

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MARCH 6, 2019
REGULAR SESSION

Members Present: David Andrade, Nelson Almeida, David Viera,
Michelle Hines, Chris Zorra

Town Administrator: Shawn E. Cadime

Chairman Andrade opened the meeting at 7 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

He announced that, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 20(f), any person recording the meeting must notify the Chairman. The Board of Selectmen is recording via audio and visual.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE OPENINGS UPDATE

Mr. Almeida announced that volunteers are needed on the Charter Study Committee (up to 6 Board of Selectmen appointments), Conservation Commission (3 BOS), Cultural Council (2 BOS), Economic Development Committee (2 BOS), Energy Committee (1 BOS), Historical Commission (3 BOS), Recycling Committee (up to 4 BOS), Taxation Aid Fund Committee (1 BOS), Veterans Council (5 BOS).

COMMUNITY SPEAKS – None.

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing for Departmental Fees

A motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Ms. Hines, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To open the public hearing on departmental fees at 7:02 p.m.

The vote: Mr. Viera – Aye; Ms. Hines – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Chairman Andrade – Aye.

Mr. Cadime explained there are changes in four departments. The others remain the same. The animal control fees will increase to recover Dr. Truesdale's costs. The Board of Selectmen will have new fees for change of manager, ownership, or stockholders. New permitting fees in the Building Department will put the town more in line with other communities. The DPW will have increase in the cost of bags and annual trash fee.

With respect to animal control, the cost for neutering and spay was at \$40 for cats and canines. That will be increased to the actual cost charged by Dr. Truesdale. The cost for rabies

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vaccination with transports is proposed to go from \$28 to \$30. Outside fees for cats will go from \$6 to \$10 and for dogs from \$10 to \$12. Outside fees for microchip going from \$20 to \$30. 4DX tests from \$40 to \$45. Flea control from \$10 to \$12. FELFVIV tests from \$30 to \$35 and the warming from \$6 to \$10.

Ms. Hines asked why Animal Control does not go out to bid for veterinarian services.

Mr. Cadime said he would find out. He said these fees will be implemented on July 1, 2019.

The Board of Selectmen fee for transfers and change of manager will be \$100.

Mr. Almeida supported the fee.

Mr. James Aguiar, Building Commissioner in Seekonk and Dighton, explained they needed to streamline fees. The intent is to try to reduce the number of line items and to consolidate the permits most sort after. The fee for finished basements was reduced to \$500. The fee schedule should increase the revenue and could offset some of the costs.

Mr. Aguiar explained it is more reasonable and accurate to use the actual square footage of the house rather than the fit and finish.

Mr. Cadime said the trash fee will be \$211.27. Large trash bags going from \$1.02 to \$1.05 and small bags from 63 cents to 65 cents. These were not increased last year.

Chairman Andrade said there have been many complaints about the quality and size of the bags.

DPW Supt. David Cabral said there have been a few issues with the quality. He urged residents to bring the bags to DPW to get replacements. DPW will get reimbursed. He said the strength of the bags is still the same. It happened when DPW placed a large order for bags. It seemed to be at the Stop & Shop on Newman Avenue. He noted the Recycling Coordinator has been handling that. He will get more information.

In response to Ms. Hines' question, Mr. Cabral said the trash fees are covering the disposal fees. The contract costs went up.

Chairman Andrade suggesting a place holder for marijuana fees. He thought there was a consensus at the last meeting.

Mr. Almeida asked about perpetual care fees at both cemeteries.

Mr. Cabral said a few plots were sold at the second cemetery.

A motion was made by Ms. Hines, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

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VOTED: To close the public hearing at 7:38 p.m.

The vote: Ms. Hines – Aye; Mr. Viera – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Chairman Andrade – Aye.

LICENSE HEARING

Consider the Request for a Change of Beneficial Interest, Change of Officer and Change of Manager of an Annual On-Premise All Alcohol Beverage Liquor License for Blazing' Wings, Inc., d/b/a Buffalo Wild Wings, 102 Highland Avenue, Seekonk, MA, Michelle Yvonne Alexion to be Manager

The attorney representing the applicant stated the parent company has been purchased by Roark Capital Management LLC. It has very little or no impact on the operations of Buffalo Wild Wings in Seekonk.

The second request is for change of manager to Michelle Yvonne Alexion. She has over 20 years' experience with serving alcohol. She is TIP certified.

Ms. Hines asked about the Form of Good Standing.

Mr. Cadime said that is usually for new applications.

A motion was made by Mr. Almeida, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the request for a change of beneficial interest, change of officer, and change of manager of an annual on premise all alcohol beverage liquor license for Blazing' Wings, 102 Highland Avenue, Seekonk, MA, contingent on Certificate of Good Standing; Michelle Yvonne Alexion, Manager.

Consider the Request for a Mobile Food Cart Permit for Timothy Spaulding to sell food at Seekonk Speedway, 1782 Fall River Avenue

Ms. Hines said there is no approval from Mr. Vendetti at Seekonk Speedway.

Mr. Spaulding said he does this during the flea market. He will bring in a letter from the Speedway.

A motion was made by Mr. Almeida, seconded by Ms. Hines, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve for a mobile food cart permit for Timothy Spaulding to sell food at the Seekonk Speedway, 1782 Fall River Avenue, pending written approval from the property owner.

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Consider the Request to Amend an Existing Class II Motor Vehicle License for The Car Palace, Inc., 14 Taunton Avenue, from a Copartnership to a Corporation and Request Increasing the Amount of Allowed Vehicles from 14 to 49 as shown as a Revised Site Plan

Mr. Cadime said the applicant was before the Board to request a renewal. There was concern about the number of vehicles. There is an approved parking plan to go from 14 to 49 vehicles.

Ms. Hines said the last time they discussed this there was mention about having an approved fire lane around the building. She saw three dump trucks there so there is no access around the building.

Director of Planning John Aubin said fire access would be from the side street.

Mr. Viera said that Mr., Dichristofero hasn't been in business very long and there have been a number of violations. He paved the back and also cleared a lot across the street to park cars while work was being done.

Mr. Dichristofero said he intended to expand to the back lot after the septic is done.

Mr. Abelson said he checked this morning. It is in compliance.

Mr. Almeida suggested 32 cars total because of the size of the lot and the resident behind the lot.

A motion was made by Mr. Almeida seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Nay; To amend the existing class II motor vehicle license for the Car Palace, Inc., 14 Taunton Avenue, from a copartnership to a corporation and allow 32 vehicles total on display.

The vote: Mr. Almeida – Aye; Mr. Viera – Aye; Ms. Hines – Aye; Chairman Andrade – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Nay.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider the Conditional Offer of Employment for Thomas K. Gosling, Jr. to the Position of Truck Driver/Laborer with the Department of Public Works

Mr. Cabral favorably recommended the conditional offer of employment for Thomas K. Gosling, Jr.

Mr. Cadime recommended as stated by the Superintendent of DPW.

A motion was made by Ms. Hines, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

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VOTED: To extend a conditional offer of employment to Thomas K. Gosling, Jr. as truck driver/laborer with the Department of Public Works, pending background check and physical.

Consider the Conditional Offer of Employment for Jonathan Hurst to the Position of Truck Driver/Laborer for the Department of Public Works

Mr. Cabral favorably recommended the conditional offer of employment for Jonathan Hurst.

Mr. Cadime recommended as stated by the Superintendent of DPW.

A motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Ms. Hines, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To extend a conditional offer of employment to Jonathan Hurst as truck driver/laborer with the Department of Public Works, pending background check and physical.

Mr. Almeida asked why he had left a previous job.

Mr. Cadime said it was a disciplinary issue. The explanation was satisfactory to Mr. Cadime.

Consider the Request from Ocean State Multisport to hold a 25K Relay Road Race on August 18, 2019

Mr. Gary Menissian from Ocean State Multisport said the proceeds of the race will go to the Newman YMCA Campaign Fund and the senior center. It's a three mile race. The route will keep the runners off Arcade Avenue.

A motion was made by Mr. Almeida, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the request from Ocean State Multisport to hold a 25K relay road race on August 19, 2019.

Consider the Acceptance of the District Local Technical Assistance Award from Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District

A motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Mr. Zorra, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the district local technical assistance award from SRPEDD in the amount of \$7,500.

Mr. Aubin advised the Town did not receive the housing choice grant. DPW is looking at financing options with CPC.

Consider the Request to Amend Sections 3.2 and 6.12 of the Town of Seekonk Zoning Bylaws and the Town of Seekonk's Zoning Map as it pertains to the "Front" portion of the property located at 800 Fall River Avenue to Create a "Marijuana Cultivation and Wholesale Sale Overlay District" and forward to the Planning Board for a Public Hearing to be placed on a Warrant for Spring Town Meeting

Chairman Andrade advised the ten necessary signatures are attached to the document to be included on the Warrant for Spring Town Meeting. He said it is interesting to note the benefits mentioned do not apply to wholesalers.

Mr. Cadime stated the warrant article references Exhibit 1. There is no Exhibit 1.

A motion was made by Mr. Almeida, seconded by Mr. Zorra, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To forward to the Planning Board for a public hearing.

Mr. Aubin advised a public hearing is scheduled for April 23, 2019, at 7 p.m. to be held at the senior center.

Considering Replacing "Administrative Policy #26 – Equal Employment Opportunity, Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Policy" with the "Freedom from Unlawful Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Policy"

A motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Mr. Zorra, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To replace Administrative Policy #26 – "Equal Employment Opportunity, Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Policy" with the "Freedom from Unlawful Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Harassment Policy"

Consider Opening the May 13, 2019 Spring Town Meeting Warrant

A motion was made by Ms. Hines, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To open the warrant for the May 13, 2019 Spring Town Meeting as of this date, March 6, 2019.

Consider Approving the Minutes of February 6, 2019

A motion was made by Ms. Hines, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the Regular Session minutes of February 6, 2019, as submitted.

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

Mr. Doug Metz of 135 Greenbrier Drive mentioned that he thought there was a designated district in town.

Chairman Andrade explained the petitioner wants to ask town meeting to rezone the Showcase property.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – None.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Aitken School Expansion Building Committee Report

Mr. Zorra advised the recent meeting was rescheduled until Wednesday, March 13, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. at the school.

He asked if police officers carry NARCAN. There might be an occasion when they have to use it on themselves.

Mr. Cadime said the EMS has it.

Mr. Viera suggesting contacting legal counsel regarding any possible litigation.

Mr. Zorra responded to complaints on social media about snow removal. He noted they have a plan and he felt DPW handled it very well.

Ms. Hines thanked those who attended the Taste of the Town sponsored by the Kiwanis Club.

The Save-A-Pet Auction is on line at Seekonk Save-A-Pet.org. It will be one night on Friday, April 26, 2019, from 5:30 p. m. to 9 p.m. at the Ramada Inn.

Ms. Hines talked about a flyer from the Citizens Against the Rehoboth Compressor Station. A meeting will be held at the library in Rehoboth on Tuesday, March 19, 2019.

Chairman Andrade received an e-mail regarding a fundraiser to benefit the first season of Lacrosse at the high school. It will be on March 9, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Seekonk Gun and Rod Club.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:44 p.m. Mr. Viera motioned, seconded by Mr. Almeida, to go into Executive Session to conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Parks and Recreation Director per

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M.G.L. Chapter 23A, Section 21(a)(2), as having discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town and to accept Executive Session minutes of February 6, 2019; not to return to Open Session.

The vote: Mr. Viera – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Ms. Hines – Aye; Mr. Zorra – Aye; Chairman Andrade – Aye.

Respectfully submitted,

David Viera, Clerk

Prepared by:

Patricia Gamer, Secretary

Items Distributed at the March 6, 2019 Board of Selectmen Meeting

List of Departmental Fees

Documentation for changes at Buffalo Wild Wings

Application for Timothy Spaulding – food cart permit

Documentation for license change – The Car Palace

Application for Thomas J Gosling, Jr. for truck driver/laborer position

Application for Jonathan Hurst for truck driver/laborer position

Request from Ocean State Multisport to hold a 25K Relay Road Race on August 18, 2019

SRPEDD - District Local Technical Assistance Award

Amendment to Section 3.2 and 6.12 Zoning By-Laws

Freedom from Unlawful Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Policy