

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
Eric S. Beckerman, Chairman  
Jason L. Suzor, Sr., Clerk  
Shannon M. Coffey, Associate

Jonathan L. Beder  
**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

# Town of Avon Massachusetts

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TOWN OF AVON  
2023 JUL -7 A 11:45  
TOWN CLERK

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN WORKSHOP MEETING June 29, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Eric S. Beckerman, Chairman  
Jason L. Suzor, Sr., Clerk (via videoconference)

**Others Present:** Jonathan L. Beder, Town Administrator  
Shanna Faro, Executive Assistant/Human Resources Coordinator  
Deb Morin, Treasurer/Collector

Chairman Beckerman called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Selectman Coffey was absent from the meeting.

### **Line-Item Transfers**

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the line-item transfer in the amount of \$3,100 from the Health Insurance line to the Fire Salary line to cover the costs of the call firefighters contract settlement. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the line-item transfer in the amount of \$23,000 from the Park & Recreation salary line to the Park & Recreation expenses line to fund supplies for the Summer Program. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the line-item transfer in the amount of \$8,000 from the Health Insurance line to the Human Resources expenses line to fund the Community Paradigm bill for the Town Administrator search. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the line-item transfer in the amount of \$32,765.13 from the Health Insurance line to the Snow and Ice line to fund the Snow and Ice deficit so as not raise on the recap sheet. Beckerman seconded the motion for discussion. Chairman Beckerman stated that the town is legally allowed to deficit spend in the Snow and Ice account. This happens yearly and we request a line-item transfer to cover the costs in the same fiscal year. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the line-item transfer in the amount of \$12,000 from the Health Insurance line to the Town Hall expenses line to fund the increase in utility expenses and the new ADA

ramp. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the line-item transfer in the amount of \$14,550 from the Health Insurance line to the Building salary line to fund the new contract for the Building Inspector and a new part-time employee who was hired in May. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the line-item transfer in the amount of \$10,000 from the Health Insurance line to the Street Lighting line to cover the increasing lighting costs. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion for discussion. Chairman Beckerman was confused as to how the lighting bill has increased given that the town has switched to LED streetlights which is supposed to be more cost effective. Mr. Suzor also expressed his concern that there are still streetlights which need to be converted to LED lighting. Chairman Beckerman stated that many streetlights in town are not working. He suggested a list be composed with resident input to report back to National Grid. Mr. Beder will contact the representative for National Grid regarding these matters. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the line-item transfer in the amount of \$1,069.59 from the Health Insurance line to the Selectmen salary line to cover the costs of a stipends for the Executive Assistant during the absence of a Town Administrator and upon achieving her Human Resources certification. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the line-item transfer in the amount of \$6,500 from the Library salary line to the library expenses line to fund an upgrade to Wifi access by Magna 5. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion for discussion. Chairman Beckerman was concerned that the Magna 5 document attached to the line-item transfer was a proposal and not an actual contract. Ms. Morin informed the Board that the upgrade could cost more than the upgrade which is why the library has requested \$6,500 instead of the proposal amount. Ms. Morin stated that since the technology at the library is run by the OCLN the funding needs to come from the library instead of the town's IT department. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

### **Vacation Carryover Requests**

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the vacation carryover request of Officer Jeffrey Donovan for 7 days. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the vacation carryover request of Christine Clifford for an additional 22 hours over the allotted amount. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the vacation carryover request of Michael Guilbault for an additional 58.7 hours over the allotted amount. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

### Veteran Services Agreement

Mr. Beder presented the Veterans' Services Inter-Municipal Agreement. He informed the Board that this is a shared services agreement between the towns of Avon, Holbrook, and Braintree. It is a three-year contract that has been approved by the state. The new Veteran's Agent will be Vincent Fountaine and he will have an office in Braintree. Veterans will be available to walk in with any questions or concerns. Mr. Suzor had a question about the COLA increase for the Veteran's Agent which says the annual COLA will be equal to or the average of the COLA given to all other employees in the three towns for which he serves as the Veteran's Agent. Mr. Beder will reach out for clarification regarding Section 8 of the Agreement. Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the Veterans' Services Inter-Municipal Agreement and authorize the Town Administrator to sign upon clarification of the COLA agreement clause. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

### Adjournment

At 5:30 p.m., Mr. Suzor made a motion to adjourn the Workshop Session. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Selectman Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Shanna M. Faro  
Executive Assistant

### List of Documents

1. June 29, 2023 Meeting Agenda
2. Line-Item Transfers
3. Vacation Carryover Requests
4. Veterans Services Inter-Municipal Agreement