

ORLEANS SELECT BOARD
April 13 2022
Draft

This meeting was convened via remote participation under the Governor’s Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth from the COVID-19 virus with real-time public access provided by Channel 18 on the Town website and cable television.

Present from the Town of Orleans were Select Board Chair Mefford Runyon, Vice Chair Andrea Reed, Kevin Galligan, Michael Herman and Town Administrator John Kelly, Mark Mathison joined late.

Chair Mefford Runyon called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Meet in executive session to discuss strategy with respect to litigation: Estate of Duane Mead v. Town of Orleans

Chair Mefford Runyon called the executive session to order at 5:35 p.m.

On a motion by Andrea Reed and seconded by Michael Herman, the Board voted to enter into Executive Session to conduct discuss strategy with respect to litigation: Estate of Duane Mead v. Town of Orleans and to reconvene in open session and that the chair declare that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect to the cause and to reconvene in open session. The vote was 4-0-0, with Mefford Runyon, Andrea Reed, Michael Herman and Kevin Galligan all voting aye by roll call. Chair Mefford Runyon declared that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the body.

Public Comment

John Sargent (Crystal Lake Drive) spoke to his overall dissatisfaction regarding the plantings surrounding the Eversource Substation. He asked several times to have his issue added to a future agenda so that the situation could be discussed.

Michelle Linds (Coordinator for the Parent Information Network) spoke to her role in helping parents of children with mental health issues navigate the public system. She asked if Orleans would be willing to declare the first week of May as “Children’s Mental Health Week” due to the increase in mental health issues on Cape Cod.

Mr. Runyon called the public comment to a close.

Meet with George Meservey – Quarterly update on Planning and Community Development Activities

Mr. Meservey spoke to his work with the Economic Development Board (EDB) and gave updates on their recommendations to the town which would be presented to the board on April 26th at 6pm. He asked that he and the consultant for the EDB be placed on the Select Board agenda for May 11th. There was also a discussion surrounding why the seasonal housing survey had had such poor response.

Mr. Meservey noted that the town, through an RFP, had re-hired Ward Aquafarms to grow oysters in Lonnie's Pond. Mr. Runyon noted that Mashpee had high hopes that Oysters would solve their nitrogen issues and Mr. Kelly asked when there would be enough data collected by the town of Orleans to submit a formal plan to the DEP. Mr. Meservey stated that he believed that it had been filed by AECOM with no response to date. Mr. Meservey spoke briefly about a possible speed table being installed on Skaket Beach Road.

He next updated the Select Board on three upcoming zoning amendments as well as several regional wastewater activities that were ongoing. He also spoke on a new contract with UMASS for a review of the Nauset Estuary. Mr. Galligan noted that Eastham had wanted to do this several years ago and wondered where the funding had come from and Mr. Kelly and Mr. Meservey further explained the project. Mr. Galligan noted that it should be memorialized that Eastham was funding 50% of this project. Mr. Kelly spoke about how the Wastewater Planning Committee and the contracted work of Wright & Pierce would be helpful in the overall planning for the town, and Mr. Herman asked for a final version of the scope of work to be completed by Wright & Pierce. Mr. Kelly stated that he would work on getting a list together in terms of priorities.

Mr. Meservey next spoke on the Governor Prence Planning Committee who had hired Barrett Consulting Group to work with them in developing various housing scenarios. Mr. Runyon questioned whether or not underground parking could be looked into to save space for structures and there was a discussion surrounding current height codes and what they currently were in Orleans.

He next spoke to the Community Center Feasibility Task force, Affordable Housing Trust, Marine and Freshwater Quality Committee, 107 Main St. and their ongoing projects and needs. He also spoke on several regulatory items surrounding the two cannabis businesses in town in regards to their licensing processes. Mr. Runyon questioned at what point the town could look into other applicants if either of the first two companies were to not become licensed and there was a discussion surrounding that issue.

Mr. Meservey next gave updates on regulatory issues that had gone through site plan review.

Meet Doug Fromm and Dave Dunford – Quarterly updates on CCC and Assembly Activities

This agenda item was rescheduled for another time.

Town Administrator's Report

a. Vote to approve Orleans Police Department Block Party Use of Road Layout Permit request **Andrea Reed Moved to vote to approve Orleans Police Department Block Party Use of Road Layout Permit request, 2nd by Michael Herman. The vote was 5-0-0 with Andrea Reed, Michael Herman, Mefford Runyon, Mark Mathison and Kevin Galligan all voting aye.**

b. Annual Review of Emergency Assistance Policy (Trust Funds)
Kevin Galligan moved to vote to authorize the amount of \$10k in Emergency Assistance Policy (Trust Funds), 2nd by Andrea Reed. The vote was 5-0-0 with Andrea Reed, Michael Herman, Mefford Runyon, Mark Mathison and Kevin Galligan all voting aye.

Liaison Reports

Mr. Mathison spoke on the Governor Prence Committee and the Shellfish and Waterways Committee.

Ms. Reed spoke on the Community Feasibility Center, Cultural Council.

Mr. Galligan noted that the Snow Library Trustee committee was concerned that Town Meeting would last two days and Mr. Galligan had told them to assume it would last two nights. He also spoke to the work of the Friends of Snow Library.

Mr. Herman spoke on the Agricultural Committee, the annual meeting of the Farmer's Market and the Orleans Citizen Forum.

Mr. Runyon spoke on the Historical Commission.

Items for future agendas

Mr. Galligan spoke to the issues of the Eversource substation and asked that it be scheduled as an agenda item and requested that a representative from the utility company be present and it was decided that one would be placed ASAP.

Mr. Galligan also spoke to his concerns that the Cannabis Control Commission was going to be making updates to their regulations and noted that he hoped that these changes would not upset the work that the town of Orleans had already put into these projects.

Mr. Runyon noted that the Citizens Forum would be holding a pre-town meeting on Wastewater and the School Override. He also asked Mr. Kelly to have Mr. Daley prepare something regarding the use of school recreation.

Ms. Reed noted that the Wastewater FAQs would be posted on the town website the following day.

Adjourn

Andrea Reed moved to adjourn, 2nd by Kevin Galligan. The vote was 5-0-0, with Andrea Reed, Michael Herman, Mefford Runyon, Kevin Galligan and Mark Mathison all voting aye.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ashley Stucenski

Mark Mathison, Clerk

Documents in April 13, 2022 packet: