

IN BOARD OF SUDBURY SELECTMEN

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 15, 2020

Present: Chairman Daniel E. Carty, Vice-Chairman Patricia A. Brown, Selectman Janie Dretler, Selectman Jennifer Roberts, Selectman William Schineller (remotely) and Interim Town Manager Maryanne Bilodeau.

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, the meeting was convened at 6:45 p.m. at the Town Hall – Lower Level. Chairman Carty called the meeting to order.

**Opening Remarks by Chairman**

Chair Carty announced that Henry L. Hayes, Jr. was selected to fill the post of Sudbury Town Manager.

**Reports from Town Manager**

Interim Town Manager Bilodeau had no reports.

**Reports from Selectmen**

Vice-Chair Brown and Selectman Schineller had no reports.

Selectman Roberts attended the Community Climate Change Conversation held at the Goodnow Library. Attendees included a representative from MA Audubon Society, High School Environmental Group and Ms. Beth Suedmeyer, Environmental Planner.

Selectman Dretler also attended the Community Climate Change Conversation and mentioned the opportunity for the town to become more aware of the ways to offset climate change such as recycling or making town buildings more energy efficient.

Selectman Roberts mentioned she and her family attended the LS Boys Hockey game benefit game sponsored by Sudbury Fire and Police Departments in memory of Ando Yoshitaka.

**Citizen's comments on items not on agenda**

There were no citizen's comments

**Sign Notice of Intent to conduct chemical treatment of water chestnuts in Grist, Carding, and Stearns Mill Ponds**

Present: Jeff Winston, President of Hop Brook Protection Association; members of the Hop Brook Protection Association; Gary Christelis, President of the Wayside Inn Foundation Board of Trustees, Dr. Glen Pranksy of Harvard School of Public Health and UMASS Medical School (remotely) and Lori Capone, Conservation Coordinator.

Mr. Winston provided background regarding treatment of water chestnuts and related growth via Power Point presentation "Restoring and Preserving Sudbury's Ponds."

Mr. Winston presented the Notice of Intent to conduct chemical treatment of water chestnuts in Grist, Carding and Stearns Mill Ponds. He stressed that the administration of the Clearcast chemical treatment must take place in late June 2020 in order to be effective.

Mr. Winston detailed that all abutters were notified regarding the proposed treatment and all were supportive, with the exception of two abutters who were away. He emphasized that without treatment water quality would decrease, and there would be less opportunity for survival of animal life, and an increased breeding area for

mosquitoes. Manual harvesting was dangerous and ineffective. Mr. Winston outlined the associated long-term plan (approximately five years or less). As the water quality improved, less herbicide would be utilized.

Mr. Christelis stated that with increased droppings of water chestnuts the Grist Mill was not able to operate on a regular basis.

Ms. Capone noted that the proposed chemical treatment had been used in many local communities and there have been no associated problems. She explained that milfoil and other invasive growth is also present in two of the ponds.

Selectman Dretler inquired about cost. Mr. Winston responded that CPC funding had been approved and the HBPA had some funding and other grants would be explored as well.

Interim Town Manager Bilodeau commented about checking with DPW regarding possible funding opportunities.

Selectman Roberts asked about monitoring of the treatment project. Mr. Winston stated Solitude Lake Management would be monitoring the project.

Selectman Roberts thanked all volunteers for their efforts and agreed that something must be done to protect health aspects and wildlife.

Ms. Capone stated that the Board would be signing and approving the Notice of Intent as Town landowner and could be contingent on Conservation Commission (ConCom) approval of such Notice. Vice-Chair Brown affirmed CPC support for funding is contingent on ConCom approval of the project.

Selectman Schineller stated the Park & Recreation Department was also a stakeholder. Ms. Capone confirmed.

Selectman Schineller inquired about the safety of drinking water and possible precautions regarding proposed treatment. Dr. Pransky responded that the treatment gets quickly diluted, so that even if someone drank directly from the pond the levels of Clearcast would be below the level of concern. The Sudbury Water District, when this was raised, did not believe any of the chemical would end up in the water supply because their wells are so deep.

Selectman Dretler inquired about possible effects of treatment on wildlife. Dr. Pransky responded no adverse effect on wildlife had been reported.

Selectman Schineller commented about the endorsement of the Sudbury Valley Trustees. Mr. Winston confirmed the endorsement. Selectman Schineller asked if treatment might benefit recreation possibilities in Town. Mr. Winston commented about swimming/boating easements which have been diminished due to wastewater and water chestnut presence.

Chair Carty moved and Selectman Dretler seconded the motion.

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To approve the signing of the Notice of Intent filed by the Hop Brook Association to conduct chemical treatment of water chestnuts in Grist, Carding, and Stearns Mill Ponds.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Maryanne Bilodeau  
Interim Town Manager-Clerk

## **1/15/20 Documents & Exhibits**

**1.** Discuss and vote whether to sign the Notice of Intent filed by the Hop Brook Association to conduct chemical treatment of water chestnuts in Grist, Carding, and Stearns Mill Ponds. Members of Hop Brook Association to possibly attend.

### **Attachments:**

- 1.a SelectpersonsCover
- 1.b Notice of Intent
- 1.c HBPA\_Clearcast\_Review\_1\_01
- 1.d Answers to questions from Lori Capone
- 1.e HopBrookPds.VegReport2019.COMplete
- 1.f State of MA Clearcast Evaluation
- 1.g HBPA Experience of Nearby Towns R1
- 1.h HBPA Brief History
- 1.i Selectperson Acknowledgement Form
- 1.j HBPA\_Selectmens\_Slides011520