

**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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**AVON TOWN CLERK**  
REC'D DEC 8 2023 AM 9:07

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023**  
**MARY MCDERMOTT MEETING ROOM**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**Members Present:** Eric S. Beckerman, Chairman  
Jason L. Suzor, Sr., Clerk  
Shannon M. Coffey, Associate

**Others Present:** Jonathan L. Beder, Town Administrator  
Shanna M. Faro, Executive Assistant/HR Coordinator  
Joseph S. Lalli, Esq., Town Counsel  
Deb Morin, Finance Director  
Kathleen Waldron, Health Agent  
William A. Fitzgerald, DPW Director

Chairman Beckerman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with all members present. Chairman Beckerman announced that this meeting of the Board of Selectmen is being conducted via a hybrid method. The public may attend the Selectmen meetings in-person or may continue to participate via remote Zoom access. Chairman Beckerman reminded the viewing audience that people who would like to view this meeting while in progress may do so by 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).

Ms. Waldron led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Beckerman called for a Moment of Silence for Silvio "Sonny" Mercuri. Mr. Mercuri was a member of the Park & Recreation Commission from 1977 – 1984. He was a member of the Council on Aging Board of Directors from 2009-2020. He was also a Special Police Officer.

**Public Participation**

None

**Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the November 2, 2023 (Regular Session) meeting minutes as written. Ms. Coffey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Request from Board of Health to Raise Tobacco Permit Fees**

Ms. Waldron presented a fee schedule for the Board of Health which was approved at their October 12, 2023 meeting. Ms. Waldron requested approval from the Board of Selectmen as well for the revised fee schedule. She stated that the only change was an increase in the tobacco permit fees from \$50 to \$150. Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the revised Board of Health fee schedule. Ms. Coffey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Debt Exclusion Vote**

Ms. Morin appeared before the Board and stated this agenda item is part of the Clean Water Trust from 2005. It is the debt exclusion that the Board must annually vote for and approve and will be part of the Tax Recapitulation Sheet.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the Finance Director Deb Morin's Debt Exclusion Report in the amount of \$5,900.00 to the Board of Assessors, upon approval from the Board of Selectmen, as required by the Department of Revenue. Pursuant to MGL, 59 Section 21C(n), this law allows the Board of Selectmen to vote exempt water debt without a Proposition 2 ½ election. The Town of Avon's MWPAT Loans include West Spring Street. Ms. Coffey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Stoughton**

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that this project for additional water supply began as a grant. Through the course of research and negotiations it was decided that Stoughton would provide finished water to Avon through a hydrant located on Stockwell Drive near the IKEA building and additional locations mutually agreed on by both parties. Avon would be responsible for installing the temporary connections, provide metering for compensation to Stoughton for the water usage, and any other equipment necessary to effectuate temporary hydrant-to-hydrant connection between Stoughton and Avon for emergency withdrawal. Mr. Beder reminded the Board that this is for emergency usage only and only for hydrant connection. Mr. Beder stated this formal agreement has been reviewed by both Town Counsel and the town's insurance agent. Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve and sign the Intermunicipal Emergency Water Supply Agreement between the Town of Avon and the Town of Stoughton. Ms. Coffey seconded the motion. The motion passed. The agreement will be forwarded to the Town of Stoughton for signatures and final execution.

### **Request from DPW to Surplus Equipment**

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the following items from the Department of Public Works as surplus equipment:

1. 9-foot Everest Poly Plow RL 108 from 2016 with head gear and mounting hardware for F-550 (2 plows for surplus)
2. John Deere X300 sit down lawn mower
3. Auto Crane 4004 EH stiff boom crane with cradle and stabilizers
4. Cub Cadet LTX 1040 lawn mower

5. Ford L-8000 cab and chassis from 1995 with plow 43,000 miles
6. Striker TNT 6' x 12' cargo trailer

Ms. Coffey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Appointments**

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the promotion of Michael DeRienzo from Senior Water Operator to Lead Water Systems Operator for a Grade PW5, Step 1 effective November 20, 2023. Ms. Coffey seconded the motion. The motion carried. Mr. Fitzgerald informed the Board that Mr. DeRienzo will have a six-month probationary period to obtain his full D-2 distribution license.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Form and new appointment of Chelsea Filippini for a Per Diem Dispatcher at a Grade 7, Step 11 effective November 20, 2023 with the stipulation that all pre-employment requirements are satisfactorily completed prior to the start of employment with the Town. Ms. Coffey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Form and new appointment of Jill Russell for a Per Diem Dispatcher at a Grade 7, Step 11 effective November 20, 2023 with the stipulation that all pre-employment requirements are satisfactorily completed prior to the start of employment with the Town. Ms. Coffey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Announcements**

Chairman Beckerman announced that the regularly scheduled December meetings of the Board will be held on December 7, 2023 and December 21, 2023.

Chairman Beckerman announced that there will be a Special Town Meeting on Saturday, November 18, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the Avon Middle-High School auditorium.

### **Town Administrator's Report**

Mr. Beder informed that the Town Planner Rick Jordan has started in his new position and has already started working on zoning issues, grant work, and assisting with the 40B projects in town. Mr. Beder stated that he is working for a dedicated office space for Mr. Jordan in the West Wing.

Mr. Beder stated the Town Office Feasibility Committee met last week. They reviewed site selections and voted to move ahead and request the architect to develop two conceptual plans. The first idea would be to relocate the Town Hall and the Council on Aging/Civic Center building to the corner of Fagan Drive and East Main Street. The second idea is to relocate Town Hall only to the corner of Fagan Drive and East Main Street, while the Council on Aging/Civic Center building would remain at the current location with the addition of some form of housing development project. The next meeting of this Board will be after the concepts have been developed, which will be at the end of December or beginning of January.

Mr. Beder stated that he, Mr. Lalli, and Mr. Fitzgerald had a call with the attorney handling the PFAS settlement. This is a federal case involving contaminated water supply and confirmed with the attorney that the town is not opting out of the 3M and DuPont settlements in an attempt to recover funds sooner. The attorney stated there will be more information regarding this case in early spring 2024.

### **Town Counsel's Report**

Mr. Lalli has been working Mr. Beder on the PFAS litigation and the annual license renewals with Ms. Faro.

### **Adjournment**

At 7:31 p.m., Mr. Suzor made a motion to adjourn the regular session. Ms. Coffey seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ms. Coffey voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Shanna M. Faro  
Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator

### **LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

1. November 16, 2023 Meeting Agenda
2. November 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes
3. Board of Health fees
4. Letter from Deb Morin to Board of Assessors dated July 21, 2023 regarding debt exclusion vote
5. Intermunicipal Emergency Water Supply Agreement
6. Surplus Equipment Forms from DPW
7. Personnel Action Form for Michael DeRienzo for Lead Water Systems Operator
8. Memo from DPW Director William Fitzgerald to Board of Selectmen dated 11/13/23 recommending Michael DeRienzo for Lead Water Systems Operator
9. Personnel Action Forms for Chelsea Filippini and Jill Russell for Per Diem Dispatchers
10. Town Administrator's Report