

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SEPTEMBER 21, 2011
REGULAR SESSION

Members Present: David Parker, William Rice, Francis Cavaco

Absent: John Whelan, Robert McLintock

Town Administrator: Pamela T. Nolan

Chairman Parker called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

He advised the meeting was taped via audio and video and asked if anybody in the audience was taping.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider the Conditional Offer of Employment to Ryan Bernier as Probationary Police Officer

Chief Ronald Charron recommended the conditional employment of Ryan Bernier.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Rice, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To offer conditional employment to Ryan Bernier as Probationary Police Officer.

Consider Joint Appointment with Planning Board of Roger Ross Due to Resignation of Tom Clancy

Mr. Michael Bourque of the Planning Board indicated a quorum was present.

Mr. Ross stated that he is an attorney in the State of Rhode Island. His practice is primarily real estate related. At one time, he served as legal counsel to Planning and Zoning for a town in northern Rhode Island. He responded to questions.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Rice, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Roger Ross to the unexpired term on the Planning Board.

The vote: Michael Bourque ó Aye; Lee B. Dunn ó Aye; Sandra Foulkes ó Aye; Russ Horsman ó Aye; Francis Cavaco ó Aye; William Rice ó Aye; Chairman Parker ó Aye.

Interview Candidates for MCIC (1 Moderator) Senior Center Building Committee (1 Moderator)

Mitchell Krzyzek – MCIC

Town Moderator Michelle Hines indicated Mr. Krzyzek had withdrawn from the MCIC and would like to hold his talent bank form for the Finance Committee.

The two applicants are Mr. David Viera and Mr. Jeffrey Creamer.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Rice, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Jeffrey Creamer to the MCIC to fill the unexpired term (April 2012).

Ms. Hines appointed David Viera to the MCIC for a three-year term.

Chairman Parker thanked them for their patience.

Senior Center Building Committee

Mrs. Jan Tabor explained why she wanted to be on the committee. She was appointed by Ms. Hines.

Interview Candidates for Appointments to Historical Commission and Community Preservation Committee (CPC)

Eleanora Rezek (Historical and/or CPC)

Eli Mello (Historical and/or CPC) – withdrew

Peter Hoogerzeil (Historical)

Mr. Cavaco noted that Mrs. Rezek had applied for an \$80,000 loan from the CPC for a septic system at her business. He asked if she felt it was a conflict of interest.

She felt it was not a conflict of interest. She was told that she would not be involved in the voting of the application.

Mr. Rice asked about her interest in the Historical Commission.

She responded that she is interested in the history of Seekonk, and she would like to do more to promote it.

Chairman Parker asked if she would object to the appointment after completion of her loan application.

Mr. Hoogerzeil said he is a history teacher at Seekonk High School. He is interested in preserving the history of the Town for the future.

Consider Appointments of Interviewed Candidates

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Rice, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Peter Hoogerzeil to the Historical Commission.

There was no second to a motion by Mr. Rice (for discussion) to appoint Mrs. Rezek to the CPC. Mr. Rice said he needed more information from the CPC.

Consideration of Conveyance of 0.116 Acres of Open Space to Seekonk from Attleboro Presented by Richard Wallace

Conservation Commission Chairman Richard Wallace advised that approximately six months ago the Conservation Commission was approached about taking this small piece of land on Oakdale Avenue. It is an open space area. The City of Attleboro has been paying \$500 in taxes. The land will be maintained by Attleboro. The property is valued at about \$50,000.

Chairman Parker explained that members who are not in attendance had questions.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Rice, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the conveyance of 0.116 acres of open space from the City of Attleboro to the Town of Seekonk.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Rice, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Quit Claim Deed.

Consider Contract Award for Pavement Markings

Painting Lines

Town Engineer David Cabral explained that the pavement markings are done on an annual basis. Three firms quoted prices. He recommended to award to Markings, Inc., low bidder.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Rice, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To award the contract to Markings, Inc. for painting lines and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the contract in the not to exceed amount of \$16,500.

Thermoplastic

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Rice, and it was unanimously

VOTED To award the contract to Markings, Inc. for thermoplastic in the amount of \$23,100 and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the contract.

DPW Superintendent Robert Lamoureux explained that funding will come from Chapter 90 and a budget line item.

Chairman Parker inquired about the pick up and disposal of brush.

Mr. Lamoureux advised the Town is not equipped to pick up residential brush. He will have a warrant article for tub grinding, and he has contacted a company that is interested in purchasing some of the screening material at the compost facility. The Town could make \$6,000 to \$8,000. He will be coming to the Board with information in a couple of weeks. He noted this is for material that had previously been processed.

Chairman Parker said there could be no further discussion because this is not an agenda item. It will be on next week's agenda.

Consider Approval of Contractor Authorized Signatory Listing for Town Administrator for Central Avenue Project

Mr. Cabral explained this is to change the name on the document from former Town Administrator Michael Carroll to Mrs. Nolan.

A motion was made by Mr. Rice, seconded by Mr. Cavaco, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To change the authorized signature on the Contractor Authorized Signatory Listing from Mr. Carroll to Mrs. Nolan.

Consider Approval of Extra Work Order for Central Avenue Project, Project Report 1

A motion was made by Mr. Rice, seconded by Mr. Cavaco, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the extra work order for Central Avenue Project, Project #604390.

Consider Ending Moratorium on Temporary Sign By-Law

Chairman Parker advised that the Building Commissioner had recommended that the Board end the moratorium as of December 1, 2011. He noted that the By-Laws were supposed to be written by either the Planning or the ZBA.

There was no action on a motion by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Rice, to discuss ending the temporary sign by-law.

Mr. Cavaco said that this was discussed at Town Meeting. It was supposed to go back to the Planning Board. He requested the Building Commissioner attend the next meeting.

Chairman Parker noted that she had already recommended the moratorium end on December 1, 2011.

Mr. Rice noted that the ZBA does not write bylaws. He asked if it was proper to move the question.

Chairman Parker voiced his tremendous objection to no action being taken. He noted this was voted at Town Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Central Avenue

Mr. Cabral reported that beginning on Monday the contractor will start reclamation from the Attleboro line down to Pond Street and the milling from Pond Street to Bakers Corner. Binding and curb work started today, and there should be curbing and sidewalks by the end of the construction season. The new traffic light will not go in until next year.

Mr. Cavaco said that Mass. Highway raised concerns about Verizon moving the poles.

Mr. Cabral replied that majority of the poles are National Grid.

Mr. Cavaco said he requested a list of pole numbers from Mass. Highway. He referred to M.G.L. If a public hearing is held and the Board issues a 90-day notice to remove the poles, a fine could be imposed of a certain amount per day or the Town could have the poles removed. This happened in Bellingham, MA. He will visit the Selectmen's office there for more information and then meet with the Town Administrator, Mr. Lamoureux and Mr. Cabral.

Mr. Rice and Chairman Parker concurred with Mr. Cavaco.

Discussion with Recreation Committee on Possible Use of Police Association Building

Chairman Parker asked Mr. Rapp, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, if there was any interest in using the police association building located behind the library.

Although access is not available, Mr. Rapp felt there are ways to make it work and make it safe. He said leagues are looking for a place to meet.

Mr. Cavaco asked if the Seekonk Republican Committee or Boys and Girls Scouts could use the building for meetings.

Chairman Parker felt it should not be offered to political parties.

Mr. Lamoureux stated that the building is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Public Works. He expressed concern about maintenance of the building; it would mean additional responsibility for DPW, and it is not a budgeted item.

A time will be scheduled so that the Recreation Commission and the Board of Selectmen can look at the inside of the building.

Mr. Kinniburgh suggested checking the building for lead.

Chairman Parker said the Chief of Police indicated the only lead is bullets on the ground that can be picked up.

Discussion on the Reconsideration of Debt Exclusion for Landfill Capping

Chairman Parker stated this is a citizen's request.

Mrs. Christine Allen requested that the Board of Selectmen include a warrant article for the Fall Town Meeting to reconsider debt exclusion for landfill capping. She stated that only the people who buy trash bags are paying for the landfill capping. She felt that all taxpayers should be responsible. Dumpster users do not pay. The tax rate would be lowered when the debt is paid.

Chairman Parker explained that residents who use dumpsters are paying; businesses are not paying.

Mr. Rice said the businesses do not use the landfill but would have to pay for it.

Mr. Lamoureux explained that a portion of the trash bill pays for the landfill capping. Businesses do not pay.

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Chairman Parker stated that he would not support it. He noted that taxes are figures based on the value of the property. If this passes, 35% of residents would get an increase in taxes. Right now it is a flat fee. Businesses never used the landfill.

Mrs. Allen withdrew her request.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Nolan advised that all warrants are due in her office by September 30, 2011 at 12 noon.

She read a letter from Cheryl Balosco of Mohawk Drive. Mrs. Balosco praised Animal Control Officer Sharon Hall for her care and compassion of four abandoned kittens.

Mrs. Nolan said that Ms. Hall is an exemplary employee who truly has the animals in her vision. She does an extraordinarily good job.

Chairman Parker noted that Ms. Hall bottled fed those kittens all night.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Accounts Payable Warrant

Mr. Cavaco stated there were no issues this week.

Mr. Cavaco inquired about the sign at the entrance to Peck Street.

Mrs. Nolan said that the sign was removed by DPW to see what can be done with it.

Mr. Cavaco asked that DPW look at Brook Street. He received calls from residents about a crack in the road.

He wanted to include an item on next week's agenda for discussion of an Administrative Policy that all new roads funded by Chapter 90 meet Mass Highway Standards. He is going to try to get stimulus money for a road from the reservoir to Newman Avenue. Also, for next week's agenda, an item to talk about road opening permits with a representative of the gas company. He has photos. He felt it should be for emergencies only.

Mr. Cavaco said that he is working on a warrant article to change Article 2A.4.1 and 5.1 to eliminate the waiting period to appoint a board or committee members. He will forward to the Town Moderator.

Mr. Rice suggested an Economic Development Committee to get better feedback from businesses on needs and issues; one of which would be to hold a job fair. He also suggested an energy committee.

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Mr. Rice wanted to eliminate the times on the agenda ó will be on next week's agenda.

Chairman Parker advised it was done so that resident who had to come before the Board would not have a long wait.

He said there is a phone number to call re: spraying for mosquitoes.

Chairman Parker advised that the schools are selling various items in celebration of the Town's 200th Anniversary. They will also have a CD with a special symphony for the occasion.

A motion was made by Mr. Rice, seconded by Mr. Cavaco, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the gift from the Town Clerk (commemoration of the 200th Anniversary.

Mrs. Parker will be at the next meeting to talk about activities planned for the celebration. One of the events is a trip to a Celtics game in March 2012 (102 tickets available). Seekonk High School cheerleaders and the Police Honor Guard will perform, and several children will be allowed to form a tunnel to hi-fi the team.

Chairman Parker noted that an event is planned for every month in 2012.

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

Mr. Ed Wiseman said the walls in the room are buckling. He called it shoddy workmanship.

Mr. Cavaco advised that a public hearing was scheduled for next week re: zoning for overlay district. In October, he will meet with Rep. Howitt, along with Mrs. Nolan, Mr. Hansen and Ms. Rogers.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Rice, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To dissolve at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Whelan, Clerk

Patricia Gamer, Secretary