

All members were in attendance, Mr. Walter McDonough (via ZOOM), Mr. Barry Pollack (In-Person), and Chair Arthur Tzouros (via ZOOM). Also in attendance was Mr. Hoyt Davis (In-person) and Mr. David Davison (In-person). Mr. Michael Motta joined the meeting via ZOOM.

The meeting convened at 8:43 a.m.

No action was taken on minutes of the prior meeting. The minutes will be distributed prior to the next meeting.

Mr. Davison asked the Board to support and endorse the hiring of Mr. Michael Motta as Director of Assessing. Mr. Davison stated that all the board members had an opportunity to meet Mr. Motta in one of the interview rounds and that Mr. Motta was unanimous choice by all persons that participated in the interviews. Mr. Davison stated that Mr. Motta would begin work on July 11, 2022. A motion was made by Mr. Pollack and seconded by Mr. McDonough to support and endorse the hiring of Mr. Michael Motta as Director of Assessing. The motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Davis gave an update on pending Appellate Tax Board (ATB) cases which he informed the Board have been moved to October 18th 2022. Mr. Motta commented that he appreciated Mr. Davis taking that action so he could better prepare.

There were no votes required or updates necessary on agenda item four.

Agenda item five there were no updates. Mr. Davison asked the Board if it would schedule a meeting for July or August to give Mr. Motta an opportunity to meet with the Board before the busy season. A question about which rules apply on holding public meetings was asked. Mr. Davison informed the members that until July 15, 2022 the current rules which allow for remote participation (ZOOM) by board members apply. After then, the meeting rules revert to the prior procedures. He informed the members that the Select Board voted to adopt the Member Remote Participation in Public Meetings Policy. This would allow for continued member participation remotely, but that unlike the current rules, this modification requires both the chair of the meeting and a majority of the board members to be in-person. Mr. Davison mentioned that the Legislature is discussing whether to extend the current rules, but as of now nothing has passed. The Board members opted to meet on July 14, 2022 which can still be held under the current rules. The members decide to hold off on scheduling a meeting for September until the July meeting.

Mr. Pollack informed the Board members and Mr. Motta that because of his public participation concerning the re-zoning of the property commonly referred to as the MUZI site, and discussions he and other citizens have had with the owners, namely 557 Highland LLC, that he would recuse himself on any issues that may come before the Board on either the property, or with owners in order to avoid an appearance of a conflict.

Mr. Pollack moved, and Mr. McDonough seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The vote was 3-0 and the meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

David Davison

Assistant Town Manager/Director of Finance

Town Hall, 1474 Highland Ave., Needham, MA 02492

