

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
Steven P. Rose, Chairman  
Eric S. Beckerman, Clerk  
Jason L. Suzor, Associate

Gregory S. Enos  
**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

# Town of Avon Massachusetts



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TOWN OF AVON  
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TOWN

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021**  
**6:30 P.M.**

**Members Present:** Steven P. Rose, Chairman  
Eric S. Beckerman, Clerk (via videoconference)  
Jason L. Suzor, Associate (via videoconference)

**Others Present:** Gregory S. Enos, Town Administrator  
Shanna M. Faro, Executive Assistant (via videoconference)  
Joseph S. Lalli, Esq., Town Counsel (via videoconference)  
Kathleen Waldron, Health Agent (via videoconference)  
Fire Chief Robert Spurr (via videoconference)  
Norfolk County Sheriff Patrick McDermott (via videoconference)  
Paul Chute, Avon Civic Association (via videoconference)  
Jennifer Mayo, Park & Recreation Program Director (via videoconference)  
Marci Kovick, Park & Recreation Commission (via videoconference)  
Ann Fogg, Library Director (via videoconference)  
Sevigne Pilet, 2Go, LLC (via videoconference)

Chairman Rose announced that pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Board of Selectmen is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public was permitted, but every effort was made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order. Chairman Rose reminded the viewing audience that persons who would like to view this meeting while in progress may do so by watching local cable on Channel 9 or joining the Zoom link for the videoconference. Links to watch the recorded meeting will be available on the Avon Cable Access website [www.avontv.org](http://www.avontv.org).

Chairman Rose called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with all members present. Chairman Rose was present in the Mary McDermott meeting room, while Mr. Beckerman and Mr. Suzor were present through the videoconference Zoom. Each Board member acknowledged their presence at the meeting by responding in the affirmative during the roll call. In addition, all anticipated speakers acknowledged their presence by responding in the affirmative when Chairman Rose called their names.

Mr. Beckerman led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Reorganization of the Board**

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to nominate Mr. Rose as Chairman of the Board. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Chairman Rose made a motion to nominate Mr. Beckerman as Clerk of the Board. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **Public Participation**

None

### **Park & Recreation Commission – Update on Summer Program and Shed at Sylvester Fields**

Ms. Mayo appeared before the Board to provide an update on the Park & Recreation Summer Program. She informed the Board that the Summer Program this year will run for seven weeks. Due to social distancing protocols, registration for the program will be online. The cost of the program will be \$200 per child for Avon residents and choice students. Non-residents will be required to pay a fee of \$200 weekly. There will be a \$400 maximum cap for families. Ms. Mayo stated that the number of children who register for the program will determine the need for the number of locations and staff necessary to run the program in accordance with the State's guidelines. Ms. Mayo stated that both Noonan Field and Sylvester Field are available depending on the number of registrants for the program. Ms. Mayo will work with Ms. Faro to advertise for the summer Playground Supervisor and counselor positions.

Mr. Beckerman read an e-mail from Park & Recreation Commission Chair requesting permission to repaint the shed at Sylvester Field. The paint color will be chosen by the Commission. Avon Youth Baseball has volunteered to help paint the shed. The Commission has also received a volunteer request to paint a mural on the shed to reflect the Avon Middle High School panther mascot at just the cost of supplies. Chairman Rose requested that the Park & Recreation Commission select a non-offensive paint color. Mr. Beckerman requested to see a design of the mural prior to being painted on the shed. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the request of the Park & Recreation Commission to paint the shed at Sylvester Field on Fagan Drive. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **Norfolk County Sheriff Patrick McDermott**

Sheriff McDermott appeared before the Board to introduce himself after being newly elected to the position. Sheriff McDermott informed the Board that he is a resident of Quincy, a graduate of Boston College, a former member of the Quincy City Council and the District Attorney's Office of Suffolk County, and is currently an elected representative of the Register of Probate for Norfolk County.

Sheriff McDermott stated that in his role as Norfolk County Sheriff, it is his job to serve as a Public Safety resource to the Town of Avon. It is his goal to take a proactive approach to make communities in Norfolk County safer. Sheriff McDermott stated that he will accomplish this task by focusing on at-risk populations and the juveniles of the community. Sheriff McDermott strives to increase participation in senior programming. He was pleased to report that the "Are You Okay?" program which provides daily wellness checks to seniors has initiated several life-saving emergency responses since its implementation. Sheriff McDermott stated that the Youth Leadership Camp will run this summer. Sheriff McDermott stated that he is always willing to speak to students in our local schools. Sheriff McDermott emphasized



that the Norfolk County Sheriff's Department strives to prevent crime and make residents feel safe in every aspect of life including concerns regarding COVID-19, racism, and climate change. The Norfolk County Sheriff's Office also has a Mobile Command Center, a K-9 Unit and a Search and Rescue Unit. Sheriff McDermott thanked the Board of Selectmen for their time and reminded them to use his office as a resource to help make the community stronger and safer.

### **Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of March 16, 2021 (Workshop Session) as written. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of March 18, 2021 (Regular Session) as written. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of March 25, 2021 (Workshop Session) as written. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of April 8, 2021 (Workshop Session) as written. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **COVID-19 Updates**

Ms. Waldron was pleased to report to the Board that over 44% of Avon residents have received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine which was an increase of over 10% since her last report. Ms. Waldron stated that unfortunately, the number of positive coronavirus cases in Avon over the past two weeks is now at 27 active cases, which would put the town in the red category according to the state's guidelines. Ms. Waldron reminded all citizens that we are still in the pandemic and to continue to wear masks, social distance, and get vaccinated.

Chief Spurr was pleased to report that 85% of Avon residents aged 65 or older have been vaccinated. He informed that Board that as of April 19, 2021, all Massachusetts residents over the age of 16 are eligible for the vaccine.

#### **Update on Town Opening Plan**

Mr. Enos reviewed the draft Town Building Opening Plan with the Board should they decide to reopen Town Offices to the public. Mr. Enos informed the Board that he, Chief Spurr and Ms. Waldron did meet with staff from Town Hall, the Avon Public Library, and the Council on Aging to address any concerns or questions which the employees may have. Mr. Enos discussed the possibility of hybrid meetings as well in which Boards and Committees may meet in person with other participants available through virtual conferencing. Mr. Enos stated that although preparations have been made, no opening date has been decided. Chairman Rose expressed his concern for reopening Town Offices due to the high number of positive cases in the Town currently. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to table the Town Building Opening Plan until the meeting of April 29, 2021. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call

vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **Snow & Ice Deficit**

Mr. Enos informed the Board that the Snow & Ice Deficit amount had remain unchanged at \$74,000.

### **Review Town Meeting Warrants**

Mr. Enos informed the Board that he had made several edits based on the discussion of the Workshop Meeting of March 16, 2021 to review the draft Warrants. After reviewing the forty-one (41) Warrant articles, Mr. Enos proposed combining similar like articles to speed up the voting process or reduce the number of articles. Mr. Enos also proposed only one Town Meeting Warrant (as opposed to a Special Meeting and an Annual Meeting) with capital items placed at the end of the Warrant. Mr. Enos proposed no lottery system to save time and by placing the capital needs at the back, it will allow for the conclusion of the meeting until another night should time run out in an organized manner for continuation on the following evening. Mr. Enos requested guidance from the Board. He also requested an additional Workshop Meeting of the Board to review a second draft of the Warrant. Chairman Rose also requested that a placeholder article be placed in the draft Warrant for a bylaw change needed from the Planning Board. Mr. Beckerman made a motion for Mr. Enos to continue editing and revising the draft Warrant based on his recommendation to the Board. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Summer Concert Series at DeMarco Park**

Mr. Chute informed the Board that the Avon Civic Association has tentatively booked bands for the Summer Concert Series at DeMarco Park. Mr. Chute stated that all concerts are contingent upon approval by the Board. Mr. Chute informed the Board that there would be no Flag Day concert this year. All concerts were scheduled for July and August. Mr. Chute stated that the Civic Association would follow state restrictions and consult the Health Agent.

Mr. Chute informed the Board that the Avon Civic Association is interested in setting up a Flags for Heroes program at DeMarco Park. Mr. Chute proposed hosting a town display of 50 to 60 flags to honor local heroes approximately four times a year on Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, and Veterans Day. Mr. Chute stated that the Civic Association would purchase the flags and work with the Town departments regarding the setup and break down of the flags. Mr. Chute stated that it was the intent of the Civic Association to utilize one of the four holidays as a fundraiser for the Civic Association. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Flags for Heroes program as outlined by the Avon Civic Association. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

#### **Memorial Day Parade Update**

Mr. Enos informed the Board that it is not recommended to hold the Annual Memorial Day Parade again this year due to COVID-19 and crowd restrictions. Mr. Enos stated that he has contacted the Veteran's Agent Dale Kurtz and VFW Manager Joseph Bernardo regarding holding a small ceremony which can be recorded on local cable in honor of the holiday. Mr. Enos will report back to the Board with more information.



### **National Grid – LED Streetlights**

Mr. Enos informed the Board that the test LED lights have been placed around town, in both a residential and commercial spot. Mr. Enos submitted pictures to the Board of both the higher wattage (50 kw) and lower wattage (25 kw) LED streetlights. Mr. Enos stated that he did not see a significant difference between the bulb wattages and recommended that the town move forward with the lower wattage bulbs at the lesser cost. The Board agreed with Mr. Enos' recommendation and requested he proceed with contacting National Grid regarding the lower wattage LED streetlights throughout the town.

### **Downtown Banner Program**

Mr. Enos submitted six sample proofs of street pole banners to be displayed throughout the center of the town. Mr. Enos stated that these are vinyl banners intended for spring and to beautify the town. Mr. Enos requested the Board choose a design and a size, either 18" x 36" for a cost of \$48.95 per banner or 24" x 48" at the price of \$58.95 per banner. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve banner design "A" at the larger size of 24" x 48" from Rileighs Outdoor Décor. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **Gift Acceptance Request Forms**

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the gift acceptance form in the amount of \$25 donated by Jeanine Rene to the Council on Aging in memory of Fausta Rene. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the gift acceptance form for a dark bronze anodized door valued at \$1,425 donated by Joe Belanger of Architectural Glazing Systems for the Avon Fire Department. Chief Spurr explained that this door will be fitted to the renovated portion of the Fire Station and will match the existing door on the left side of the building. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **Appointment to Cultural Council**

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to appoint Anne Romain-Jean to the Avon Cultural Council, term to expire June 30, 2023. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **DeMarco Park Permit Applications**

Mr. Pilet appeared before the Board for approval of his Park Permit Applications for 2Go LLC, one for 2Go Yoga, and one for 2Go Box. The Board reviewed each application separately.

The Board reviewed the application from 2Go Yoga first. Mr. Pilet stated that they are requesting to use DeMarco Park to hold outdoor yoga and meditation classes on the weekends anytime between 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The classes will last approximately one hour to one hour and a half. Chairman Rose requested a more specific schedule in which to hold the classes as the park is busy during the seasonal months for weddings. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to table the DeMarco Park Permit Application for 2Go Yoga until the meeting of April 29, 2021. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

The Board reviewed the application for 2Go Box second. Mr. Pilet stated that they are requesting to use DeMarco Park to sell finger foods from their food truck on weekends from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Chairman Rose requested a more specific schedule in which the food truck would be at DeMarco Park to coordinate with other events scheduled throughout the season at the park. Chairman Rose also requested a copy of the food truck's auto liability insurance certificate. In addition, the food truck needs to be inspected by the Health Agent prior to operating. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to table the DeMarco Park Permit Application for 2Go Box until the meeting of April 29, 2021. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **Street Opening Permit Application**

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Street Opening Permit Application from Eversource to for a 4' x 6' road cut to repair a leak on the service line at 6 McCoy Street with the stipulation that Eversource use infrared patch and flowable fill for the trench. Assistant DPW Director Brian Martin must also supervise the trench rehabilitation. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **New Hire Appointments**

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to appoint Claire Walsh to the position of part-time Accounting Clerk effective May 4, 2021 at the rate of \$22.00 per hour. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to appoint Robyn Capone to the position of Library Technician effective May 12, 2021 at an AFSCME Grade OAL 3, Step 1 at the rate of \$20.60 per hour. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### **Massachusetts Historical Commission Grant Acceptance**

Mr. Enos was pleased to report that the Town of Avon was awarded \$15,000 by the state for the Fiscal Year 2021 Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey and Planning Grant Award. This award will support the Town of Avon Inventory of Historic Resources project.

### **Massachusetts Department of Transportation Right of Way – Fagan/East Main Street**

Mr. Enos requested permission for Chairman Rose to sign and execute the paperwork from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation Right of Entry and Land Damage Agreement for the District 6 ADA Retrofits Project. Mr. Enos stated that this is for the sidewalk at Fagan Drive which would consist of removing the existing HMA sidewalk and replacement with a proposed ADA compliant sidewalk. It would also consist of the removal of existing grass and replacement with proposed loam and seed to facilitate sidewalk construction. Mr. Enos stated that this project would be of no cost to the Town. Mr. Enos informed the Board that Town Counsel has had a chance to review the paperwork and recommended signing it. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to authorize Chairman Rose to sign and execute the Right of Entry and Land Damage Agreement for the District 6 ADA Retrofits – Right of Way for Fagan Drive and East Main Street. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.



### Annual Town Report of 2020

Mr. Enos requested permission to reduce the number of print copies of the Annual Town Report from 400 to 300 copies. Mr. Enos stated that Town Hall still has surplus boxes from last year as well as the electronic version on the website. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve 300 copies of the Annual Town Report of 2020 from the Country Press, Inc. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

### Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Enos informed the Board that the HVAC repairs will be scheduled soon for the Town Offices. Mr. Enos stated that the Central Street Project has commenced and is underway. Mr. Enos was pleased to announce that it is National Public Safety Dispatcher Week. He thanked the Town's dispatchers for their hard work. Mr. Enos stated that it is also Animal Control Officer Appreciation Week. He thanked Laurice Hedges for her service to the town.

### Adjournment

At 8:15 p.m., Chairman Rose requested the Board make a motion to adjourn the Regular Session and to convene in Executive Session for the review and approval of executive session minutes to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements – and more specifically the Open Meeting Law, G.L. Chapter 30A, Sections 22(f) and (g) and to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining (AFSCME, Police, Fire, Call Firefighters) as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's bargaining or litigating position. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session and to convene in Executive Session. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Shanna M. Faro  
Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator

## LIST OF DOCUMENTS

1. April 15, 2021 Meeting Agenda
2. March 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes
3. March 18, 2021 Meeting Minutes
4. March 25, 2021 Meeting Minutes
5. April 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes
6. E-mail request from Park & Recreation Chair Dan Hart to paint the shed at Sylvester Fields
7. Memo from G. Enos re: Town Building Opening Plan
8. E-mail request from Paul Chute for American Flags for Heroes at DeMarco Park
9. National Grid LED Comparison Cost Analysis Spreadsheet
10. Sample Downtown Banners from Rileighs Outdoor Décor
11. Gift Acceptance Forms for COA and Fire Department
12. Request from A. Romain-Jean to be appointed to Cultural Council
13. DeMarco Park Permit Application Forms by 2Go LLC for 2Go Yoga & 2Go Box
14. Street Opening Permit Application for 6 McCoy Street
15. Personnel Action Forms for P-T Accounting Clerk & Library Technician
16. Letter from MA Historical Commission re: FY 21 MHC Survey and Planning Grant Award
17. MassDOT Right of Entry & Land Damage Agreement for Fagan Drive
18. Bid Proposal from the Country Press, Inc.