



SELECT BOARD MEETING
Town of Southwest Harbor
Town Office & Via Zoom*
6:00 p.m. ~ Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Minutes

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Ball called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Chair Carolyn Ball, Vice Chair Natasha Johnson, Jim Vallette, George Jellison, Jr., Manager Marilyn Lowell, and Town Clerk Jennifer LaHaye. Luke Damon present Via Zoom.

A. Excused Absences None.

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** *Request of the Town Manager for a motion to adopt the agenda as presented.*

Johnson motioned to amend the agenda and remove the Conservation Commission. Seconded by Vallette Vote:3-2. Ball and Jellison nay.

Jellison does not agree with removing the discussion of the conservation commission as asked. He noted people had come out and attended the meeting to discuss this topic. Vallette would like to go through the proper channels, more information was presented by Jellison that was not in the Manager's packet. Damon expressed he would like to have access to the information that Jellison had provided.

Johnson motioned to amend the agenda to include Phyliss Acadia's appointment to the Solid Waste Task Force. Seconded by Vallette. Vote: 5-0-0.

4. **PUBLIC HEARING:**

A. Liquor License Renewal – Next Level Sports Lounge: *Request of The Next Level, LLC on behalf of Next Level Sports Lounge, 386 Main Street, SWH for an On-Premises Beer, Wine, and Spirits liquor license renewal.*

Johnson motioned to recommend approval of the application of The Next Level, LLC on behalf of Next Level Sports Lounge, 386 Main Street, SWH, for an On-Premises Beer, Wine, and Spirits liquor license. Seconded by Vallette Vote: 5-0-0.

- B. Special Amusement Permit – Next Level Sports Lounge:** *Request of The Next Level, LLC on behalf of Next Level Sports Lounge, 386 Main Street, SWH for a Class D - Special Amusement Permit.*

Johnson motioned to recommend approval of the application of The Next Level, LLC on behalf of Next Level Sports Lounge, 386 Main Street, SWH for a Class D Special Amusement Permit allowing one or more vocalist and/or instrumentalists with or without mechanical amplification. Seconded by Vallette. Vote: 5-0-0.

- C. Liquor License Renewal – The Claremont Hotel:** *Request of Claremont Hospitality, LLC on behalf of The Claremont Hotel, 22 Claremont Road, SWH for an On-Premises Beer, Wine, and Spirits liquor license renewal.*

Johnson motioned to recommend approval of the application of Claremont Hospitality, LLC on behalf of The Claremont Hotel, 22 Claremont Road, SWH, for an On-Premises Beer, Wine, and Spirits liquor license. Seconded by Vallette. Vote: 5-0-0.

- D. Special Amusement Permit – The Claremont Hotel:** *Request of Claremont Hospitality, LLC on behalf of The Claremont Hotel, 22 Claremont Road, SWH for a Class E – Special Amusement Permit.*

Johnson motioned to recommend approval of the application of Claremont Hospitality, LLC on behalf of The Claremont Hotel, 22 Claremont Road, SWH for a Class E Special Amusement Permit allowing one or more vocalists and/or instrumentalists with or without mechanical amplification. Seconded by Vallette. Vote: 5-0-0.

- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *Request of the Town Manager for a motion “to approve the minutes of....*

- A. March 28, 2023 – SB Meeting**

Johnson motioned to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2023 Select Board meeting. Seconded by Vallette. Vote 5-0-0.

- 6. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS:**

Town Payroll: W#0406, 0413
Trust & Agency: #W103, 104
Town Payables: W# 105

School Payroll: W# 101
School Payables: W#102
Conservation: W#0411

Jellison motion to approve the warrants as presented. Seconded by Johnson. Vote: 4-0-1. Damon abstained since he couldn't look at them.

7. APPOINTMENTS:

- A. Solid Waste Reduction Task Force:** *Request of Town Clerk to appoint Phyllis Acadia to the SWRTF for the remainder of a 1-year term ending February 1, 2024.*

Johnson motioned to affirm the appointment of Phyllis Acadia to the Solid Waste Reduction Task Force for the remainder of a 1-year term, such appointment, to be effective until February 1, 2024. Seconded by Vallette. 5-0-0.

- B. Interim CEO/LPI:** *Request of Town Manager to appoint Jesse Dunbar as Interim CEO & LPI.*

Johnson motioned appoint Jesse Dunbar as Interim CEO & LPI for term expiring June 30, 2023. Seconded by Vallette. Vote 5-0-0.

8. REGULAR BUSINESS:

- A. Climate to Thrive – Community Resilience Partnership:** *Request of Carolyn Ball to review and discuss results of the Community Actions List provided by Ms. Blackman.*

Vallette motioned to table to next meeting. Seconded by Johnson. Vote: 5-0-0.

Johnson wanted to confirm pushing it to the next meeting would not delay the process. Ball believed it would not.

- B. Conservation Commission/Maine Coast Heritage Trust/Chris' Pond:** *Request of George Jellison to discuss questions & aspects of the Chris' Pond Project.*

The Board census was to move the Conservation Commission/Maine Coast Heritage Trust/Chris' Pond to the 4.25.2023 Select Board meeting.

- C. Solar N Earth – Solar Farms – Community Solar Power:** *Request of Town Manager to discuss Solar Power savings.*

Manager Lowell presented information she gathered about Solar Farms and noted she had been speaking with several representatives. She supplied an overview of possible savings if the town were to enter a subscription. Lowell discussed other area town's entering these contracts. She advised there were possibly savings of \$4,500 a year. The rates would only change if Versant's rates changed. Johnson thanked Lowell for researching this and bringing more information to the Board. Johnson noted that she requested Beth Woolfolk from A Climate to Thrive to share further information on this topic. Woolfolk said she has had the opportunity to compare owning vs. subscribing. She said she would warn against signing a contract, she explained they are usually twenty-year contracts,

fixed rate off Versant. There is currently no inner connection agreement, which could take about eighteen to twenty years to get from the utility company. She notes there is so much equity that is lost, and you get less grid. Woolfolk noted her concern that the salesmen in the area didn't know about basic utilities in our area. Woolfolk suggested the town look into owning their own solar farm, and advised there are rebates if owning your own solar farm. With a subscription the town would not receive rebates or credits. Members of the Board wished to keep exploring options and continue to use A Climate to Thrive, and table until next meeting to further discuss then.

9. MANAGER REPORT: Please see attached report.

10. SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEXT MEETING: *No action will be taken, other than to place the requested item on the next agenda.*

- Bylaws – questions about process, and procedures, but does not need to be next meeting.
- Chris' Pond April 25th Location to be at the SWHFD.
- Café Dry Dock Liquor License Renewal.
- SWRTF – possible request coming for change of mission.
- Harbormaster Building for future meeting.

11. NEXT MEETING DATE: *Adoption of a motion to confirm the date of the next regular meeting for Tuesday, April 25th at 6:00 p.m.*

Johnson motioned to confirm the date of the next regular meeting for Tuesday, April 25th at 6:00p.m. at the Southwest Harbor Fire Station. Seconded by Vallette Vote: 5-0-0.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

Johnson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Vallette. Vote: 5-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer E. LaHaye
Town Clerk

APPROVED

Carolyn Ball, Chair

Natasha Johnson, Vice Chair

George Jellison, Jr.

James Vallette

Luke Damon