



**TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS**  
**Oak Bluffs Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday August 23, 2022, at 4:30 pm in person.**  
**Oak Bluffs Town Hall**

Present: Select Persons Jason Balboni, Gail Barmakian, Emma Green-Beach, Brian Packish.

Absent: Chair Ryan Ruley.

Also Present: Town Administrator Deborah Potter, Assistant Town Administrator Wendy Brough, Executive Assistant Debra Alley, Town Clerk Colleen Morris, Town Counsel Michael Goldsmith

**4:35 p.m. Call Meeting to order**

**4:38 p.m. Executive Session started in the Meeting Room.**

**5:23 p.m. Meeting reconvene in open session**

**Discussion and possible vote to execute order of taking for 0 Uncas Ave, Oak Bluffs**

Select Person Barmakian made a motion to execute the taking of 0 Uncas Avenue, Oak Bluffs, as approved at annual Town Meeting June 16, 2020, seconded by Selection Person Packish.

Roll call vote: Packish - Aye, Balboni - Aye, Barmakian - Aye, Green-Beach - Aye, Ruley - Abstain. (4-Aye, 1-abstain)

**Public Announcements**

Select Person Barmakian thanked Select Person Green-Beach for her dedication and hard work in making the 2022 Fireworks a success.

**Department Head, Committees and Commission Updates**

Allyson Malik Library director advised the Oak Bluffs library in collaboration with other libraries on the island is providing digital access for library patrons to the Washington Post from the library website.

**Old/New Business - none**

**Vote to approve Select Board Meeting Minutes August 9, 2022**

Select Person Balboni motioned to approve August 9, 2022, Select Board Minutes, Seconded by Select Person Green-Beach.

3 - Aye, 1 - Abstain (Select Person Packish was not present at meeting)

**Discussion and possible vote to approve blocking of sidewalk - Flying Horses - John C. Anderson**

Mr. Anderson has spoken to the bank and other businesses which may be impacted by his equipment on the sidewalks when he is painting. Fire Chief Wirtz, Police Chief Searle, Highway Superintendent Combra have all been made aware of the work start date starting October 12, 2022. The painting work is weather dependent.

***The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.***



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Select Person Balboni suggested Mr. Anderson come back to the board in two months with an updated timeline. Select Person Green-Beach said she felt it would be beneficial to work on the weekends and decrease the duration of the time.

Select Person Balboni made a motion to approve the blocking of sidewalks on Kennebec Avenue and Lake Avenue for a two-month period starting October 12, 2022, Seconded Select Person Green-Beach.

(3 - Aye, 1- Abstain) Select Person Packish abstained

**Discussion regarding Electric Vehicle charging stations at Oak Bluffs Town Hall** - moved to September 13, 2022, agenda for further discussion

Discussion about the four electric car charging stations at the rear of the Town Hall and Library; these were installed with money from a grant when the Town initially leased electric vehicles. The chargers are meant to be for Town vehicles. Concerns were voiced about the liability to the Town if a personal vehicle was damaged whilst being charged, also concerns about the cost Oak Bluffs taxpayers are incurring for charging private citizens vehicles.

The board recognized more visitors are coming to the island in electric cars and there is a need to explore more charging stations.

Discussion about the possibility of having the existing four stations changed over to pay station, locking them to members of the public and/or temporarily putting up signage reserving some or all of the chargers for Town vehicles.

The new electric car charger at the side of Town Hall needs to be activated; Deborah Potter is working on this with the IT department and installation company.

Marilyn Miller from West Tisbury advised West Tisbury has recently installed pay electric charging stations at the library which are open to the public.

**Discussion regarding Town Of Oak Bluffs WIFI policy** - moved to September 13, 2022,

Discussion about the implementation of a WIFI policy for Town buildings and areas. The option of limiting the time WIFI is available to members of the public and if shutting the WIFI off after hours will help reduce the negative behavior which occurs around Town Hall and Library campus. Allyson Malik (Library Director) advised the library has twelve hotspots. The Select Board felt the answer is not to take away the entire WIFI, but to make it work for all residents and users of Town WIFI. Other measures may need to be investigated such as security cameras, more police patrols after hours.

Marney Toole the Chair of the Library Board of Trustees asked if the board followed the Roberts Rule of order when writing policy.

Sherwood Ives (IT) advised it is possible to turn the WIFI off when the library is not open. Member of the community spoke in support of keeping the WIFI open 24hours a day, seven days a week; it was a vital service for residents and visitors.

Further discussion about the WIFI has been postponed until the next Select Board meeting September 13th, 2022.

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**Discussion and determination for Strategic Planning Date in September 2022**

The Board discussed potential dates and are looking at the week of September 19th – 23rd 2022 for a second strategic planning date to finish the planning.

**Acceptance of Donations** – none

**Correspondence** – none

**Appointments**- none

**TA/ATA Report** - attached

**Select Board Update**

Select Person Balboni thanked Select Person Green-Beach, Police Chief Searle, Fire Chief Wirtz, Highway Superintendent Richard Combra, Parks Commission Chair Tony Lima and all the other Town Employees who participated in the Oak Bluffs Fireworks.

Select Person Packish thanked the other Towns emergency workers for covering Oak Bluffs Fire and Police Stations whilst Oak Bluffs employees worked at the Fireworks. Thank you to the Oak Bluffs Business Association go fund me had raised a little over \$22,000

Select Person Green-Beach said the fire works was a team effort, she wanted to thank Chris Gibson from the Highway department, DTAL- Dana Mylott Landscape and Crossland Landscape for the safety barricades in Ocean Park. American Thunder did an amazing job, the SSA for boat diversions, OBA go fund me, Summer Camp for their generous \$15,000 donation and members of the fireman's association for helping and conveying year of knowledge about fireworks.

**Public Comment** - none

**Important Dates**

September 5th - Labor Day - Town buildings closed

September 13th and 27th - Select Board Meetings

September 17th - Tivoli Day

**6:45 p.m. Adjourn**

Select Person Packish made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Select Person Balboni.

4 - Aye

**Documents Attached**

Select Board Minutes – August 9, 2022

Documents - John C Anderson application

Documents - Allyson Malik Library Director WIFI

WIFI letters from Oak Bluffs residents and other citizens

TA/ATA Report

  
*Approved Select Board Meeting 09.13.2022*

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