



**TOWN OF BILLERICA
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2022**

Members Present: Andrew Deslaurier, Michael Riley, Kimberly Conway, Michael Rosa, and John Burrows

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Town Manager John Curran, Assistant Town Manager Clancy Main, and Robert Mayne

Call to Order 7:00 PM at 365 Boston Road, Thomas Conway Hearing Room and Zoom

Chair Deslaurier stated that all members of the Board are present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1. Open Microphone

Carole Reardon of 18 Pinedale Ave – Ms. Reardon stated that there needs to be collective community youth services that are centralized like other towns have. There is nothing for our kids. Ms. Reardon thanked Chief Frost for help with one of her clients. Ms. Reardon also wanted to discuss the Cormier property. It is a nuisance property and is all sand. People have bonfires, ride their dirt bikes and ATVs and have parties. She contacted Chief Frost and he said he would monitor it, but she hopes it gets developed.

George Simolaris of 38 Andover Road – Mr. Simolaris stated he was on the Select Board in 2015 and the Board voted 4-1 to accept the Cormier land. There are now wetlands flags, and he wants to know if the land was donated how did it go back to the owner. He is also concerned with what will happen with the wildlife if it gets developed. We should fight to keep this property as undeveloped.

Kristina O’Shea of 5 Columbia Road – Ms. O’Shea stated that the Town needs to do something about the fees. We shouldn’t be charged for using the fields especially with the inflation. The last 2 years have been hard on the kids.

Meredith Level of 2 Dana Place – Ms. Level wanted to thank the BSAP for hosting a wiffle ball game for people in recovery. She would like to get the word out on the activities this committee is doing.

An unidentified woman stated that the families and kids are struggling.

2. Vacancies on Boards and Committees

Secretary Conway stated that the vacancies were address in items 5 and 6. There shouldn’t be a fee to use town fields. We need to look at the budgets of all the fields and how much it costs to maintain them versus what revenue is being brought in.

3. All other announcements may be viewed on the Town of Billerica website

Presentation

4. Billerica Youth Advisory Committee Update

Sean Furbush, Thomas Postell and Miranda Hodgkins appeared to give an update. The first presentation was on February 14, 2022, and this presentation would be considered an end of year report. Our main purpose is to provide feedback to town committees, provide new ideas and create civic engagement. Their recent activities include promoting voter registration, getting involved in substance use and abuse, look at creating an office of youth services, and they participated in Clean Up Green Up Day. The committee discussed future projects including a centralized space for youth to gather similar to Mill 5 in Lowell, looking at rezoning Iron Horse Park for youth activities, holding youth forms and information sessions.

Member Burrows stated that it has been a pleasure to work with the committee and wish the graduating seniors best of luck in the future and added that the remaining members should continue the good work.

Secretary Conway also offer congratulations and noted that the Select Board is 100% in support of this committee and hope it continues its great work.



**TOWN OF BILLERICA
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2022**

Member Rosa congratulated the committee and asked if they have any data on how many voter registrations were gathered. Mr. Postell replied that our target was underaged students, so we focused on pre-registrations. Member Rosa stated that it's great that you are getting involved with the substance abuse because it affects everyone including our youth.

Vice Chair Riley thanked the committee and suggested meeting with Town Meeting members as an additional resource.

Chair Deslaurier stated that this has been a great start and hopes that this can continue and have long term impacts for the better.

Select Board Appointments

5. Appointments that DO NOT Require Interviews:

a. Zoning Board of Appeals (2 Alternate Positions Open) – 1 Applicant

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to reappoint Ralph McKenna as alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

b. Cabot Land Re-Use Committee (2 SB Positions Open) – 0 Applicants

c. Community Preservation Committee (CPC) (1 SB Position Open) – 1 Applicant

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to appoint Matthew Battcock as a regular member of the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

d. Constable (Bonded) – 2 Reappointments

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to reappoint David C. Babineau as a bonded constable with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to reappoint Guy J. Gill as a bonded constable with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

e. Cultural Council (5 Positions Open) – 3 Applicants

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to appoint David Overton as a regular member of the Cultural Council with a term expiring on June 30, 2024. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to appoint Megan Wallace as a regular member of the Cultural Council with a term expiring on June 30, 2024. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to reappoint Bonnie Regan as a regular member of the Cultural Council with a term expiring on June 30, 2024. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

f. Financial & Compliance Audit Committee (2 SB Positions Open) – 0 Applicants

g. Historical Commission (3 Positions Open) – 1 Applicant

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to reappoint Travis Brown as a regular member of the Historical Commission with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.



**TOWN OF BILLERICA
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2022**

h. Historical District Commission (3 Regular, 3 Alternate Positions Open) – 2 Applicants

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to reappoint Mary McBride as a regular member of the Historical District Commission with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to reappoint John McKenna as a regular member of the Historical District Commission with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0

i. Middlesex Canal Commission (2 Open Positions) – 0 Applicants

j. Municipal Affordable Housing Trust (1 Open Position-Attorney) – 0 Applicants

k. Open Space and Recreation Committee (2 Open SB Positions) – 0 Applicants

l. Scholarship Foundation Committee (11 Open Positions) – 4 Applicants

Secretary Conway stated that the first 3 applicants have done a lot of work and a tremendous job on the Scholarship Committee and asked that more people get involved.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to reappoint Michael S. Rosa as a regular member of the Scholarship Foundation Committee with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Riley and unanimously voted 5-0.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to reappoint Lawrence Norman as a regular member of the Scholarship Foundation Committee with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to reappoint Darlene Torre as a regular member of the Scholarship Foundation Committee with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to appoint Sean Furbush as a regular member of the Scholarship Foundation Committee with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

m. Traffic Management Committee (4 Open Positions) (Center, West, North, Pinehurst) – (2) 1 Applicant for Center, 1 Applicant for North

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to reappoint John Gagliardi as a regular member of the Traffic Management Committee for the center with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to reappoint Joseph Fiumara as a regular member of the Traffic Management Committee for the north with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

n. Water/Sewer Oversight Board (2 Open Positions) – 0 Applicants

6. Appointments that Require Interviews:

a. Zoning Board of Appeals – (1 Regular Positions Open) – 3 Applicants

Eric Anable – Mr. Anable stated that he was an alternate for 3 years and only missed 1 meeting. He would like to become a regular member.



**TOWN OF BILLERICA
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2022**

Member Rosa asked what you would consider to grant a variance. Mr. Anable stated that he would look at the need of the homeowner or business owners and what the abutters have to say because the abutters should have a lot of say. If there is a large opposition he would lean toward the opposition. Sometimes you have to get the two parties together. Member Rosa stated that it not the way in went with 279 Boston Road.

Secretary Conway asked what you would do to get up to speed. Mr. Anable stated that he would go to as many meetings as possible

Tania Rodriquez – Ms. Rodriquez stated that she has lived in Billerica since 2010 and has been attending a lot of meetings. She is an auditor in her job, so she understands following requirements.

Member Rosa asked what you would consider to determine a variance. Ms. Rodriquez stated that she would need to review the bylaw before answering. Member Rosa asked if she knows what the roll of a ZBA member would be. Ms. Rodriquez replied not that much.

Secretary Conway asked how you would learn the position. Ms. Rodriquez stated that she would ask a lot of questions and read a lot of documents.

Salvatore Dampolo was not present. Chair Deslaurier stated that it has been the past practice that members need to be in attendance to be appointed when there are more applicants than open positions.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to appoint Eric Anable to the position of regular member of the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Burrows and voted 4-1. Member Rosa voted against.

Mr. Curran stated that he is concerned because the decision for a variance with the ZBA is very simple. It is based on the law and a variance requires them to prove there is a hardship with topography, shape or size of the lot, that's it and if someone wants a house or who is in the audience should not be a factor.

b. Commission on Disability – (2 Regular Positions Open) – 4 Applicants

Doreen Healy – Ms. Healy asked what seats are open for this committee. She works with kids with disabilities and has a son and a husband that is disabled.

Member Rosa asked what you would like to facilitate if appointed. Ms. Healy stated that the walkways at Town Hall and the Police Station were not safe. She contacted Bob and he fixed them quickly, but she would like the Town to do better for all people with disabilities.

Member Burrows stated that he knows that Ms. Healy has worked with children and a lot of the disabilities are not physical. Ms. Healy stated that the playgrounds are not accessible, whether it be sensory or handicap accessible and she would like to make the community better for all.

Ray Ellis was not present.

Danielle Mirisola appeared via Zoom – Ms. Mirisola stated that she has been in the Human Service industry for 17 years. She works at TILL in behavior therapy. She would be considered to have a family member who is disabled.

Member Rosa asked what the focus points would be. Ms. Mirisola stated that the change populations needs is varying greatly. Autism is the most prominent disability, and we need more sensory friendly playground and events.

Maria Martin – Ms. Martin stated that she is the secretary to the commission, and they have done some good things and she wishes to continue. She agrees that disability is more than just physical. She has offered her services to High School and Council on Aging for blind residents.



**TOWN OF BILLERICA
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2022**

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to appoint Doreen Healy to the position of a regular member on the Commission on Disability with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and voted 4-1. Secretary Conway voted against.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to appoint Danielle Mirisola to the position of a regular member on the Commission on Disability with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Burrows and voted 2-3. Secretary Conway, Vice Chair Riley and Chair Deslaurier voted against.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to appoint Maria Martin to the position of a regular member on the Commission on Disability with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

c. Conservation Commission – (2 Regular Positions Open) – 3 Applicant

Jeff Connell – Mr. Connell stated that he’s been on the Conservation Commission for 6 years and would like to continue. We have a well-balanced board.

Vice Chair Riley stated that we have a more restrictive bylaw than the State and would you ever revert back to the state. Mr. Connell replied no, there is always the opportunities for back and forth but it has to comply with the bylaw.

Diana DePaso – Ms. DePaso stated that she is a long term member of the board and would like to stay on. The have a good working relationship with all members and staff.

Vice Chair Riley stated that we have a more restrictive bylaw than the State and would you ever revert back to the state. Ms. DePaso stated that there is a variance process but overall we work with both sides and apply the law.

James Ciccone was not present.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to appoint Jeff Connell to the position of a regular member on the Conservation Commission with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to appoint Diana DePaso to the position of a regular member on the Conservation Commission with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

d. Council on Aging (2 Regular, 3 Alternate Positions Open) – 2 Applicants for Regular and 4 Applicants for Will Accept Either

John Pellegrino – Mr. Pellegrino stated that he has been in town for over 50 years and has been part of the Council on Aging for about 4 or 5 years and would like to stay on.

Barbara Flaherty via Zoom – Ms. Flaherty stated that she has been on the Council on Aging for about 8 or 9 years and is very active. She has been president for 3 terms and would like to stay on because its an exciting time with the feasibility study started.

Jerry Johnson – Mr. Johnson stated that he is interested in helping the Council on Aging.

Marguerite Massey – Ms. Massey stated that she has lived in Billerica for 30 years and has been volunteering at the COA for the last 3 years by doing ARPA taxes.

Jacob Macintosh was not present.

Mary Jones – Ms. Jones stated that she is at the COA 4 to 5 times a week and she has time to help. The best thing she has is time and she is willing to commit that time to the Council on Aging.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to appoint John Pellegrino as a regular member of the Council on Aging with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.



**TOWN OF BILLERICA
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2022**

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to appoint Barbara Flaherty as a regular member of the Council on Aging with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to appoint Jerry Johnson as an alternate member of the Council on Aging with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to appoint Marguerite Massey as an alternate member of the Council on Aging with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to appoint Mary Jones as an alternate member of the Council on Aging with a term expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

Old Business

7. Town Manager's Report

Mr. Curran presented the report.

- ARPA Payments. The payments will be paid after July 1, 2022. The cost is about \$377,500

Vice Chair Riley asked if the payments will go out right after the start of the fiscal year. Mr. Curran replied yes.

Secretary Conway thanked all town employees who kept the town moving forward during COVID whether they are getting ARPA money or not.

Member Rosa asked if employees that worked part-time or split shifts were not eligible for the ARPA funds. Mr. Curran replied that they received their full pay even though they were only working part-time. Member Rosa asked what if they had essential employee letters. Mr. Curran stated that everyone in Town worked at some level during the pandemic and you can't give the money to everyone. Member Rosa would like a list of employees who are getting the ARPA funds. Public Safety personnel responded to people's houses. The employees of the Wastewater Department were exposed to the waste. Mr. Curran stated that there is no scientific evidence that you can catch COVID through waste and the workers were working a split shift so were essentially being paid full time and only working part-time.

Member Rosa also thanked all the employees of the Town.

- Peggy Hannon Rizza Complex. The project is moving forward and the soil blending is complete. The curbing is being installed and the net foundation is going in. Billerica Youth Football is asking for a 3rd container. They are looking at their request.

Secretary Conway asked if the PHR and Howe School are on schedule. Mr. Curran replied yes.

Chair Deslaurier asked what is the next step. Mr. Curran stated that they are installing the curbing for the turf fields and they will be spreading out the soil.

- Howe School. The inside is moving along and starting to take shape.

Member Rosa stated that he would like to tour the Howe School.

- Vining School. The project is in the punch list phase. They hope to have it closed out by July.

Vice Chair Riley asked if the field will be mowed. Mr. Main stated that they will be mowing the area before the fence comes down.

Member Rosa asked if the lights are included in this. Mr. Curran replied no, the lights are a different project and will be going out to bid.

Member Burrows asked if the fence is removed, will there be a natural barrier added. Mr. Curran replied yes.



**TOWN OF BILLERICA
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2022**

- Town Hall/Library Chiller. The Town Hall chiller should be installed the week of July 18th and the library chiller will be out to bid in summer.
- Masonic Hall. PRA is working on the plan to go out to bid.
- DPW Building. The land swap legislation is working its way through the State Senate and when that is completed they will move forward with the OPM RFQ.

Member Rosa asked if this will have to go through the House also. Mr. Curran replied yes.

- Market Basket Closing & Renovation. The center store closed on Saturday but they are moving forward with the renovations at the Pinehurst location.

Vice Chair Riley stated that he was told that the Market Basket will not close during renovations which is a good thing.

Secretary Conway stated that she knows some people are upset with the closing of the center Market Basket but we had three. She thanked Market Basket for finding homes for all the employees and they have been great community members.

- Neighborhood Meetings. The neighborhood meetings will be this week and the meeting at Town Hall on Wednesday will have a Zoom option.

Secretary Conway stated that she is glad these are starting up again and is glad there is at least one remote option.

Member Rosa is glad that these are starting up again.

Chair Deslaurier stated that the neighborhood meetings are a chance for residents to get their questions answered by the source and not what is on social media which may not be correct. What are the dates of the meetings? Mr. Maynard replied the first is June 14th at the Hajjar, the second is on June 15th at Town Hall with a Zoom option and the final one is on June 16th at the Ditson. All the meetings are at 7:00 PM.

- Talbot Mill Meeting. We have received additional paperwork from Streamworks and they recommend additional studies are needed to assess the impacts and feasibility study of removing the dam. Billerica has only one water intake, so another intake would be needed or a alternative water supply.

Vice Chair Riley asked if there will be a public hearing on the Talbot Mills. Mr. Curran replied he was not sure, there is the public information session next week.

Secretary Conway stated that removing the Talbot Mills makes her very nervous and more information is needed.

Member Rosa asked if there is a push for a 2nd access point. Mr. Curran replied yes. We would want one near the Water Treatment Plan or connect to the MWRA.

- Cormier Property. An email was included from June 20, 2015 that summarizes what happened with the property. The Select Board voted to accept the land donation but the property had title issues that needed to be cleared up before the Conservation Commission would accept it. The owner never resolved the issues so it wasn't pursued. The Town does not own the property.

Secretary Conway stated that there is a lot of misinformation out on social media about this project.

8. Water and Sewer Rates – Second Reading – Possible Vote

Mr. Curran stated that at the last meeting they had the first reading. Doug Gardner and DPW Director Fred Russell are on Zoom for questions. They are proposing a 3% water increase and a 7% sewer increase. These increases will allow the Town to keep up with the capitol improvement plan.

Member Rosa stated that there are thousands of meters, he was told almost 50%, not functioning and estimated bills were sent out until the meters were replaced. The Town has been collecting the revenue of the delta between the



**TOWN OF BILLERICA
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2022**

estimated and actual bills for a year and half. He was given estimated bills averaging \$48.48 and then was hit with an actual bill of \$679.92 after the meter was replaced. His bill now is \$39.72. The meters at the Water Treatment Plant are not working properly and in 2020, there was 28% of unaccounted for water. It's now under 10% but that is still a lot. With the economic times we are in, we need to help the residents and not increase the water rates by 3%

Secretary Conway asked if 50% of defective meters were accurate. Mr. Curran replied no, it was around 1700 to 2200. Also saying they were not working and there is lost revenue is not true. This is not a source of unfunded revenue. Unaccounted for water is a different subject and has nothing to do with billing. We need to maintain retained earnings of \$1 Million dollars. If we don't raise the 3% this year, it will be more of hit next year. We need to collect the revenue to keep the system running. Inflation affects the cost of the chemicals to maintain the water. We are raising the rates to follow the capital improvement plan. All the projects have to be paid for and if not, then it will affect our bond rating. Secretary Conway asked to explain the difference between estimated and actual bills. Mr. Curran stated that typically the estimated bill is lower than the actual. They take the average over the last three years and estimate the quarterly bill. There are a few cases were residents paid more but that was not the normal. Secretary Conway stated that we need to be fiscally responsible. There was a time where we went 10 years without raising the fees because people were running for election. Then the residents were hit with 40% increases. That is not being responsible and we need to pay for what the residents voted on.

Member Burrows asked if the estimated bills were on the same schedule as regular bills. Mr. Curran replied yes. Member Burrows understands the need to increase the sewer rate with all the approved projects but the water increase is tough for him. Mr. Curran added that we did not increase water or sewer last year due to COVID to help the residents out.

Vice Chair Riley stated that it is the responsible choice to vote for an increase. We need to pay for the services that are provided to the residents.

Member Rosa asked if there was any new debt for the water. Mr. Gardner replied there is no new debt for water but there is an increase of operating costs.

Chair Deslaurier asked if we did not vote to increase, what would be the result next year. Mr. Gardner replied it would be more than normal but he couldn't give a percentage. Chair Deslaurier asked what percentage of residents are under 2,000 CF. Mr. Gardner stated that less than 1/3 of residents are using 0-2,000 cubic feet.

Mr. Russell stated that we do expect some new water debt soon. Mr. Curran stated that CIP went back and they are going to look at the cost of cleaning and rehabbing the pipes instead of replacing pipes.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to increase the water rates for FY2023 as follows:

In Town Water Rates – Per 100 CF (Consumption to All Users – Tri-Annual)

0-2,000 CF	\$3.28
2,001 – 10,000 CF	\$4.17
Over 10,000 CF	\$5.41

Out of Town Water Rates – Per 100 CF (Consumption to All Users – Tri Annual)

0-2,000 CF	\$4.21
2,001 – 10,000 CF	\$5.44
Over 10,000 CF	\$6.55

The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Riley and voted 4-1. Member Rosa voting against.



**TOWN OF BILLERICA
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2022**

Member Rosa stated that the sewer has a lot of upcoming debt so it is different than water. On the last slide it says that the sewer main is \$14 Million but we applied over \$2.9 Million in ARPA funds, this number should be reduced. Mr. Curran stated that it was reduced in the calculation. Mr. Gardner stated that it was reduced in the calculation and this slide is for information purposes only. Mr. Curran added that Weston and Sampson is looking at other funds that may be available to fund some of this debt.

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to increase the sewer rates for FY2023 as follows:

In Town Water Rates – Per 100 CF (Consumption to All Users – Tri-Annual)

0-2,000 CF	\$5.15
2,001 – 10,000 CF	\$5.99
Over 10,000 CF	\$8.98

Out of Town Water Rates – Per 100 CF (Consumption to All Users – Tri Annual)

0-2,000 CF	\$6.02
2,001 – 10,000 CF	\$11.74
Over 10,000 CF	\$18.17

The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Riley and unanimously voted 5-0.

9. Building Rental Fees – Discussion and Possible Vote – Requested by Member Burrows

Member Burrows stated that the schools should not charge community groups to use the High School. The School Department uses the Town Hall for their retreats at no cost to them. They use town employees to setup and clean up and disturb Town Hall departments. The School Committee had a big sales pitch that there would be no fees for youth sports in town and it was not held true. The Substance Awareness committee were charged \$600 for having an event to help the students.

Member Rosa stated that Member Burrows raises valid points and something needs to be done. The School is taking advantage. The Town and the School should not charge each other and a volunteer organization should not be charged. Member Rosa asked that Mr. Curran and the Superintendent meet to come to an agreement that is beneficial to both sides.

Mr. Curran stated that we do pay a lot to the schools for elections. From 2015 to 2021, we paid \$76,000 to the schools for elections. The Recreation Department paid \$7,900 in 2022 and \$8,500 in 2020. This is not the biggest financial problem with the Town and is not a high priority. This is generating a lot of animosity. If the School is to cover the costs of the janitors, then they would have to increase their budget. The Recreation Department has a revolving fund and the fees get paid out of that.

Vice Chair Riley stated that he is concerned of what would get cut if they pay for custodians. He likes the suggestion of Mr. Curran working with the Superintendent.

Secretary Conway stated that this should be discussed and tied into next year’s budget so the amounts could be factored in properly.

Member Burrows asked how much money has the School given to the Town for all their retreats, meeting, etc that have been held at Town Hall. Mr. Curran stated that they have not paid anything because we don’t charge for custodial staff but the School has paid \$4,500 to use the tennis courts. Member Burrows wants to know how many times the School has used the Buck Auditorium. The budget for the school has increased but their responsibility for maintaining facilities has shrunk.



**TOWN OF BILLERICA
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2022**

MOTION - Member Burrows made a motion that the Town adopt a building use rental fee policy to mirror the School Department. The motion was not seconded and ruled out of order by the Chair.

Chair Deslaurier stated that the Town Manager sets building fees, not the Select Board. Mr. Curran stated that he will work with the Superintendent and work this issue out in the next budget cycle to address the equity issue.

10. Talbot Mills Dam Removal Update

Mr. Curran stated that he did address some of this in the Town Manager's Report but there is a letter from Woodard and Curran in the package and the last paragraph is the important one. A second water supply is needed or an alternate source of water is needed. If the culverts draining into the river are not cleaned, they could release contamination into the water source. It was also noted that this is also a historic site.

Secretary Conway asked what is the push to remove the dam. Mr. Curran stated that the Town does not own the dam and the private owner probably doesn't want the liability.

Member Rosa asked what leverage do we have if it is privately owned. Mr. Curran stated that if it is in the public interest to remain, there may be someone else who would be responsible. He will look at what future steps can be taken.

New Business

11. Discussion of Land Donation by Yvon Cormier – From August 03, 2015 Select Board Meeting – Requested by Member Burrows

Member Burrows stated that he had several people asking about this property and who dropped the ball. Mr. Curran stated that the property owner decided not to fix the title issues and did not move forward with the land donation. The title was not clear and the owner did not do due diligence so Conservation never acted on this. The owner also came back and wanted to take a portion of the property they wanted to donate and make a cul-de-sac for a subdivision they wanted to build. The Town has never owned the land and is not responsible. The owner is currently before the Planning Board for a subdivision.

Vice Chair Riley stated that it is clear in the emails provided that Marlies Henderson kept asking for the information and never received it. The developer did not follow through.

12. First Reading of Revised Policy 39 – Naming of Memorial Square, Memorial Island and Parks, Playgrounds, Fields, Town Buildings and Rooms in Town Buildings

Chair Deslaurier stated that at the last meeting, he asked that the "Mike's" get together and work on a policy.

Vice Chair Riley stated that he was waiting on Member Rosa and apparently Member Rosa was waiting for him. Either way, we have both submitted policies. They are similar but his is briefer and to the point.

Member Rosa stated that he took the existing and expanded it to include fields, parks, town buildings and rooms in town buildings. He also added a section to deal with renaming existing named items.

Secretary Conway stated that both are similar but the shorter one has a 30 day public input section, which she did not mind.

Member Burrows stated that his only problem with 30 days of public input is there's a lot of stuff that goes on social media, so maybe it should be cut in half.

Chair Deslaurier doesn't like the residency requirement of 25 years. Vice Chair Riley agreed, if they live here for 24 years and then move out they couldn't be considered. Member Rosa stated that he could add 10 years unless for the Select Board decide there is a compelling reason. Chair Deslaurier stated that we should also look at the comment period. Member Rosa stated that the name could be submitted at a one meeting and then voted on at the next meeting, similar to what we do with our regulations.



**TOWN OF BILLERICA
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2022**

Member Burrows stated that it all should be at the discretion of the Board.

Member Rosa stated that this could be considered the first reading and then we can come back for a vote at the next meeting.



**TOWN OF BILLERICA
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2022**

Chair Deslaurier stated that Ed Giroux's mother has passed away and our thoughts go out to the Giroux family. A moment of silence was held.

Meeting Schedule – June 21, 2022 (Zoom Only) and July 18, 2022

MOTION - Secretary Conway made a motion to adjourn the June 13, 2022 Select Board meeting at 10:15 PM. The motion was seconded by Member Rosa and unanimously voted 5-0.

*Respectfully Submitted by Dawn McDowell,
Recording Secretary*



**TOWN OF BILLERICA
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2022**

Exhibits for the Select Board Meeting – June 13, 2022

1. ***Open Microphone*** – No Exhibits

Announcements

2. ***Vacancies on Boards and Committees*** – No Exhibits
3. ***All other announcements may be viewed on the Town of Billerica Website*** – No Exhibits

Presentation

4. ***Billerica Youth Advisory Committee Update*** – PYAC Update dated June 6, 2022

Select Board Appointments

5. ***Appointments that DO NOT Require Interviews:***
 - a. Zoning Board of Appeals (2 Alternate Positions Open) – 1 Application
 - b. Cabot Land Re-Use Committee (2 SB Positions Open) – No Exhibits
 - c. Community Preservation Committee (CPC) (1 SB Position Open) – 1 Application
 - d. Constable (Bonded) – 2 Applications
 - e. Cultural Council (5 Open Positions Open) – 3 Applications
 - f. Financial & Compliance Audit Committee (2 SB Positions Open) – No Exhibits
 - g. Historical Commission (3 Positions Open) – 1 Applicant
 - h. Historical District Commission (3 Regular, 3 Alternate Positions Open) – 2 Applicants
 - i. Middlesex Canal Commission (2 Open Positions) – No Exhibits
 - j. Municipal Affordable Housing Trust (1 Open Position-Attorney) - No Exhibits
 - k. Open Space and Recreation Committee (2 Open SB Positions) – No Exhibits
 - l. Scholarship Foundation Committee (11 Open Positions) – 4 Applications
 - m. Traffic Management Committee (4 Open Positions) (Center, West, North, Pinehurst) – (2) 1 Application for Center, 1 Application for North
 - n. Water/Sewer Oversight Board (2 Open Positions) – No Exhibits
6. ***Appointments that Require Interviews:***
 - a. Zoning Board of Appeals – (1 Regular Positions Open) – 3 Applications
 - b. Commission on Disability – (2 Regular Positions Open) – 4 Applications
 - c. Conservation Commission – (2 Regular Positions Open) – 3 Applications
 - d. Council on Aging (2 Regular, 3 Alternate Positions Open) – 2 Applications for Regular and 4 Applications for Will Accept Either

Old Business

7. ***Town Manager's Report*** - Town Manager's Report dated 06/10/22
8. ***Water and Sewer Rates.*** – FY2023 Billerica Water and Sewer Rates Presentation dated 06/06/22
9. ***Building Rental Fees*** – School Building Use Rental Fees
10. ***Talbot Mills Dam Removal Update*** – Memo from Woodard & Curran dated 04/15/22, Memo from Streamworks dated 04/15/22

New Business

11. ***Discussion of Land Donation by Yvon Cormier – From August 03, 2015 Select Board Meeting – Requested by Member Burrows*** – Excerpt from SB Minutes of 08/03/15, Emails from J. Curran dated 06/20/2017
12. ***First Reading of Revised Policy 39 – Naming of Memorial Square, Memorial Island and Parks, Playgrounds, Fields, Town Buildings and Rooms in Town Buildings*** – Draft revised policy #39 submitted by M. Rosa, Draft revised policy #39 submitted by M. Riley

Meeting Schedule – No Exhibits

Approved On: July 18, 2022