

# Selectboard Meeting

October 21, 2025 . 6:27 PM . ID: 233643381

## Transcript

00:01 - 00:07

**Selectboard Office**

This conference will now be recorded, you know, well, there's no laws we don't have to record it.

00:07 - 00:08

**Selectboard Office**

Oh, that we didn't record.

00:08 - 00:08

**Selectboard Office**

Yes.

00:08 - 00:09

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah.

00:09 - 00:15

**Selectboard Office**

And he actually apparently complained to Up to the.

02:30 - 02:31

**Selectboard Office**

All.

02:31 - 02:31

**Dave**

Right.

02:31 - 02:32

**Selectboard Office**

It's 30.

02:36 - 02:39

**Selectboard Office**

Was ever on the phone it's a little bit on the noisy.

02:39 - 02:39

**Dave**

Side.

02:39 - 02:42

**Selectboard Office**

Do you mind meeting yourself at star.

02:42 - 02:42

**Dave**

Six.

02:50 - 02:57

**Selectboard Office**

Okay, just kind of a quieter, okay, thank you So whatever you did, thank you.

03:01 - 03:09

**Selectboard Office**

All right, so first thing on the agenda is a little excitement we get to open Bids for the woodpeck eating system.

03:10 - 03:14

**Selectboard Office**

We in fact only have one bid So go to shock.

03:16 - 03:17

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah.

03:22 - 03:28

**Selectboard Office**

Comes with a check for \$4 ,299.45.

03:28 - 03:29

**Selectboard Office**

Why don't they pay us?

03:31 - 03:51

**Selectboard Office**

Okay, that seems kind of weird yeah, I knew there was a fee so anyway, the bid is from David Warner burner service incorporated, which are the people that were here and helped us with the research on this, and the price \$85 ,989.

03:54 - 03:55

**Selectboard Office**

Say the price again.

03:57 - 04:00

**Selectboard Office**

\$85 ,989.

04:05 - 04:07

**Selectboard Office**

That's basically it.

04:08 - 04:22

**Selectboard Office**

Other than the description, Um, Peggy recommended that we assume you guys are okay and want to accept the bid that we accepted conditional on rep checking references and he does provide references.

04:24 - 04:26

**Selectboard Office**

So does he deal with us?

04:27 - 04:28

**Selectboard Office**

Any other capacity?

04:28 - 04:31

**Selectboard Office**

I don't know if you can probably say that again.

04:32 - 04:33

**Selectboard Office**

Does he deal with us?

04:33 - 04:35

**Selectboard Office**

David Warner is the guy that maintains all our boards.

04:35 - 04:36

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, okay, okay.

04:36 - 04:38

**Selectboard Office**

So we do actually do, yeah.

04:38 - 04:42

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, we work with him a lot, and he's a good guy.

04:43 - 04:43

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, yeah.

04:47 - 04:51

**Selectboard Office**

Anybody online have any questions about this?

04:55 - 04:57

**J.P. Welch**

It's JP, I do.

04:57 - 04:59

**J.P. Welch**

What building is this for?

05:00 - 05:02

**Selectboard Office**

This is for fire and police.

05:04 - 05:09

**Selectboard Office**

We're replacing their oil fired boiler with a wood fire wood pellet boiler.

05:11 - 05:16

**Selectboard Office**

And we got a plan a big chunk of it if not all.

05:16 - 05:17

**J.P. Welch**

Okay.

05:19 - 05:24

**Selectboard Office**

I think actually it's all isn't it i think so yeah i think it's all of it yeah.

05:28 - 05:52

**Selectboard Office**

So kind of a win-win so there'll be a uh a little silo thing you know for the wood pellets next to the fire department that feeds it's auto it's an auto feed then yep anybody want to make a motion i move we accept the bid from David Warner Burner Service for our wood pellet heating system at the Fires Left Police Station.

05:52 - 05:53

**Selectboard Office**

I second.

05:55 - 05:57

**Selectboard Office**

Any other questions or discussion?

06:01 - 06:02

**Selectboard Office**

All in favor?

06:02 - 06:02

**Selectboard Office**

Aye.

06:03 - 06:03

**Selectboard Office**

Aye.

06:03 - 06:03

**Selectboard Office**

Okay.

06:04 - 06:04

**Selectboard Office**

Cool.

06:04 - 06:05

**Selectboard Office**

Is Peggy not going to be here?

06:05 - 06:06

**Selectboard Office**

She's not.

06:06 - 06:08

**Selectboard Office**

He has had some important writing today.

06:08 - 06:08

**Selectboard Office**

Okay.

06:12 - 06:13

**Selectboard Office**

So next.

06:13 - 06:15

**Dave**

Up...

06:15 - 06:16

**Dave**

So, Charlie.

06:17 - 06:18

**Selectboard Office**

So.

06:21 - 06:22

**Dave**

Yeah, it's Mike Don Diego.

06:22 - 06:25

**Dave**

I'm not sure how good my call quality is.

06:25 - 06:27

**Dave**

I'm driving home from Pittsfield.

06:28 - 06:29

**Selectboard Office**

You're crystal clear.

06:29 - 06:29

**Dave**

No problem.

06:31 - 06:31

**Dave**

Okay.

06:33 - 06:37

**Dave**

Yeah, so there's some associated stuff we have to do.

06:37 - 06:41

**Dave**

I was starting to work with Peg on it.

06:41 - 06:49

**Dave**

It's kind of related to getting the old furnace out of there and the old oil tank out of the ground, etc.

06:50 - 06:50

**Dave**

Yes.

06:50 - 07:16

**Dave**

I found some information, sent that along to Peggy, a person at the DEP that we have to coordinate getting the tank out, right, pulling the fuel out, maybe giving the fuel to whoever the highway department or another town building, and then the following steps to get the whatever inspections and tank removal.

07:16 - 07:18

**Dave**

Et cetera, taken care of.

07:19 - 07:24



**Dave**

And we can coordinate that with the contact that I got at the DEP.

07:26 - 07:28

**Dave**

So it's just some other follow-up kind of related.

07:29 - 07:38

**Dave**

It would be great if we could get the tank out of the way before David and company have to start putting in the pad for the silo, et cetera?

07:41 - 07:41

**Selectboard Office**

Well.

07:41 - 07:43

**Dave**

We'll see how that timing works out.

07:44 - 07:51

**Selectboard Office**

Right, and Peggy did say they are putting the silo, it's not gonna be right on top of the tank.

07:51 - 07:54

**Selectboard Office**

So if you can't get the tank out first, it's okay.

07:59 - 08:00

**Selectboard Office**

Still there?

08:04 - 08:06

**Selectboard Office**

Oops, you're cutting out.

08:06 - 08:08

**Selectboard Office**

Did you hear that, Mike?

08:15 - 08:18

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, we're only getting a word here and there.

08:25 - 08:25

**Dave**

Well, right.

08:25 - 08:35

**Dave**

The only other piece of that discussion was there'll be some expense to do the DEP process to get the fuel out of it, get the tank out of the ground.

08:36 - 08:40

**Dave**

Get it disposed of in a certified scrapyard, et cetera.

08:43 - 08:48

**Selectboard Office**

So we'll probably have to make an appropriation for that then?

08:48 - 08:51

**Selectboard Office**

Or is there money somewhere for that.

08:51 - 08:58

**Dave**

I don't I don't know that anything was put aside for that because we weren't sure about the MVP grant.

08:58 - 08:58

**Selectboard Office**

But.

08:58 - 09:01

**Dave**

Maybe it's something we can put on the upcoming special meeting.

09:01 - 09:05

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah that probably they would have to do.

09:08 - 09:15

**Selectboard Office**

Okay well thank you for researching that do you actually have cost estimates at this point.

09:17 - 09:31

**Dave**

I do not we were hoping the DEP guy I think tech I was going to try and reach out to the DP guy and see if he had some recommended people to remove the tank and do the transfer, et cetera.

09:34 - 09:38

**Dave**

I haven't had a chance to catch up with Peg to see if she's made any phone calls.

09:41 - 09:44

**Selectboard Office**

Okay, so we haven't scheduled a special town meeting yet.

09:44 - 09:49

**Selectboard Office**

Most likely we're looking at, you know, later in November, maybe early December.

09:49 - 09:51

**Selectboard Office**

So we don't have a whole lot of time.

09:51 - 09:54

**Selectboard Office**

We need to get Dux in around them.

10:00 - 10:00

**[speaker unknown]**

Okay?

10:03 - 10:03

**[speaker unknown]**

Yep.

10:04 - 10:04

**Selectboard Office**

Okay.

10:04 - 10:05

**Selectboard Office**

I will.

10:05 - 10:06

**Selectboard Office**

Try and.

10:06 - 10:10

**Dave**

Contact Meg and see if she's made any headway.

10:12 - 10:12

**Dave**

Okay.

10:13 - 10:13

**Dave**

That was all.

10:13 - 10:13

**Dave**

I had.

10:14 - 10:16

**Selectboard Office**

All right, great, thank you.

10:17 - 10:18

**Dave**

Yep.

10:21 - 10:22

**Selectboard Office**

So you heard me accepted the bid, right?

10:31 - 10:33

**Dave**

Yes, I think that's great news that we can.

10:33 - 10:33

**Selectboard Office**

Move forward.

10:33 - 10:34

**Selectboard Office**

Okay, good.

10:36 - 10:38

**Selectboard Office**

Get it done before winter would be awesome.

10:40 - 10:50

**Selectboard Office**

All right, so next up on the agenda is to talk about hiring a new highway superintendent and how we want to do that.

10:51 - 11:06

**Selectboard Office**

A year ago, we decided to create a screening committee, which Amy ran, and we had John who was on the committee?

11:08 - 11:16

**Selectboard Office**

It wound up being John McDonald, Kevin O 'Connor, Kirsten Henshaw, and myself, and I think that was it.

11:16 - 11:16

**Selectboard Office**

Okay.

11:19 - 11:20

**Selectboard Office**

So how do you guys feel about it?

11:20 - 11:24

**Selectboard Office**

I mean, we could serve as the committee and not have that process.

11:25 - 11:30

**Selectboard Office**

So this is what came up as a result of all that.

11:30 - 11:42

**Selectboard Office**

So if the select board does it, we can do it in executive session so that we can interview somebody without their current employer knowing that they're looking for a job.

11:43 - 11:54

**Selectboard Office**

If we don't do it in the executive session, then whatever committee does do it has to keep minutes and that's basically it.

11:54 - 11:55

**Selectboard Office**

And the meetings have to be public?

11:55 - 11:57

**Selectboard Office**

And the meetings have to be public.

11:57 - 12:00

**Selectboard Office**

We have to say that there's a meeting, we have to keep the minutes.

12:02 - 12:04

**Selectboard Office**

So how do you deal with that same issue then?

12:04 - 12:16

**Selectboard Office**

If you're about candidates who have not informed their employer and want to remain, you know, under the radar as far as that goes, there must be the ability to do that for the committee.

12:17 - 12:32

**Selectboard Office**

Right, well what we, because recording or, you know, internet access is not required, if it was done just as a live meeting, if you're interested, you would have to come, which, you know, stops a lot of people.

12:34 - 12:35

**Selectboard Office**

They're it.

12:35 - 12:43

**Selectboard Office**

We should have posted those meetings publicly, but so it's better in some ways if it's done in the executive session.

12:45 - 12:54

**Selectboard Office**

So, but if it's a committee and they're dealing with a resume of somebody who wants to stay private, I assume the committee can go into some sort of executive session then?

12:55 - 13:03

**Selectboard Office**

Um, they didn't actually, yeah, they didn't actually say anything about that because it was already a done deal by the time I was talking.

13:03 - 13:04

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, so we didn't check on that.

13:04 - 13:06

**Selectboard Office**

I would that would have to be done.

13:06 - 13:19

**Selectboard Office**

Yes, because you don't want, if I'm looking for a job, I'm not gonna, I don't want my employer to know that I'm working for a job, so yeah, but um, so we could consider forming a committee, or we can consider being the committee.

13:19 - 13:25

**Selectboard Office**

There's a lot that the select board's been doing, so you know, sometimes you think, do we really want to be the committee?

13:25 - 13:26

**Selectboard Office**

It's like, oh, I don't know.

13:27 - 13:33

**Selectboard Office**

I mean, I absolutely want input from other people in town, one way or the other.



13:33 - 13:34

**Selectboard Office**

Yes, well, that was the object.

13:34 - 13:48

**Selectboard Office**

The The object of the committee was to have one person from town government, which was me, an employee of the town, and that was Kirsten, a citizen, and that was John McDonald.

13:49 - 13:56

**Selectboard Office**

And his connection with the school was good because of the closeness that the highway superintendent has to maintain with the school.

13:57 - 14:03

**Selectboard Office**

And then the last one, originally, we were trying to get Dick Wagner, but it was hunting season.

14:03 - 14:04

**Selectboard Office**

He was not available.

14:06 - 14:09

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, so that's why we went with Kevin O 'Connor.

14:09 - 14:12

**Selectboard Office**

He was willing to do it, so that worked fine.

14:12 - 14:22

**Selectboard Office**

We wanted, you know, an employee, just a person in town, somebody in town government, and another person in town is was our goal.

14:25 - 14:28

**Selectboard Office**

So Kevin's here.

14:28 - 14:33

**Selectboard Office**

I'd love to hear, Kevin, your thoughts on this, if you have some.

14:34 - 14:36

**Kevin O'Connor**

Mylar thought is I'd be willing to do it again.

14:39 - 14:46

**Kevin O'Connor**

But in terms of the conflict between executive session and an open meeting, that's up to you guys.

14:50 - 15:22

**Selectboard Office**

I'd kind of like to consider having Devon on that oh yeah yes yes the only reason Cork wasn't on the committee was because basically he was leaving and it wasn't the same it wasn't the same and we were having somebody ways yeah yeah one of our candidates was somebody that would not have you know it just wouldn't have worked yeah but no if Devon was on the committee yes and I mean we did put together a series of questions which I we still have somewhere that were very good.

15:22 - 15:24

**Selectboard Office**

I might not have them anymore, but I might.

15:24 - 15:26

**Selectboard Office**

There were good questions to ask.

15:27 - 15:27

**Selectboard Office**

Sure.

15:30 - 15:33

**Selectboard Office**

I'm happy to be the government person.

15:33 - 15:33

**Selectboard Office**

This time?

15:34 - 15:34

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah.

15:35 - 15:35

**Selectboard Office**

Do you like that?

15:36 - 15:38

**Selectboard Office**

Do you have an outside community like that?

15:38 - 15:54

**Selectboard Office**

I can see pluses and minuses going either way, but I think having having more input rather than less input is always better, which would be the diversity is used, which would be the output.

15:57 - 16:08

**Selectboard Office**

And of course, we would still have final say and do, you know, probably the ideas we, the committee members are down and we interview the top two, three or whatever.

16:08 - 16:10

**Selectboard Office**

Right, because that's exactly what happened.

16:10 - 16:42

**Selectboard Office**

We came up with our to the select board and by the time the recommendation came in we did have an order by the time they came in the second candidate had dropped out anyway so we only wound up with one candidate which is possibly what will happen again who knows how many people will get but you know no if you'd like to if you would do that I would that would be great because it was we were in a time crunch last time so we met like almost every single day and it was kind of Okay.

16:42 - 16:46

**Selectboard Office**

I'd prefer not to do that, but sure, you have to, I mean, it is what it is, right?

16:46 - 16:47

**Selectboard Office**

Yes.

16:47 - 16:47

**Selectboard Office**

Yep.

16:48 - 16:48

**Selectboard Office**

I'm happy to do that.

16:49 - 16:49

**Selectboard Office**

All right.

16:49 - 16:50

**Selectboard Office**

So I think that's a good idea.

16:50 - 16:51

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, I think too.

16:54 - 16:59

**Selectboard Office**

So as far as, so we seem to agree that Devin would be good as soon as he's willing to

do it.

17:00 - 17:06

**Selectboard Office**

Kevin's already volunteered and seems like a great addition in my mind.

17:07 - 17:08

**Selectboard Office**

So.

17:11 - 17:12

**Selectboard Office**

Want to ask Dick again?

17:12 - 17:13

**Selectboard Office**

Let's see.

17:13 - 17:14

**Selectboard Office**

What his schedule looks like?

17:17 - 17:18

**Selectboard Office**

Yep, we can ask Dick Wagner.

17:18 - 17:24

**Selectboard Office**

We can also, and I did like having Kirsten Hinshaw on it.

17:24 - 17:25

**Selectboard Office**

Oh yeah, I keep forgetting about that.

17:25 - 17:26

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, town employee.

17:26 - 17:27

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, Kirsten's great.

17:28 - 17:28

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah.

17:29 - 17:31

**Selectboard Office**

So I'm sure we can ask Kirsten.

17:31 - 18:01

**Selectboard Office**

This would be four, and if we add Dick Wagner, that would be a committee of five it does it seem unwieldy well it's good to have an odd number yeah yeah oh absolutely okay yeah we can ask we can ask it Wagner it just uh at the time we had a very tight time because Cork was retiring on December 11th so we had virtually no time well we don't have a whole lot we don't I don't know do we have a date for Devin it's it's pretty to that.

18:01 - 18:01

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah.

18:01 - 18:01

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah.

18:01 - 18:03

**Selectboard Office**

It's really not a lot different.

18:03 - 18:03

**Selectboard Office**

No.

18:06 - 18:06

**[speaker unknown]**

Okay.

18:08 - 18:08

**[speaker unknown]**

All right.

18:08 - 18:09

**Selectboard Office**

Get to work.

18:09 - 18:10

**Selectboard Office**

Okay.

18:10 - 18:13

**Selectboard Office**

So, why don't we talk to Dick after the meeting?

18:13 - 18:13

**Selectboard Office**

Yep.

18:13 - 18:16

**Selectboard Office**

And if not, then I.

18:19 - 18:21

**Selectboard Office**

Think we still ought to come up with a fifth person.

18:21 - 18:22

**Selectboard Office**

Right.

18:22 - 18:28

**Selectboard Office**

Well, we have to, we just have to ask Devin and Kirsten and Dick and see what they say.

18:31 - 18:31

**[speaker unknown]**

Okay.

18:32 - 18:32

**[speaker unknown]**

Okay.

18:32 - 18:33

**Selectboard Office**

Congratulations, Kevin.

18:35 - 18:36

**[speaker unknown]**

Thanks.

18:37 - 18:38

**Selectboard Office**

See.

18:38 - 18:38

**Kevin O'Connor**

You soon.

18:39 - 18:46

**Selectboard Office**

So I think we might have to schedule ourselves another meeting just to finalize this.

18:46 - 18:46

**Selectboard Office**



Yeah.

18:46 - 18:47

**Selectboard Office**

Because I don't think we can wait two weeks.

18:47 - 18:49

**Selectboard Office**

No, it would be better not to.

18:49 - 18:50

**Selectboard Office**

You are correct.

18:51 - 18:51

**Selectboard Office**

Okay.

18:52 - 18:54

**Selectboard Office**

All Well, that should be not today.

18:54 - 18:54

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah.

18:54 - 18:55

**Selectboard Office**

All right.

18:55 - 18:56

**Selectboard Office**

Good.

18:58 - 18:58

**[speaker unknown]**

Um.

19:01 - 19:06

**Selectboard Office**

And I always we could put it out and ask if anybody wants to volunteer to be on it.

19:07 - 19:08

**Selectboard Office**

I could get ugly.

19:10 - 19:12

**Selectboard Office**

We talked about it last time.

19:12 - 19:12

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah.

19:12 - 19:13

**Selectboard Office**

Okay.

19:13 - 19:15

**Selectboard Office**

I'll just leave it at that for now.

19:19 - 19:23

**Selectboard Office**

So, wonderful news, which is a precursor to probably a lot of things.

19:25 - 19:37

**Selectboard Office**

Health insurance rates, surprise, are going up by 20% for our poor retirees, and I'm sure it's going to be the same for the rest of the world.

19:40 - 19:48

**Selectboard Office**

It's going to be a \*\*\*\* storm, but we don't really have a lot of choice, but we do have make a motion and vote on accepting.

19:49 - 19:50

**Selectboard Office**

You guys have copies of this?

19:50 - 19:51

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah.

19:54 - 20:01

**Selectboard Office**

So this is just the top, this is just Medicare Advantage for retirees and there's all day.

20:02 - 20:07

**Selectboard Office**

I think there's 239, I'm not sure how many people are on this right now, it's not much.

20:09 - 20:24

**Selectboard Office**

Well I guess I will move that we accept the rates from Maya Health Benefits Trust for the renewal for 1-1-26 to 12-31-26 for Medicare retiree rates.

20:25 - 20:26

**Selectboard Office**

I'll second.

20:28 - 20:32

**Selectboard Office**

Discussion, questions, Aldaver?

20:33 - 20:33

**Selectboard Office**

Aye.

20:35 - 20:36

**Selectboard Office**

Okay.

20:40 - 20:41

**[speaker unknown]**

So.

20:47 - 20:51

**Selectboard Office**

The Open Space and Recreation Plan is virtually done.

20:51 - 20:59

**Selectboard Office**

We're in the final stages here and We've been asked to write a letter of support.

21:00 - 21:01

**Selectboard Office**

Peggy wrote a real masterpiece here.

21:02 - 21:04

**Selectboard Office**

I'm guessing they don't usually get something like this.

21:07 - 21:10

**Selectboard Office**

I'll read it real quick for the benefit of everybody.

21:10 - 21:16

**Selectboard Office**

The Woodland Select Board approves, embraces, and supports our newly-minted Open Space and Recreation Plan.

21:16 - 21:23

**Selectboard Office**

This document serves as a fascinating introduction to the many wonderful natural,

cultural, historic, archaeological features of our town.

21:23 - 21:32

**Selectboard Office**

The geological landscape, settlement, and agricultural history is described as are the open fields, streams, rivers, wetlands, and expansive woodlands.

21:32 - 21:37

**Selectboard Office**

Our history and environment have created a great deal of poor wildlife habitat which benefits us all.

21:38 - 21:47

**Selectboard Office**

The OSRP takes us beyond the beauty of our surroundings and encourages us to formulate our goals, objectives, and responsibilities as caretakers of our piece of the world.

21:48 - 22:04

**Selectboard Office**

We're worthy to plan lists rare threatened and endangered species, bio-map areas, siting court habitats, critical landscapes, local and regional components, hazardous waste in brownfield sites, impaired waters, resource protection needs, community and management needs.

22:04 - 22:10

**Selectboard Office**

We are so grateful for the time and effort extended by the folks at PVPC guiding us through this process.

22:10 - 22:15

**Selectboard Office**

We've come away with the knowledge needed to become proper stewards of our town and a 10-year action plan to implement.

22:16 - 22:18

**Selectboard Office**

So really well written.

22:18 - 22:20

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, yeah, it's a nice one.

22:20 - 22:21

**Selectboard Office**

Yes.

22:22 - 22:28

**Selectboard Office**

And the committee, you know, Debbie Dreschak, Dreschak in particular worked really hard on this.

22:29 - 22:31

**Selectboard Office**

So, JP, you were on the committee, weren't you?

22:34 - 22:38

**J.P. Welch**

I'm sorry, officially not, but I did attend the meetings.

22:38 - 22:39

**J.P. Welch**

And of course, I had input too.

22:40 - 22:43

**J.P. Welch**

But really, Debbie was a driving force in the whole thing.

22:43 - 22:52

**J.P. Welch**

And she did a bang up job, you know, getting that all done, making sure we all were paying attention and she did a great job.

22:54 - 22:57

**Selectboard Office**

Okay, all right, so here's the letter to sign.

22:58 - 23:01

**Selectboard Office**

Okay, I'll sign my name.

23:03 - 23:05

**Selectboard Office**

Next up, school committee.

23:06 - 23:11

**Selectboard Office**

School committee is nice enough to put the select board on the agenda of every one of their meetings.

23:12 - 23:17

**Selectboard Office**

It occurred to me after how many years of attending those meetings that we haven't done the same.

23:18 - 23:24

**Selectboard Office**

So we will start putting you on our agenda, at the meeting following your regular meeting.

23:25 - 23:33

**Selectboard Office**

I know Deb was there and Alison, thank you for being here, but anything you'd like to speak to regarding the Spokaneity and the town.

23:39 - 23:40

**Alison Todd**

Hi everybody.

23:41 - 23:41

**Selectboard Office**

Hi.

23:42 - 23:43

**Alison Todd**

Nice to see you all.

23:44 - 23:46

**Alison Todd**

I don't have any super hot news.

23:46 - 23:59

**Alison Todd**

The only significant thing that we're working on right now is the contract negotiations with Hampshire and so we reached out to them.

23:59 - 24:08

**Alison Todd**

Last spring when Dr. Perrone started to let him know that or.

24:08 - 24:12

**Alison Todd**

Yeah last fall I can't sorry I can't remember when he started.

24:12 - 24:13

**Selectboard Office**

But he's the.

24:13 - 24:19

**Alison Todd**

Current superintendent down at Hampshire reached out and said hey here's our contract.

24:19 - 24:21

**Alison Todd**

We have one more year on it.

24:21 - 24:26

**Alison Todd**



We're looking forward to meeting you and next year we need to negotiate this.

24:27 - 24:34

**Alison Todd**

Reached out to him again in September and said we'd like to set up some meetings.

24:35 - 24:40

**Alison Todd**

He was very friendly and responsive and said, okay, great, we'll talk about it and get back to you.

24:41 - 24:41

**Alison Todd**

Heard nothing.

24:42 - 24:43

**Alison Todd**

Same thing happened.

24:44 - 24:44

**Alison Todd**

I.

24:44 - 24:45

**Selectboard Office**

Just reached.

24:45 - 24:51

**Alison Todd**

Out again last week, he was very quick in responding and saying, we'll talk about it and get it back to you.

24:52 - 25:04

**Alison Todd**

So we're sort of on a timeframe where we need to have our budget settled by January to begin the process of sharing it with finance committee and so forth.

25:04 - 25:06

**Alison Todd**

So we really need to know where we stand.

25:07 - 25:19

**Alison Todd**

So you posted, but we're trying to be diplomatic but also somewhat assertive around getting those conversations going.

25:21 - 25:24

**Selectboard Office**

Who's the liaison now to Hampshire?

25:26 - 25:27

**Selectboard Office**

Hi Alex.

25:27 - 25:28

**Selectboard Office**

Alex is here.

25:28 - 25:29

**Alison Todd**

Oh, hi Alex.

25:30 - 25:31

**Alison Todd**

Sorry, I can't see you.

25:32 - 25:33

**Selectboard Office**

Right here.

25:33 - 25:35

**Selectboard Office**

For some reason the cam was not fitting in.

25:35 - 25:36

**Selectboard Office**

That's a good thing.

25:37 - 25:41

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, so I didn't, I actually did not ask the question yesterday.

25:42 - 25:49

**Selectboard Office**

So I wanna fill in the school committee before I bring it up, but there's a lot of interesting conversations.

25:49 - 25:53

**Selectboard Office**

So they have the results of their audit from 2023.

25:56 - 25:57

**Selectboard Office**

That whole.

25:58 - 26:00

**Selectboard Office**

One year just missing.

26:00 - 26:05

**Selectboard Office**

Well, in 23, 24, they don't know where they are.

26:05 - 26:07

**Selectboard Office**

So that's why they had an audit.

26:07 - 26:09

**Selectboard Office**

And they just finished up 23.

26:10 - 26:14

**Selectboard Office**

Everything's clear now there, but they're in a hole by a couple hundred thousand dollars.

26:16 - 26:17

**Selectboard Office**

They're straightening it out.

26:17 - 26:19

**Selectboard Office**

So they've got a big mess to go through.

26:19 - 26:38

**Selectboard Office**

So they're doing it But they didn't bring up the fact that you sent a letter in the communication part of the school committee so When they talked about communications, you know how you normally bring up what letters you received They didn't bring that up at all.

26:38 - 26:59

**Selectboard Office**

They didn't know they did not so they want to ask that question there Now, you know, we need to talk a little bit more about it and there were some other discussions there about um The setup of the schools and that in the district itself And we want to look at regionalization and all this stuff.

26:59 - 27:06

**Selectboard Office**

So i'm thinking oh we need to talk some more Maybe before we Push them too hard.

27:10 - 27:21

**Selectboard Office**

They didn't really say, they're just saying that what they have now is very inefficient and costly and is there other ways to look at it.

27:21 - 27:23

**Selectboard Office**

I guess that's how I took away from that.

27:25 - 27:37

**Selectboard Office**

And you know, it's, they didn't really, because the focus really was on the audit that was in the discussion of where do we go from here.

27:38 - 27:41

**Selectboard Office**

So that was brought up as one of the things that they want to look at.

27:41 - 27:44

**Selectboard Office**

So they might form a subcommittee to look at it.

27:45 - 27:57

**Selectboard Office**

But then somebody had brought up Silver Lake, I think has a very similar set up to Hampshire and then here I believe, but that's a little different.

27:58 - 28:01

**Selectboard Office**

So anyways, they're starting to look at that.

28:01 - 28:08

**Selectboard Office**

So, but because they didn't bring up any communication from us at all, I didn't want to bring that up again.

28:08 - 28:09

**Selectboard Office**

So- And you didn't.

28:09 - 28:17

**Alison Todd**

Feel it was appropriate to just have a side conversation with Vito and just say, hey,

we're looking forward to hearing from you.

28:17 - 28:25

**Selectboard Office**

No, after hearing this talk about regionalization and some of the other things, I just thought I needed to talk to you guys before.

28:25 - 28:26

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, great.

28:26 - 28:28

**Selectboard Office**

Of course, it's so.

28:28 - 28:29

**Alison Todd**

Okay, yeah.

28:29 - 28:46

**Alison Todd**

And if we don't hear anything and meet with them by our next meeting we can also just sort of think about okay what do we want to put out to them because we definitely need something in place even if it's not a priority for them so we'll see.

28:48 - 28:51

**Selectboard Office**

Do they have um who's the president.

28:51 - 29:04

**Alison Todd**

Of the and representatives, and he's the chair.

29:05 - 29:09

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, he seems to be a pretty intelligent person.

29:09 - 29:10

**Alison Todd**

Yeah, yeah.

29:12 - 29:14

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, they're just going through a world of stuff right now.

29:16 - 29:22

**Selectboard Office**

So I thought it was, I suppose as revenue lines go, we're really a relatively small one.

29:23 - 29:24

**Alison Todd**

Not that small.

29:24 - 29:29

**Alison Todd**

I mean, we pay them \$250 ,000.

29:29 - 29:31

**Alison Todd**

So that's a fair bit.

29:32 - 29:33

**Alison Todd**

Yeah.

29:35 - 29:37

**Selectboard Office**

I think they want to make it more.

29:37 - 29:38

**Selectboard Office**

Of course they do.

29:39 - 29:43

**Selectboard Office**

They're in a little bit of a hole, so they've got to figure out how to take out of it.

29:43 - 29:43

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah.

29:44 - 29:47

**Alison Todd**

All right, so that's pretty much the only big news.

29:48 - 29:54

**Alison Todd**

We do need to negotiate Gretchen's contract this year because that also ends in June.

29:56 - 30:17

**Alison Todd**

And we're being mindful about how do that in this in Worthington's sort of financial uncertainty right now so we're we're talking about that and other than that we're just doing you know the usual boring updating policies that need to be updated and stuff like that.

30:17 - 30:24

**Selectboard Office**

What about the camera thing is that moving forward or I know John unfortunately I wasn't able to make your meeting, but.

30:25 - 30:34

**Alison Todd**

Yeah, Gretchen is going to ask some more questions of Beth at Lekranski.

30:35 - 30:49

**Alison Todd**

The bus drivers were able to attend and having had a recent incident where somebody had passed a bus, I think they were feeling like it would probably would



be a good idea.

30:50 - 30:53

**Alison Todd**

Was that your take on it too, Alex?

30:54 - 30:55

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, yeah, we just want.

30:55 - 31:00

**Selectboard Office**

To make sure of everything before we go any further.

31:00 - 31:12

**Alison Todd**

Yep, all the details, who collects the money and whether it is indeed free to install them and all that sort of stuff.

31:13 - 31:18

**Selectboard Office**

And I think we're going to talk to the officer about how that's going to all work out, right?

31:18 - 31:22

**Selectboard Office**

Wasn't that a part, one of the action items?

31:23 - 31:23

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah.

31:23 - 31:24

**Selectboard Office**

I don't know, I thought so.

31:25 - 31:26

**Selectboard Office**

I don't have the minutes in front of me.

31:26 - 31:27

**Selectboard Office**

Okay.

31:28 - 31:29

**Selectboard Office**

But.

31:29 - 31:44

**Alison Todd**

One of the questions was, does the officer really need to be involved or is there some way it could be set up where, you know, in the same way that stop light cameras, you get an automatic citation mailed to you.

31:44 - 31:55

**Alison Todd**

If it was a citation or a fine rather than a citation from an officer, could that be simpler for their department?

31:55 - 31:58

**Alison Todd**

But we need to sort all that out.

32:00 - 32:07

**Selectboard Office**

I found John's letter a little bit confusing where he highlighted in what was a yellow and green.

32:08 - 32:09

**Selectboard Office**

Allison, did you get a copy of that?

32:10 - 32:11

**Alison Todd**

John, sorry.

32:11 - 32:14

**Selectboard Office**

Sorry, Chief Scobie.

32:17 - 32:38

**Selectboard Office**

So he was talking about the clarity and that you couldn't have cameras that showed, that clearly showed the individual, I mean I read that like three times and it's Massachusetts Code and I was very confused by it.

32:38 - 32:44

**Selectboard Office**

So I think we probably are, I'm not, I don't really understand the context.

32:44 - 32:53

**Alison Todd**

I think the argument was that if your camera doesn't clearly show the driver, then you can't prove who was driving.

32:54 - 33:12

**Alison Todd**

But the way a stop light camera works, you know, not what we're talking about, but you know, if somebody in San Francisco gets a ticket because they ran a light, it doesn't matter who was driving, the fine goes to the person who the car is registered under.

33:13 - 33:13

**Alison Todd**

And.

33:13 - 33:22

**Selectboard Office**

So I read that as like, you can't, like they don't want to want the picture to be clear enough to show who is driving.

33:22 - 33:27

**Selectboard Office**

I think that's in many times it's not admissible or something like that.

33:27 - 33:29

**Selectboard Office**

So it was confusing to.

33:29 - 33:29

**Alison Todd**

Me.

33:29 - 33:31

**Alison Todd**

Okay, yeah, I'm not sure.

33:31 - 33:37

**Alison Todd**

I think Gretchen is gonna try to talk to him, but it did not seem like it was.

33:37 - 33:45

**Alison Todd**

A big priority for him to get to our meetings, so I don't know whether we'll be able to talk to him as a committee.

33:47 - 33:49

**Selectboard Office**

Well, we can definitely make sure he gets there.

33:50 - 33:50

**Alison Todd**

Yeah.

33:50 - 33:50

**Alison Todd**

Yeah.

33:51 - 33:53

**Selectboard Office**

He was in some health issues at that time.

33:53 - 33:53

**Selectboard Office**

Okay.

33:55 - 33:58

**Selectboard Office**

But you are correct about the stoplight cameras.

33:59 - 34:11

**Selectboard Office**

It goes to the registered owner of the vehicle, so it doesn't matter, driving but they can look at it and say something like oh look that's my son you know doesn't matter your ticket yeah right.

34:11 - 34:14

**Alison Todd**

Yeah so we'll try to sort all that out.

34:14 - 34:24

**Selectboard Office**

Okay all right we're glad you're making progress some of these issues are serious yeah we had motorcycle races through the middle of town today.

34:24 - 34:25

**Alison Todd**

Great they.

34:25 - 34:28

**Selectboard Office**

Were just they had to be going 70 right through the middle of.

34:28 - 34:28

**Selectboard Office**

Town.

34:31 - 34:32

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah.

34:32 - 34:32

**Selectboard Office**

Okay.

34:33 - 34:33

**Alison Todd**

So.

34:34 - 34:35

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah, thank you.

34:36 - 34:41

**Selectboard Office**

So, we'll make this a regular thing the week after our meeting following your meeting.

34:41 - 34:43

**Alison Todd**

Okay, that sounds good.

34:43 - 34:43

**Alison Todd**

Great.

34:43 - 34:45

**Alison Todd**

So, once a month after our meeting.

34:46 - 34:46

**Alison Todd**

Yes.

34:46 - 34:47

**Alison Todd**

Super.

34:47 - 34:47

**Alison Todd**

Thanks.

34:48 - 34:51

**Selectboard Office**

Obviously, if you need to be on the agenda other times.

34:51 - 34:51

**Alison Todd**

I'll.

34:51 - 34:52

**Alison Todd**

Just ask you.

34:52 - 34:52

**Selectboard Office**

Yeah.

34:54 - 35:27

**Selectboard Office**

So, the only other thing I put on the agenda was town tree planning and it was mostly just in case there was an issue there's not they're planting tomorrow and the highway department is helping so we're saving quite a bit of money by not having to hire a outside firm for that um and they're getting started first thing they're actually planning one in my front yard even though it's town common it's not really so does anybody have anything else they want to say or ask about?

35:27 - 35:27

**Selectboard Office**

Yes.

35:27 - 35:32

**Selectboard Office**

I was just wondering if the so I saw the email about the walkthrough on the land.

35:35 - 35:47

**Selectboard Office**

So I think we need to put it on the agenda for our next meeting and then you know I think we need to talk about whether we want to maybe consider something for a special town meeting to purchase.

35:48 - 35:52

**Selectboard Office**

Right that's all we want to know is obviously where do you stand on that.

35:52 - 36:08

**Selectboard Office**

This one yeah okay that's fine that sounds good okay anybody else anything before we adjourn okay cool thanks everybody for coming short meeting world record breaker and you don't talk about the yeah.