

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2020**

In attendance were Chairman Carl F. Kowalski; Vice Chairman Daniel L. Salvucci; Clerk Brian J. Bezanson; Member Randolph G. LaMattina; Member Justin R. Evans; and Town Administrator Francis J. Lynam. Chairman Kowalski opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Kowalski read the following into the record:

In accordance with Governor Baker's March 12, 2020, Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c.30A, §20, this meeting is being held remotely in an on-line conference mode hosted on Zoom.com and members of the public are not able to physically attend. The meeting is being broadcast live on Comcast channel 12 and can be viewed via live stream at WHCA.tv. This meeting will be subsequently broadcast on YouTube.com.

Chairman Kowalski asked everyone to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by a moment of silence.

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve bill and payroll warrants. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to accept correspondence in the Read File. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve the Open Session minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, June 9, 2020. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve the Open Session minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, June 23, 2020. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve the Open Session minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, June 30, 2020. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve the Open Session minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, July 14, 2020. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve the Open Session minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, July 28, 2020. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

SCHEDULE MEETINGS/HEARINGS

Class II Auto Dealer's License Application: European Auto Sales, Inc.

Chairman Kowalski opened a public meeting in connection with the application of European Auto Sales, Inc. for a Class II Auto Dealers License on the premises located at 305 Temple Street. Andressa Correia Vieira advised the Board that her and her husband currently hold a Class II license at this location and are converting from a DBA to a corporation. Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve the application of European Auto Sales, Inc. for a Class II Auto Dealer's License on the premises located at 305 Temple Street. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

Farmer Series Pouring Permit Application: Old Colony Brewing, Inc.

Chairman Kowalski opened a public hearing in connection with the application of Old Colony Brewing, Inc. for a Farmer Series Pouring Permit on the premises located at 599 Washington Street. Present for the hearing were the applicant Dennis Nash, John and Crag Duval of Duval's Pharmacy, John Samuelson of John Russell Studio, Ed Joubert, property owner and Building Commissioner Robert Curran.

Mr. Nash advised the Board that this location will be the same set up that he currently runs from 605 Bedford Street. His plan is to continue to run a brewery from his current location. If approved, he will have a tap room and brewery at 599 Washington Street; and will forfeit his current pouring permit when he opens the new location.

When asked by Mr. Evans if he will have outdoor dining at the new location, Mr. Nash said no, he will serve 25 patrons or less inside per the current order of Governor Baker.

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve the application of Old Colony Brewing, Inc. for a Farmer Series Pouring Permit on the premises located at 599 Washington Street subject to the receipt of the mailing, advertising and license fees; final inspection/approval of the Building Commissioner, Fire Chief and Board of Health; and approval of the ABCC. **Second** Mr. Bezanson.

Mr. Joubert expressed concern with parking, considering this will be a 68-seat establishment.

John Duval stated that although he is happy with a very active center of town, there is a need for a quick turnover of parking spaces, especially when there is another large project being planned across the street. He went on to say that he wants everyone to be successful, but not at the expense of other businesses. Craig Duval and John Samuelson shared the same concerns.

Mr. Curran explained that the Town adopted the center of town as a mixed use overlay district which allows for apartments above businesses; and Mr. Nash was not required to appear before the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Mr. Nash noted that his request for 68 seats was based on seating at his current location and he realizes that Mr. Curran will set the actual occupancy limit. Mr. Curran stated that he does not feel there will be an issue with parking because of the hours Mr. Nash will be operating.

Mr. Joubert stated that he does not want his lot used for parking for this business.

Mr. Nash stated that parking will be addressed on his website.

Mr. Duval stated that other business owners will have no recourse if customers of the brewery park in front of their stores; and asked the Board for some type of relief.

Mr. Bezanson asked if a 30 minute parking limit should be considered. Mr. Lynam reminded the Board that this issue has been addressed three times in the last 18 years. Each time a proposal

was made to limit parking to 1 or 2 hours, most merchants were opposed to it. He also stated that a 30 minute parking limit serves no one.

Mr. Duval stated that he would not be opposed to a 2 hour parking limit before 5:00 p.m. Mr. Samuelson did not agree due to the fact that some of his clients may be at his place of business for more than 2 hours.

Mr. Salvucci noted that a lot of employees of the businesses in the center of town park on Washington Street as opposed to the town parking lot. He does not want to see any business kept from opening in the center of town and feels there has to be a reasonable solution.

Mr. Nash advised that he is not open before 5:00 p.m. His business hours are 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Thursday and Friday; noon to 10:00 p.m. Saturday; and noon to 8:00 p.m. Sunday. Because he has a full time job, he is generally not open weekdays except for special occasions such as St. Patrick's Day.

Mr. Samuelson stated that his employees park in front of his business.

Mr. Lynam stated that Town Hall employees have been instructed not to park in front of Town Hall; and suggested Mr. Samuelson consider asking his employees to park elsewhere. Parking spaces cannot be allocated for any particular business; therefore, everyone needs to work together. If parking becomes a problem, the Selectmen's office will work to find a solution.

Mr. Samuelson stated that he thinks it is unfair that his employees should have to walk a half mile to get to work. Mr. Lynam pointed out that his employees are actually taking parking spaces away from his customers. Mr. Samuelson also noted that he is open Monday through Friday until 8:00 p.m. and conceded that parking probably won't be much of an issue.

Chairman Kowalski asked for a vote in connection with the motion on the floor. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.** Chairman Kowalski advised everyone that going forward, any parking issues should be directed to the town administrator.

Common Victualler License Application: Old Colony Brewing, Inc.

Chairman Kowalski opened a public meeting in connection with the application of Old Colony Brewing, Inc. for a Common Victualler's License on the premises located at 599 Washington Street. Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve the application of Old Colony Brewing, Inc. for a Common Victualler's License on the premises located at 599 Washington Street subject to receipt of the license fee and final inspection/approval of the Building Commissioner and Board of Health. Second Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Update: COVID-19

Travel Policy

Mr. Lynam announced that in the wake of a travel policy recently issued by Governor Baker, a travel policy has been drafted and presented to all town departments and the members of the Board of Selectmen. Tonight he is asking the Board to vote to adopt the policy in order to ensure that we are doing our part in managing COVID-19.

Mr. Bezanson asked if there are exemptions for specific employees. Mr. Lynam told Mr. Bezanson that there are no exemptions – the policy applies to all employees.

Assistant Town Administrator Lisa Green advised the Board that she has researched testing and testing sites and found that it is difficult to navigate the sites and to make an appointment. In

addition, being tested 72 hours before you leave a state that you have traveled to is not feasible as most states require residency in order to be tested.

Mr. Lynam explained that an employee must provide notice of travel to the employer. The COVID-19 Cares Act contains a leave policy; however, the Governor's order and this policy take into consideration that it must be necessary travel.

Mr. Evans asked if an employee is allowed to use sick leave if they have to wait for test results or self-quarantine. Mr. Lynam stated use of sick leave is allowed.

Mr. Salvucci asked if working from home is allowed. Mr. Lynam said it is, however not all employees can do that.

A motion was made by Mr. LaMattina to move the question. **Second** Mr. Salvucci. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to adopt the Town of Whitman COVID-19 Travel Policy as presented. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

Town Hall

Mr. Lynam announced that all Town Hall employees are working a regular schedule and all town services are being delivered through alternative means such as online payments and mail-in voting. A drop box is located at the rear of Town Hall and appoints can be scheduled if necessary. A temperature scanning station has been installed inside the handicap entrance to Town Hall and everyone must enter through that entrance. Mr. Lynam has conducted a survey of surrounding towns and most are operating in the same fashion we are. A few towns have opened to the public but have an attendant at the door monitoring temperatures as people enter. Mr. Lynam suggested Town Hall remain closed until the schools open in order to avoid risking the chance of an employee getting sick because the current limitations were eliminated.

Mr. LaMattina asked if there are any services that are not being provided. Mr. Lynam stated the Passport Program has been eliminated and one person had difficulty obtaining a marriage license. Mr. Lynam spoke with the Town Clerk and she advised him that marriage licenses can be obtained by appointment on Tuesdays. Mr. LaMattina suggested leaving things as is if services are not being sacrificed. Mr. Salvucci agreed.

Mr. Evans asked about the State Primary Election and the early voting process. Mr. Lynam stated that this will be handled the same as the Annual Town Election was. There will be one entrance and one exit for those entering Town Hall to vote; and disinfecting will take place on a continual basis. Mr. Evans asked if employees will be working in the building during that time. Mr. Lynam advised the Board that the Town Clerk has recommended that all offices be closed during both the State Primary Election and the Presidential Election, with the exception of the Town Clerk's office which will be open for election purposes only.

It was the consensus of the Board that the Town Hall remain closed to the public.

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve the request of Town Clerk Dawn Varley to close Town Hall offices on Tuesday, September 1, 2020, and Tuesday, November 3, 2020, with the exception of the Town Clerk's office which will be open for election purposes only. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

Review Job Description for Town Administrator

Mr. Lynam asked the Board to review the job description for the Town Administrator for discussion at the next meeting.

Selection Process for Future Town Administrator

Mr. Lynam asked the Board members for their thoughts on using a search committee for hiring the next town administrator or hiring a vendor that will conduct a search for management personnel. Mr. LaMattina stated that he feels we have a strong enough board to choose a successor. He envisioned hiring a vendor that would conduct the search and present 3 to 5 candidates to the Board based on the qualifications that were set by the Board. Mr. Bezanson and Mr. Salvucci were in agreement. Mr. Lynam advised the Board that the initial interviews of the candidates would take place in Executive Session and interviews of the finalists would take place in Open Session. It was the consensus of the Board to hire a firm to conduct a search for a town administrator. Mr. Lynam suggested seeking proposals and then allowing the Board to decide which firm to engage.

Chairman Kowalski asked the Board members to review the job description in order to discuss it at the next meeting. Mr. Lynam agreed to prepare an invitation for proposals this week.

Retirement of Current Town Administrator

Mr. Lynam stated that he expects the process required for a consultant to present candidates to the Board to take up to a month or a month and a half. He will leave it up to the Board to determine how long they would like him to be available. Chairman Kowalski asked the Board members to consider this and to be prepared to discuss it at the next meeting.

BUDGET REVIEW

Mr. Lynam advised the Board that the Town has a budget however, DESE has not yet approve the WHRSD budget. We are continuing to utilize COVID funds; and SSVT and the WHRSD will require COVID related items. Mr. Lynam has asked the school districts to identify those items prior to reaching the end of Phase 2. Mr. Evans asked if a Phase 1 payment has taken place yet. Mr. Lynam advised that he spoke with a member of the Plymouth County Commissioners earlier today. One reimbursement is pending and a second one will be sent in this week as it is taking longer to audit requests.

NEW BUSINESS

Rescind Appointment: Patricia Redfern

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to rescind the appointment of Patricia Redfern from the position of Matron, effective July 1, 2020. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

License Renewal: Starr's Tarot Cards

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to renew the Fortune Teller's License for Starr's Tarot Cards on the premises located at 418 Bedford Street. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

State Primary Election Warrant

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve the request of Town Clerk Dawn Varley to sign the September 1, 2020, State Primary Election Warrant. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

MOA: Assistant Town Clerk Stipend

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve the Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Annual Stipend for the Assistant Town Clerk between the Town of Whitman and OPEIU, Local 6, signed on August 4, 2020. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

Temporary Employment Authorization: Town Clerk's Office

Mr. Lynam advised the Board of a vacancy in the Town Clerk's office. This is a union position that must be posted in house; however, due to the burden on the office with mail-in voting and two upcoming elections, the Town Clerk has asked for permission to fill the vacancy with a retired employee until after the November election. The union has agreed and the position will be posted after the election. Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to ratify the agreement between the Town of Whitman and OPEIU, Local 6, authorizing temporary employment in the Town Clerk's office due to an existing vacancy. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

COVID-19 Travel Policy

See Town Administrator's Report.

Regal Property Site Assessment

Assistant Town Administrator Lisa Green advised the Board that in 2017, Ransom Consulting performed an assessment of the site; however, there is more work to be done regarding the contamination of the site. Three years ago, the Town received a quote of \$63,900 to continue the assessment and the process was halted due to a lack of funding. Grant money has now become available to continue the assessment of the property and authorization of the Board is required to apply. Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to authorize Assistant Town Administrator Lisa Green to contact Ransom Consulting and request an updated proposal for additional assessment work required to identify the cost to clean up the regal Property site; and to apply for a site assessment grant through the MassDevelopment Brownfield Redevelopment Fund to fund the cost of the additional work. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

September Meeting Schedule

The Board set the September meeting schedule for Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday, September 22, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

CPA Ballot Question

After reviewing the language of the Community Preservation Act ballot question, Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to place the following ballot question on the November 3, 2020, State/Presidential Election ballot:

Shall the Town of Whitman accept sections 3 to 7, inclusive, of Chapter 44B of the General Laws, as approved by Whitman Town Meeting on July 27, 2020, a summary of which appears below?

Sections 3 through 7 of Chapter 44B of the Massachusetts General Laws, also known as the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act, provide a local option to establish a dedicated funding source for the (1) acquisition, creation and preservation of open space; (2) acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources; (3) acquisition, creation, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of land for recreational use; (4) acquisition, creation, preservation and support of community housing; and (5) rehabilitation or restoration of open space and community housing. Examples of open space and recreational properties include parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, drinking water supplies, and conservation areas. In Whitman, the Act will be funded by an additional surcharge of One Percent (1%) on the annual tax levy on real property to be assessed beginning in Fiscal Year 2022, which begins July 1, 2021, and by annual distributions from a state community preservation trust fund. Only communities that accept the Act receive a distribution from this state trust fund. The following will be exempt from the surcharge: (1) property owned and occupied as a domicile by any person who qualifies for low income housing or low or moderate income senior housing in Whitman, as defined in Section 2 of said Act; and (2) \$100,000 of the value of each taxable parcel of residential real property. Exemptions and abatements of real property will not be affected by this surcharge, and a taxpayer receiving such an abatement or exemption will also receive a prorated reduction of the surcharge. If accepted, a Community Preservation Committee composed of local citizens will be established to study local needs, possibilities, and resources and to make recommendations on the use of the funds, and all expenditures must be approved by Town Meeting. The Act will only take effect in Whitman if a majority of the voters voting on this question vote in the affirmative.

Second Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

Housing Production Plan

Mrs. Green reminded the Board of a grant received from the Old Colony Planning Council to develop a Housing Production Plan. She created a draft, which requires approval of both the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen, and submitted it to the Planning Board. After appearing before the Planning Board three times, the vote was to not recommend pursuing the Housing Production Plan. She has spoken with the Old Colony Planning Council and a request

for a waiver was made to Housing and Community Development. The request was denied; therefore, without approval from the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen, she cannot move forward with applying for grants for this plan.

Senior Work Program

Mr. Lynam advised the Board that the Council on Aging is closed as this is our most at-risk group. COA Director Mary Holland has made an effort to come up with opportunities for seniors and the Senior Work Program. She has submitted a proposal which will allow some seniors to work from home or in an outdoor environment at the Senior Center. Mr. Lynam recommended the Board permit the Council on Aging to utilize this limited operation plan. Mr. Salvucci asked if other departments can be asked if they are ready to return to using senior volunteers. Mr. Lynam stated that he is hesitant to do that as the seniors are the most vulnerable group we have. Mr. Bezanson agreed with Mr. Lynam and suggested the remainder of the program be postponed until January. Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to allow limited Senior Volunteer activity as outlined in “Operating Procedure – Whitman COA Workplace Volunteers” submitted by the Director of the Council on Aging. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

Energy Purchase Agreement

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to extend the Energy Purchase Agreement between the Town of Whitman and Constellation Energy, effective December 1, 2020, through December 1, 2021. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

Regional Assessment Process

Mr. LaMattina stated that the assessment method used by the schools has drastically affected Whitman and Hanson over the last 6 or 7 months and he would like a sense of the Board as to how to proceed on this issue. While there is nothing that points to actual malfeasance, at a January 29, 2018, meeting of the Regional Agreement Committee, a representative of MARS stated that he needed to meet with two district employees to deal with assessment issues. Two meetings took place with two former district employees where the statutory method was discussed and neither Whitman nor Hanson was aware of this. At a School Committee meeting last week, Fred Small asked for this to be looked into. Mr. LaMattina stated that he is not looking for financial reimbursement and this is not Whitman picking Hanson’s pockets. The process was flawed and Hanson benefited from it. He would like to hold a meeting with the Hanson Board of Selectmen and the School Committee to discuss moving forward with a third party investigation.

Mr. Bezanson agreed.

Mr. Salvucci stated that while he agrees we need to find out what took place, he feels the Board would be overstepping its bounds as this is something the School Committee should handle.

Mr. Evans stated that he would prefer to see both Boards of Selectmen and the School Committee work together.

Mr. LaMattina advised the Board that he sent an email to the gentleman from MARS who spoke at the January 29, 2018, meeting and asked if it was discussed that the statutory method needed to be inserted into the agreement in order to be compliant. He has not received a response yet.

Mr. Bezanson stated the School Committee voted 7-3 at its last meeting against pursuing this. Chairman Kowalski advised Mr. Bezanson that the vote was to table this issue. He also advised that he agrees with Mr. Salvucci that this is a School Committee issue; and he is hesitant to say that all three groups should meet on this issue. However, he also agrees with Mr. Evans. We have been clear since 2016-2017 on what we have wanted. In addition, there were several meetings of the Regional Agreement Committee that our Finance Committee chairman attended; therefore, he knew the statutory method existed and never told us.

Mr. Lynam stated that the information goes directly to the school district and there is no way to track who saw the document and when they saw it.

Chairman Kowalski agreed, and stated this goes back to Mr. Salvucci's point that this belongs with the School Committee.

Mr. Lynam stated that any questions would have to be answered by the former superintendent and former finance director.

Mr. Bezanson stated we are disputing \$4.5 million that bypassed the school Committee.

Chairman Kowalski disagreed, stating that this did not bypass the School Committee. We looked for an assessment each year and we got it. No one questioned it and our Town Meeting ratified it every year. We were not fully informed of what procedure should have been used. He pointed out that Mr. Salvucci was part of the Regional Agreement Committee as well and he should have known about this. He went on to say that he is not sure what good will come out of a meeting with the Hanson Board of Selectmen and the School Committee to have a report written of what happened when we already know what happened.

Mr. LaMattina stated that he does not think the current administration is responsible for any of this. We know the previous administration covered this up and we have the documents that were falsely filed. Ultimately, this will rebuild the partnership with the Town of Hanson. In addition, our citizens deserved to decide which method was used and they were not given that opportunity. Chairman Kowalski asked for the purpose of holding a meeting with the Hanson Selectmen and the School Committee.

Mr. LaMattina stated that we need to sit down and decide where we go from here, figure out what went wrong and make sure it does not happen again.

Chairman Kowalski noted that the chairman of the Hanson Board of Selectmen was amenable to a meeting before. He will reach out to him and ask if he is still interested.

Mr. Lynam advised the Board that if a meeting is held, it should be held in Open Session.

Chairman Kowalski agreed to contact the chairman of the Hanson Board of Selectmen and the chairman of the School Committee to set up a meeting on September 15th. If the meeting has to take place in Executive Session, it will have to be held when town counsel is available.

At 9:27 p.m. Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** in accordance with the M.G.L., Chapter 30A, Section 21a, (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.** Chairman Kowalski declared that having this meeting in Open Session will have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body. The meeting will reconvene in Open Session for the purpose of adjourning the meeting.

At 9:43 p.m. Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. Evans – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.**

Brian J. Bezanson, Clerk