

Shutesbury Select Board Executive Session Minutes
June 8, 2021 Virtual Meeting Platform

Select Board members present: Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil/Chair and April Stein

Select Board member absent: Rita Farrell

Staff present: Becky Torres/Town Administrator; Linda Avis Scott/Administrative Secretary

Torres confirms that the waiting room has been enabled and recording discontinued. All those present affirm that no one else can hear the proceedings.

At 7:01pm, Makepeace-O'Neil calls the executive session for reason #2, to review the minutes of the 4.30.21 executive session held to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel; specifically, to conduct negotiations with the Town Administrator, to order.

Stein moves and Makepeace-O'Neil seconds a motion to approve the 4.30.21 executive session minutes. Roll call vote: Stein: aye and Makepeace-O'Neil: aye; the motion carries.

Stein moves to release the 4.30.21 minutes to the public; Makepeace seconds the motion. The process and reason for releasing is reviewed. Per the Town Administrator's 5.26.21 email in response to Michael DeChiara's record request dated 5.17.21, the Select Board stated the minutes would be released following their approval during an executive session to be held on 6.8.21.

Stein and Makepeace-O'Neil acknowledge that Farrell is not present to participate in the decision to release the minutes to the public and recognize that releasing this set of minutes needs to be considered by all three members of the Select Board. Stein and Makepeace-O'Neil state they are uneasy about releasing the minutes without Farrell having had an opportunity to read the 4.30.21 executive session minutes.

Makepeace-O'Neil moves to amend the motion to release the 4.30.21 executive session minutes to the public by tabling consideration of their release to a future executive session when all three board members can attend, tentatively on 6.15.21. Stein seconds the motion. Roll call vote: Stein: aye and Makepeace-O'Neil; the motion carries.

Stein moves the Select Board rescind approval of the 4.30.21 executive session minutes due to learning that all three members have not read them and plan to reconsider these minutes during an executive session when all three members are present. Makepeace-O'Neil seconds the motion. Roll call vote: Stein: aye and Makepeace-O'Neil: aye; the motion carries.

Torres will follow-up with Farrell regarding the decision to reconsider the 4.30.21 minutes during an executive session when all three members are present and have read the minutes. Members of the public will be informed that all three members were not present and had yet to read the 4.30.21 executive session minutes.

At 7:34pm, Stein moves and Makepeace-O'Neil seconds a motion to adjourn the executive session for reason #2 and to resume the open meeting. Roll call vote: Stein: aye and Makepeace-O'Neil: aye; the motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Avis Scott
Administrative Secretary