heidi Bilbo  
George Seibold  
Shelly MacNeill  
Caroline Colarusso

Motion Passes (5-0)

**Agenda Item 6: Approve Minutes: 11/10/20** Bilbo moved to approve the minutes of 11/10/20. Seibold seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Raymie Parker  
Heidi Bilbo  
George Seibold  
Shelly MacNeill  
Caroline Colarusso

Motion Passes (5-0)

**Agenda Item 7: Meeting Dates 2021** Colarusso moved to amend the schedule as presented by striking the 4/20/21 meeting and inserting a 4/27/2021 meeting. MacNeill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Raymie Parker  
Heidi Bilbo  
George Seibold  
Shelly MacNeill  
Caroline Colarusso

Motion Passes (5-0)

Bilbo moved to change the time of the 12/15/20 meeting from 7:00 to 6:00 p.m. MacNeill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Raymie Parker  
Heidi Bilbo  
George Seibold  
Shelly MacNeill

Caroline Colarusso

Motion Passes (5-0)

**Agenda Item 8: Update on Budget Process** Sheehan stated that the Finance and Advisory Board would be requesting that the larger departments appear before them to discuss their budgets. MacNeill requested that Sheehan put together a COVID update and a budget update for the Town's newsletter.

**Agenda Item 9: Town Administrator's Report** Sheehan reported that Town Hall will be closed on Thanksgiving. He thanked Erin Wortman and Brett Gonsalves for putting together the information for the IT Community Compact Grant. MAPA awarded Stoneham the planning communication award for the census project. Sheehan stated that the SBC will be presenting the final option for the high school project on Monday. He stated that Erin Hull will be starting as the new health agent on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Agenda Item 10: Non-Deliberative Announcements** Parker announced that Socks for Seniors is still collecting socks; on 12/2 there is a drive through luncheon planned to replace the traditional holiday luncheon; Steve Angelo will be organizing a holiday parade for 12/12.

**Agenda Item 11: Adjourn** Colarusso moved to adjourn. Bilbo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in favor:

Raymie Parker  
Heidi Bilbo  
George Seibold  
Shelly MacNeill  
Caroline Colarusso

Motion Passes (5-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Dava Kilbride – Office Manager