



# TOWN OF SHREWSBURY

## Board of Selectmen Workshop

### REMOTE MEETING:

Google Meet: Dial (US) +1 513-818-1387 PIN: 765 029 127#

Richard D. Carney Municipal Office Building

100 Maple Avenue

Shrewsbury, Massachusetts 01545-5398

Friday, February 18, 2022 - 3:00 PM

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN WORKSHOP

### Minutes

**Important Notice:** Pursuant to Senate Bill 2475 signed into law by Governor Baker on June 16, 2021 Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, this meeting of the **Board of Selectmen** will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. All meetings and hearings listed in the agenda will also be done so through remote participation. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the town's website, at [www.shrewsburyma.gov/coronavirus](http://www.shrewsburyma.gov/coronavirus). No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the town's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting. To listen to this meeting, dial [+1 513-818-1387] and enter the following pin: [765 029 127#] Please mute your device by pressing \*6.

#### 1. Call to Order

Mr. Samia read the hybrid meeting script and called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM, "As a preliminary matter, this is John Samia, Chair. Please permit me to confirm that all members and persons anticipated on the agenda are present and can hear me.

**Present:** Mr. John Samia, Chair, Mr. John Lebeaux, Vice-Chair, Mr. Maurice DePalo, Clerk, Ms. Beth Casavant, Selectmen, Ms. Theresa Flynn, Selectmen.

**Also Present:** Mr. Kevin Mizikar, Town Manager, Ms. Kristen Las, Assistant Town Manager, Ms. Taylor Galusha, Principal Department Assistant (Board of Selectman and Town Manager), Lisa Fagerstrom, VISIONS Inc., John Colón, VISIONS Inc.

Good Afternoon. This Open Meeting of the Board of Selectmen is being conducted in a hybrid module consistent with Senate Bill 2475 signed into law by Governor Baker on June 16, 2021 Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, this meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. The Order allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely and in a hybrid fashion so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting. For this meeting, the Board of Selectmen is convening by Google Meet as posted on the Town's Website identifying how the public may join. Please be sure to press \*6 to mute your device. The meeting will feature public comment. Please wait until I open the item for public comment, and press \*6 to unmute your device."

#### 2. Meeting with VISIONS Inc. regarding consulting services for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

The Team from VISIONS Inc. gave an overview of the company and the history of the company as well. Mr. Colón noted that their main goal is how we find ways in a safe space to include people who have been historically excluded. They noted that Mr. Colón would be the lead consultant and there would be one other individual working with him and that Ms. Fagerstrom is their point of contact for contracts.

Mr. Colón then summarized their proposal and noted their goal would be to provide the group with the tools to work through the report and review the recommendations. They noted their staffing plan and that they could work both in-person, virtually, and hybrid. They also noted depending on how many people would be working through the report they could add an additional consultant.

Mr. Colón noted that they are flexible for when they could start working with them.

The Board asked questions regarding the training/services being focused on the Town as an organization or on the community, what the first step would be in this process, and experience working in/with local government. Mr. Colón noted that they would focus internally first to lead by example and they would start with the internal piece to give them the tools to work through this process independently someday. Mr. Colón noted that they have experience working with local government and see that the line between the community and government at the local level can be blurred as this where the government organization can directly impact resident's lives.

The Board thanked Mr. Colón and Ms. Fagerstrom and Mr. Colón and Ms. Fagerstrom left the meeting.

3. **Discuss proposals for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion consulting services.**

The Board discussed their thoughts on the two conversations they had with Tangible Development and VISIONS Inc. They noted their opinions on the need for training and if that will actually help them work through the report. The Board members noted that they would be comfortable making a decision on a consultant at their upcoming meeting.

4. **Adjourn**

On a motion by Mr. DePalo, seconded by Ms. Casavant, on a roll call vote; Mr. DePalo – yes, Ms. Casavant—yes, Ms. Flynn –yes, Mr. Lebeaux –yes, Mr. Samia—yes, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 4:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Taylor M. Galusha