

*Minutes*  
*Williamsburg Board of Selectmen*  
*April 4, 2024*

The members of the Board of Selectmen met in regular session on Thursday, April 4, 2024, at the town office. The chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present: William Sayre, Denise Banister and Paul Wetzel

Also present: Nick Caccamo (Town Administrator), Mitch Cichy, Suzanne Forman, Jim Lobley, Dick Guzowski (Energy), Jim Piermarini (Energy), Gerry Shattuck, Cora Drew, Eleanor Warnock (Administrative Assistant)

1. Liquor license – public hearing – Tangle Chocolate LLC – The Administrative Assistant presented the liquor license application of Tangle Chocolate LLC for a Restaurant Wine and Malt Beverages liquor license. She said all the paperwork was in order and it just needed an inspection and the start of liquor liability insurance. She noted that the nearby Williamsburg Market, also a holder of a liquor license, supported the application. The chair opened the public hearing at 4:02 p.m. Suzanne Forman, the applicant, said that her business, located at the former Cichy's Garage, involved chocolate manufacturing, a café/lounge specializing in chocolate, and classes in pairing chocolate with wine and with beer. She plans to be open a couple of evenings a week to start. Mitch Cichy, neighbor and fellow condo owner in the building, and president of the building's condo association, expressed support for the application and raised a question about the outdoor space. He pointed out that the walkway and the patio were owned by the condo association and not by the applicant, and that the condo association would need to be consulted. Insurance for those areas would need to be figured out. The walkway is for her exclusive use and the patio is shared with other condo owners. The Board decided to put the matter on hold until there was a written statement from the condo association giving permission and the insurance issues were resolved. **Motion** was made and seconded (DB/PW) to continue the public hearing until Tuesday, April 9, at 4 pm. **So voted** (3-0).

2. Election – annual town election – **Motion** was made and seconded (DB/PW) to sign the warrant for the town election to be held May 6, 2024. **So voted** (3-0).

3. MVP grant application – Anne T. Dunphy School solar PV project – Jim Piermarini of the Energy Committee reported that they have submitted an Expression of Interest to the MVP grant program to put solar panels on the Anne T. Dunphy School. The application deadline is in two weeks. He asked if the Board supported the project enough to have the committee put their time and effort into the application. Various factors were discussed, including whether the school roof could handle the panels, what the costs would be, how the town's match would be met, and whether to get battery storage for excess electricity. Board members were in favor of the project. The Emergency Manager, Selectman Denise Banister, offered to write a letter of support

4. MassDOT Complete Streets grant – Town Administrator Nick Caccamo presented the MassDOT Complete Streets grant for signature. Mill River Greenway Committee had helped write the Tier 3 construction grant, and the town was awarded the maximum amount, \$500,000 for work associated with the dismount from the rail trail. The town has until June of 2026 to

expend the funds. This is two-thirds of the funds needed. There is a MassTrails grant for the remainder. There are ongoing discussions about South Main Street. It would be best to do the entire \$3 million project from the dismount to Bridge Street as a single project but it can be done in pieces. **Motion** was made and seconded (PW/DB) that the Select Board sign the contract for the Complete Streets funding in the amount of \$500,000. **So voted** (3-0).

5. FY25 budget – Town Administrator Nick Caccamo reviewed the three capital improvement requests received so far – Fire Department \$50,000 for turnout gear, Highway \$100,000 for a wood chipper, and Meekins \$23,000 for a mini-split heat and cooling unit. He reviewed the upcoming meetings with Finance Committee and department heads. There was also brief mention of the fire chief's contract and the invitation list for the Public Safety Complex open house. The Board will adjourn and reconvene with the Finance Committee at the Dunphy School at 5:30.

Documents used

Agenda

Liquor license application

Election warrant

MVP solar grant proposal and finances

MassDOT Complete Streets grant

Adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Approved:

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Clerk