

TOWN OF WARREN

BOARD OF SELECTMEN/ASSESSORS

May 3, 2023

6:15 PM Regular Meeting

Selectmen Present: Wayne Luce Chairman, Roger Peabody Vice-Chair, Jan Macdonald, and John Crabtree.

Absent: Brent Pratt

Staff present: Town Manager Sherry Howard, and Board Secretary Sara K. Davis

Call to order at 6:15 p.m. by Chairman Luce.

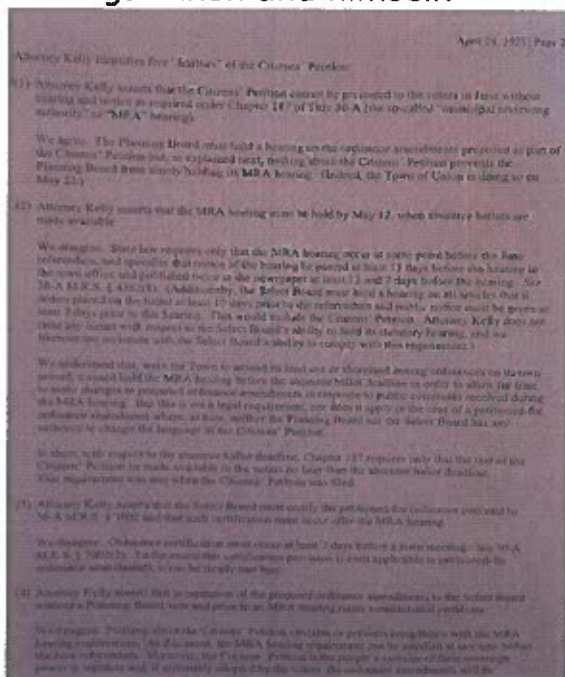
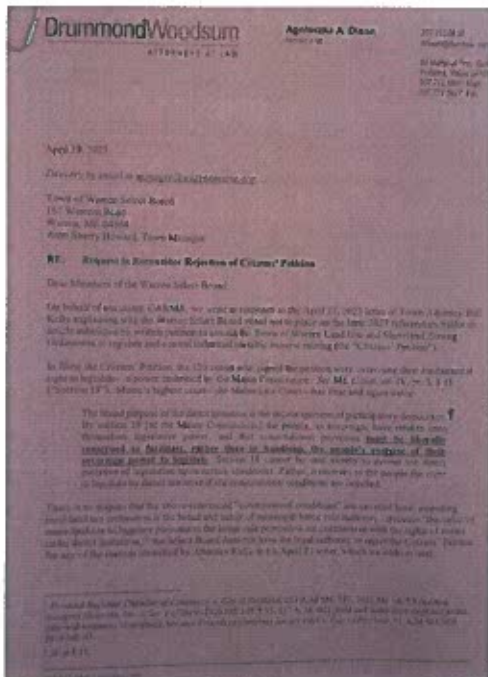
Item 1

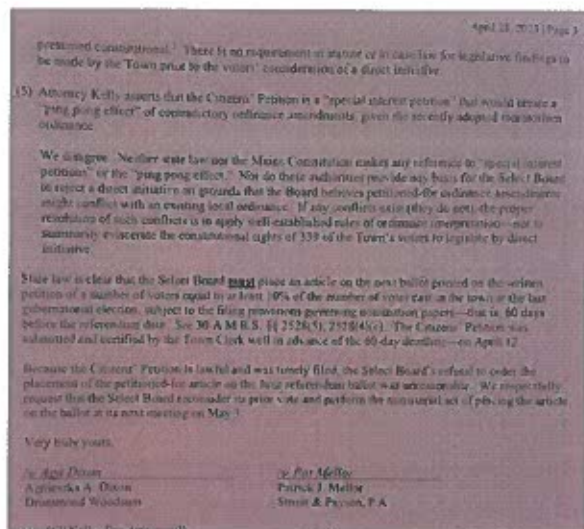
Moment of Silence/ Pledge of Allegiance

Item 2

Public Participation

Patrick Mellor reviewed letter from Aga Dixon and himself.





'CARMA' respectfully requests the Board reconsider the Citizens petition.

Sam, blocking the petition is harmful in the trust the Town's people have in the process. He states that the Board was asked directly if they would allow a petition and the Board said yes. Manager, that is untrue the Board did not say they would accept or deny a petition.

Chris Fierro, the people want their voice heard and would like the Board to reconsider. They followed the Democratic process.

Pen Williamson, regrets the back and forth. State rule override the Town's. We are on the same page.

James Harkins, the CEO of the Mining company stated that if the Town does not want it they would not pursue. Why are they not moving on.

Crabtree, when the Town has an Attorney that they trust you go with the recommendation of that Attorney. He is against mining.

Bill Kelly, sometimes an Attorney must give advice that is not popular but the Town went into action quickly executing the means necessary to put a moratorium in place. This is the quickest way to stop all exploration, and applications. 'CARMA' failed to follow the Town's procedure to work with the Planning Board. The amendment to the Land Use Ordinance from "CARMA" doesn't follow the Comprehensive plan. The moratorium voted on by the Residents protects the town, immediately. It's the fastest route to take.

Hank Reed, let's not get distracted, we should be congratulating the Town for getting the Moratorium enacted so quickly. Currently the Town of Union

is vulnerable and an application could be submitted before the June Vote. The Town of Warren is protected. Encourages "CARMA" to not get distracted, we have the same goal. We need to be working together.

Jake, asked who will be on the Mining Committee, Town has applications available for anyone that would like to be on the Committee. The Board of Selectman will review and appoint members.

Planning Board Chair Jason Tuorila, 339 signatures were on the petition and 145 votes for the Moratorium. Yet only six applications for the Mining Committee have been submitted in a two-week time. As soon as we have enough members and they are appointed they will discuss a time that works for the members. The moratorium that is in place is rock solid, and includes the comprehensive plan and can be extended until the committees have time to do their due diligence.

Joseph Berkinbile, has been on the Cannabis committee and the public is welcome to attend meetings. It's a tedious process. There are a lot of opinions on how it should be done. He suggests folks join a committee.

ACTION:

Motion by Macdonald; second by Crabtree not reconsider the Citizens Petition with all due respect.

Vote: 4-0

**Board holds brief recess to move from Fire Station to Town Hall
7:21p.m.**

Meeting opened back up at 7:25

Item 3

Vote to Approve Special Town Meeting minutes April 19, 2023

ACTION:

Motion by Crabtree; second by Macdonald to approve Special Town Meeting minutes April 19, 2023

Vote: 4-0

Item 4

Vote to Approve Selectmen's Meeting minutes April 19, 2023

ACTION:

Motion by Crabtree; second by Peabody to approve Selectmen's Meeting minutes April 19, 2023

Vote: 4-0

Item 5

Vote to Approve Selectmen's Budget Meeting minutes April 18, 2023

ACTION:

Motion by Peabody; second by Crabtree to approve Selectmen's Budget Meeting minutes April 18, 2023

Vote: 4-0

Item 6

Vote to Approve Warrant #22

ACTION:

Motion by Macdonald; second by Peabody to approve Warrant #22 & Trust Fund Warrant #16

Vote: 4-0

Item 7

Vote to Approve Trust Fund Warrant #16

Item 8

Dean Dolham to propose acquisition of Post Cemetery

Dean is requesting that the Town take over the Post Cemetery that was left to his family. Jim has looked at the property, Sexton has not. This would require a vote of the Residents. There are empty plots that are already spoken for, there is no money from the sale of plots to be given to the Town. There are no plots available to sell. Consensus of the Board to have Town Attorney review.

Item 9

Bring back discussion on fencing quotes between Recreation Field and Public Works Dept to the table

ACTION:

Motion by Crabtree; second by Peabody to take off the table

Vote: 4-0

Funds are in the next budget.

ACTION:

Motion by Luce; second by Crabtree to award to All Around Fencing in the amount of \$24,988.61

Vote: 4-0

Item 10

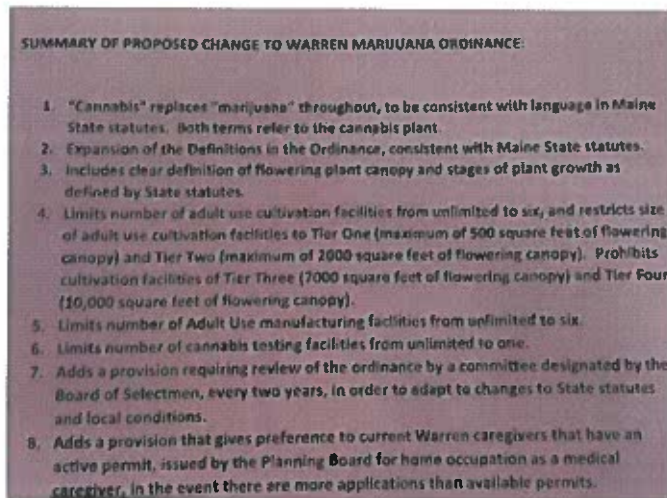
Present Knox County Fire & EMS Collaborative Study

Item 11

Planning Board presenting proposed Solar Ordinance and Cannabis Ordinance

Saindon, the Board has already been given the Solar Ordinance, there were a couple changes from the Town Attorney that they edited.

Joseph Berkinbile reviewed changes to the Cannabis Ordinance



Odor is covered in Land Use Ordinance.

Crabtree asked what a testing facility is. Arleigh, where they test for chemicals, potency, levels in the products.

ACTION:

Motion by Macdonald; second by Crabtree to accept Solar Ordinance as proposed.

Vote: 4-0

ACTION:

Motion by Crabtree; second by Macdonald to accept Cannabis Ordinance as proposed.

Vote: 4-0

Item 12

Russell O'Bryan to ask for an extension to submit payment of the awarded Tax acquired property bid

Russell is asking for a fourteen-day extension for the tax acquired property.

ACTION:

Motion by Peabody; second by Crabtree to allow fourteen-day extension as requested.

Vote: 4-0

Item 13

Award 2023 Paving Bid

Roads proposed to be paved Patterson Mill Rd. Highland Rd. Keating Rd.
Billings Rd. Clements Point Rd. Pine Ridge Rd.

Representative from highest bid in attendance.

Board reviewed recommendations from foreman.

ACTION:

Motion by Luce; second by Crabtree to award Paving Bid to Hopkins in the amount of \$505,710.48 as recommended.

Vote: 4-0

Item 14

Approve and Sign June 20, 2023 Town Meeting Warrant

ACTION:

Motion by Crabtree; second by Peabody to approve Warrant item #41

Vote: 4-0

ACTION:

Motion by Crabtree; second by Peabody to approve Warrant item #42, 43, & 44

Vote: 4-0

ACTION:

Motion by Crabtree; second by Macdonald to edit Warrant item #30 to \$500,000 from Fund Balance.

Vote: 4-0

ACTION:

Motion by Crabtree; second by Peabody to approve and Sign June 20, 2023 Town Meeting Warrant as amended.

Vote: 4-0

Item 15

Manager Report

2022 Spirit of America Award is going to all Town Employees. Awards are May 9th at 2:00p.m.

Mark has started surveying the property on Patterson Mill Road, should be completed soon.

Public Works did a great job after the rain storm. Some washouts of culverts but it did not shut us down.

Shoulders done on Middle Road.

Item 16

Other Business with the Leave of the Board

Peabody, Public Works did a good job.

Macdonald, asked what colors the Town would like for the gardens this year. Crabtree, red white and blue.

Luce, talk of the State project the round-about at the intersection of Western Rd and Route 90. The Board has not approved of.

Manager, Planning Board is doing an awesome job. All these Ordinances being updated. They have been doing very well.

Tuorila, let the Board know that the Warren Meadows solar farm would comply with the proposed solar ordinance.

Item 17

Executive Session

M.R.S.A § 405 (6)(F) Review Conceal Weapons

ACTION:

Motion by Crabtree; second by Macdonald to go into Executive Session
M.R.S.A § 405 (6)(F) Review Conceal Weapons at 8:32p.m.

Vote: 4-0

Leave Executive Session

ACTION:

Motion by Crabtree; second by Macdonald to approve Conceal Weapons

Vote: 4-0

Item 18

Adjourn

ACTION:

Motion by Peabody; second by Luce to adjourn the meeting at 8:45p.m.

Vote: 4-0



Wayne Luce, Chairman



Roger Peabody, Vice-Chair



Jan Macdonald

John Crabtree



Respectfully submitted by Board Secretary: Sara K. Davis

Attest: This is a true copy of the Warren Board of Selectmen's minutes, as certified to me by the municipal officers of the Town of Warren, Maine, and adopted by the Board of Selectmen on the 17th day of May, 2023.

Date: May 18, 2023

Signature: 

Town Clerk
