

Fairhaven Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes June 09, 2021

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Present: Vice- Chairman Bob Espindola, Clerk Keith Silvia, Interim Town Administrator Wendy Clark Keith Silvia, Interim Town Administrator

Present via Zoom: Chairman Daniel Freitas and Attorney Thomas Crotty

Chairman Freitas opened the meeting at 9:11 am

Rogers School proposal

Mr. Espindola inquired if a meeting had taken place with Ms. Graves and the Rogers Reuse Committee and Southeastern Massachusetts Educational Collaborative (SMEC) representatives? Ms. Graves said a meeting had not taken place since the last time the Board had met on June 7, 2021.

Attorney Crotty update the Board on the lawsuit filed by Michael Ristuccia and Zachary Mayo. Mr. Crotty said the lawsuit has a lien on the Rogers building there is an "order of claim" stating the town is required to sell Mr. Risstuccia and Mr. Mayo the building. The Town has filed a dismissal in February but because of the pandemic the courts are backed up.

At 9:14 am Mr. Freitas turned the meeting over to Vice-Chairman Espindola.

Attorney Crotty hopes to have a decision in the case next in the next few months. Ms. Cooper stated that SMEC would like to withdraw their proposal for a lease because they cannot tie up a lease not knowing the outcome of the lawsuit.

Mr. Brady reminded the Board the Article for Town Meeting is for borrowing of the money regarding the lease, if there is no lease, there will be no borrowing of money. Attorney Crotty told the Board there is no reason why Town Meeting can't authorize the borrowing. The Board of Selectmen will have the legal authority to enter into the lease. By having the lease this will be one more opportunity for the law suit to move forward.

There was a recess due to loss of the internet 9:38 am- 9:41 am

Conservation Agent/ Sustainability Coordinator Whitney McClees told the Board the Rogers School could have Solar similar to the Wood School and the East Fairhaven School.

Ms. Cooper told the Board she would write a letter for Mr. Crotty to present to the court stating SMEC's intention to continuing the discussion for a lease once the lawsuit is dissolved. Ms. Cooper and Mr. Haraden would still like to keep the process moving forward.

The Board and Attorney Crotty discussed Town Meeting and Article 57: Rehab new wing at Rogers School.

Mr. Espoindola said Executive session for today was tabled.

Mr. Silvia made a motion to adjourn at 10:18 am. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Silvia in favor, Mr. Espindola in favor, Mr. Freitas in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wicket Olivers

Vicki Oliveira Administrative Assistant (Approved 06/21/2021)