

**ACUSHNET BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, November 7, 2022
4:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Selectman Hinckley motioned to open the November 7, 2022, regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Gaspar seconded. Selectman Gaspar called the meeting to order. Those present were Selectman Kevin Gaspar, Sr., Selectman Robert Hinckley and Town Administrator James Kelley. Chairman David Wojnar was absent.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. MINUTES TO BE APPROVED

Selectman Hinckley motioned to approve the minutes from June 1, 2022, regular session. Selectman Gaspar seconded, all were in favor and motion passes.

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Selectman Gaspar motions to pass over executive session.

IV. MEETING MAIL

V. APPOINTMENTS

1. 4:10 P.M. – TAX CLASSIFICATION HEARING

Selectman Hinckley motions to open the Tax Classification Hearing.

Selectman Gaspar seconded, all were in favor and motion passes.

Selectman Hinckley motions to continue the Tax Classification Hearing to Monday November 14, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. Selectman Gaspar seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

2. 4:30 P.M. – JOHN BRAUN ROAD RACE CITATION

The Board issues a road race citation to Mr. John Braun for his 40 years of service to the Town of Acushnet.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. COA Outreach Worker

Ms. Heather Chew introduces the new COA Outreach Worker, Ms. Jennifer Ledo. Ms. Ledo resides in Somerset and has worked in Child & Family services for the past 25 years doing outreach and is glad to be in Acushnet working with the elderly.

Selectman Hinckley motioned to appoint Ms. Ledo as the COA Outreach Worker. Selectman Gaspar seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

2. Country ARPA Agreement Project Designation- tabled to next meeting

3. ARPA Signing Bonus Vote

Selectman Hinckley motions to approve to expend the American Rescue Plan Act funds in the amount of \$600 to fund stipends to AFSCME employees. Selectman Gaspar seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

4. Clerk Appointment – Treasurer Collector

Town Administrator James Kelley stated that Ms. Megan Alves was an excellent applicant and was very much recommended and has the experience necessary for the position.

Selectman Hinckley motioned to appoint Ms. Alves as the Treasurer/Collector clerk. Selectman Gaspar seconded, all were in favor and motion passes.

5. Building Commissioner Appointment – tabled to next meeting

6. Approve MOA – Assistant Accountant & Assistant Town Collector

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Fire Chief – promotion of part time EMT (Vanessa McCoy) to career firefighter-EMT

Fire Chief Thomas Farland introduces the new firefighter appointee, Ms. Vanessa McCoy, who is not in attendance due to babysitter scheduling issues. Chief Farland then introduces new hire, Mr. James Guilmette who was on the September 27, 2022 Board of Selectmen's agenda. Mr. Guilmette states he has 18 years of EMS experience. He went through the fire academy with the Town of Freetown 12 years ago. He stated that joining the Acushnet Fire Department was a no brainer and he loves everyone in the department. Selectman Gaspar thanks Mr. Guilmette for coming in and introducing himself and welcomed him aboard.

Selectman Hinckley motioned to approve part time EMT, Ms. Vanessa McCoy, to career firefighter-EMT. Selectman Gaspar seconded, all were in favor and motion passes.

Chief Farland stated the fire department has lost one call firefighter this week to the police department and they've added 3 new call firefighters, Lucas Correia, Sarah Ellis and Nicholas Giampa. He has a former call firefighter who has expressed interest in coming back and he will be going through the steps. He is already trained and proved himself and once they find gear that fits him, they will bring him in and update him on the new policies. With Ms. McCoy's appointment tonight, the fire department is back to full staff and they are working towards bringing the full staff on the call firefighters. Selectman Gaspar thanks Chief Farland.

2. Right of first refusal

Mr. Mark Francois states he's in the process of reconfiguring a portion of lots in Assessor's map 8 lot 25D and a portion of map 8 lot 25F in order to continue with a small subdivision of 4 lots on his property.

Selectman Hinckley motions to forego the right of first refusal. Selectman Gaspar seconded, all in favor and motion passes.

VIII. DPW

Town Administrator, Mr. Kelley informs the Board of Selectmen that the DPW has 8 drivers signed up for the snow plowing. Four are new and 4 returning. As far as the mattress disposal, the state has changed the rules but DPW is far ahead of the state and has taken care of everything to make sure the citizens have their services. Selectman Gaspar reminds the residents or anyone watching the meeting of the benefits offered to the Town's snow plow drivers.

IX. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

X. SELECTMEN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Veteran's day celebration discussion – Selectman Gaspar announces Veteran's day celebration on Friday, November 11, 2022 at 9:50 a.m.

Selectman Hinckley announces the boards and commissions vacancies.

Selectman Gaspar suggested postponing the executive sessions until Monday, November 14, 2022 in hopes that Chairman Wojnar will be able to attend.

XI. INFORMATION ONLY

XII. FUTURE BUSINESS

Selectmen's Meeting November 14, 2022 10:30 A.M.


XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

"Executive Session under G.L.ch.30A§21(a)(2) to conduct strategy in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct contract negotiations with non-union personnel (Fire Chief) if an open meeting will have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body as the chair so declares and the Board will not return to public session."

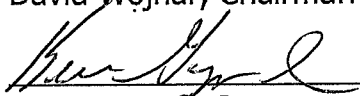
"Executive Session under G.L.ch.30A§21(a)(3) to conduct strategy in preparation for negotiations with union personnel or to conduct contract negotiations with union personnel (Police, Fire, AFSCME, DPW) if an open meeting will have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body as the chair so declares and the Board will not return to public session."

Selectman Hinckley motions to adjourn the meeting, Selectman Gaspar seconded, all in favor and motions passes.

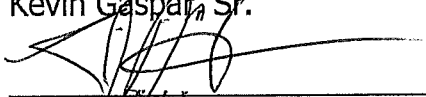
Adjournment



David Wojnar, Chairman



Kevin Gaspar, Sr.



Robert Hinckley
Board of Selectmen