

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
APRIL 17, 2019
REGULAR SESSION

Members Present: David Andrade, Nelson Almeida, David Viera, Justin Sullivan
Absent: 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. Sullivan announced that volunteers are needed on the Charter Study Committee (up to 6 Board of Selectmen appointments), 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 (2 BOS).

COMMUNITY SPEAKS – None.

PRIORITY MATTERS

Consider the Appointment of David Reis, Sr. to the Veterans Council

Mr. Cadime advised that he interviewed Mr. Reis. He will be a good fit to the Veterans Council.

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

VOTED: To appoint David Reis, Sr. to the Veterans Council.

Consider the Appointment of William Curtis, Jr. to the Veterans Council

Mr. Cadime advised he also interviewed Mr. Curtis and he will also be a good fit to the Veterans Council.

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

VOTED: To appoint William Curtis, Jr. to the Veterans Council.

Both Mr. Reis and Mr. Curtis were in attendance.

Consider Accepting the Donation of \$2,500 from Coliseum Software Co. and Roman K-9 Academy to the Animal Shelter

Mr. Cadime recommended the Board accept the donation.

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

VOTED: To accept the donation of \$2,500 from Coliseum Software Co. and Roman K-9 Academy to the Animal Shelter.

Board members thanked them for the donation.

Consider the Resignation of Ashley O'Connell as Kennel Worker at the Animal Shelter

Mr. Cadime advised Ms. O'Connell has a newborn baby and the work schedule is not good for her. He recommended the Board accept the resignation.

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

VOTED: To accept the resignation of Ashley O'Connell as Kennel Worker at the animal shelter.

Chairman Andrade asked about an exit interview.

Consider Posting the Position of Kennel Worker at the Animal Shelter

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

VOTED: To post the position of kennel worker at the animal shelter.

In discussion prior to the vote, Board members agreed it is a necessary position, especially with the new shelter under construction.

Mr. Cadime said the Animal Control Officer and he also feel the position should be filled.

Joint Meeting with the Charter Study Committee to Discuss Amendments to the Town Charter and Consider Dissolving the Committee

Chairman David Sullivan and Mr. John Aves were in attendance.

Mr. Sullivan said it took the committee almost a year to complete the document.

The Board thanked the members of the Charter Study Committee for their work.

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The Board of Selectmen reviewed the recommendations proposed by the Charter Study Committee.

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

VOTED: To disband the Charter Study Committee and thank the members for their work.

LICENSE HEARING

Consider the Request for a Change of Manager of an Annual On-Premise All Alcohol Beverage Liquor License for RARE Hospitality, Int'l. Inc. d/b/a LongHorn Steakhouse #5518, 80 Highland Avenue, Seekonk, MA; Anderson Colombo to be Manager

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

VOTED: To table the change of manager request for RARE Hospitality, Int'l Inc. d/b/a LongHorn Steakhouse.

Mr. Cadime said they were notified to be present at this meeting.

The order of business moved to:

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program Grant

Conservation Agent Jennifer Miller explained the grant deadline is in a couple of weeks. They are currently getting letters of support and discussing with future core team. This program helps local communities prepare for and build climate resiliency into our infrastructure and societies for vulnerable population and into the environment. Over half of the communities in Massachusetts are part of the MVP program.

In order to be a MVP community, the Town has to apply for this planning grant and go through the community resiliency rebuilding process and then become eligible to apply for additional grant funding from the State. This year \$10M in grant money is available. That is for action projects. She had a letter of support for the Board of Selectmen.

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

VOTED: To authorize the Town Administrator to sign the letter of support for the MVP Program Grant.

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Mr. Almeida thanked Ms. Miller for always looking out for grants for the betterment of the Town.

The order of business returned to:

OLD BUSINESS

Consider Accepting the Warrant for Spring Town Meeting
Assign Warrant Articles and Make Recommendations for Spring Town Meeting
Sign Town Meeting Warrant

Mr. Cadime advised the warrant had been reviewed by legal counsel. The articles were renumbered and additional articles added.

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

VOTED: To recommend support of Article 1 (Reports).

Mr. Almeida to present.

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

VOTED: To recommend support of Article 2 (Budget).

Chairman Andrade to present.

Article 3 (102 Burnside Avenue change of zoning). No recommendation. To be presented by the Planning Board or Mr. Viera.

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

VOTED: To recommend support of Article 4 (Pond Street Bridge).

Mr. Viera to present.

Article 5 (Stipends and salary for Town Clerk). No recommendation.

Mr. Almeida to present.

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

VOTED: To recommend support of Article 6 (\$200,000 from Free Cash to Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund).

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Mr. Sullivan to present.

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

VOTED: To recommend support of Article 7 (\$15,000 transfer from dog license receipts).

Chairman Andrade to present.

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

VOTED: To recommend support of Article 8 (lease purchase agreement for ambulance).

Chairman Andrade to present.

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

VOTED: To recommend support of Article 9 (free cash for capital items).

Mr. Zorra to present.

Article 10 is placeholder for library negotiations. Chairman Andrade to present.

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

VOTED: To recommend support of Article 11 (Community Preservation Committee).

Mr. Sullivan to present.

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

VOTED: To recommend support of Article 12 (disposal of surplus property).

Mr. Viera to present.

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

VOTED: To recommend support of Article 13 (Revenue Anticipation Notes).

Chairman Andrade to present.

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

VOTED: To recommended support of Article 14 (Snow and Ice).

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Mr. Sullivan to present.

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

VOTED: To recommend support of Article 15 (excise tax on marijuana).

Mr. Viera to present.

Article 16 is voter petition for plastic bags by-law.

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

VOTED: To recommend support of Article 17 (lease payment of EMS vehicle).

Mr. Sullivan to present.

On Article 18, Chairman Andrade felt the overlay district should be separate from the other.

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

VOTED: To separate amendments individually on Article 18 (Zoning).

Presented by Planning.

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

VOTED: To recommend support of Article 19 (DPW feasibility study).

Mr. Zorra to present.

On Article 20, Mr. Almeida inquired about restrooms and also parking for the playground.

Chairman Andrade felt Parks & Recreation would have a presentation at Town Meeting.

Mr. Cadime said the \$300,000 is just for the playground. There has been discussion about restrooms and parking after the old animal shelter is demolished.

Mr. Almeida said there will be backlash on this.

Mr. Sullivan questioned a \$400,000 playground without plans for restrooms and parking.

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

VOTED: 3 Ayes; 1 Nay; To recommend support of Article 20 (playground).

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The vote: Mr. Viera – Aye; Chairman Andrade – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Mr. Sullivan – Nay.

Mr. Sullivan said he cannot see a \$400,000 playground.

Chairman Andrade felt there should be a presentation before the Board prior to Town Meeting.

Chairman Andrade to present.

Article 21 is a voter petition which was withdrawn.

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

VOTED: To recommend support of Articles 22 and 23 (Aitken School Expansion and air conditioning).

Presented by Schools.

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

VOTED: To approve amendment changes.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Omitting or Modifying Administrative Policy #44 and Adopting a “One Day Special Event License Application”

Mr. Cadime advised a one day special event request came in. There is an old policy that should be revamped. \$100 fee on hold right now.

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

VOTED: To approve the “One Day Special Event Application,” no public hearing but to include the abutters list. Municipal and schools are exempt.

Discussion Regarding Adopting a Process for Marijuana Establishment Host Community Agreements

Mr. Cadime had a draft of requirements. Three categories - Applicant background information, business information, and municipal impact.

Applicant background - name of business, registration, certificate of good standing, proposed address, and proof of site control, evidence of compliance of local zoning and required buffers and names managers and individuals who contributed significant capital and evidence of no unresolved criminal proceedings resulting in mandatory disqualifications.

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Business - business plan, evidence of financial backing, proposed timeline, employee staffing, and potential local jobs and pay ranges, plan and source for maintaining the marijuana product supply for retail sales.

Municipal impact – company strategy which does not become a public document, traffic and parking plan and proposed building design and signage, plans for external nuisance mitigation, potential financial commitment to the town and non-monetary incentives to the town which could be donations to local charities or non-profit organizations..

The next step is to compare companies and evaluate each plan in order to issue licenses

Mr. Almeida noted the town is on wells and they have to Nelson asked about a growth facility. We need to use at impact of water usage and also electricity. There is a possibility that rates may go up.

Add environmental impact plan to comparisons.

Mr. Cadime said they would have to go back to create a bylaw

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

VOTED: 3 Ayes; 1 Nay; To limit the number of host communities to two.

The vote: Mr. Viera – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Chairman Andrade – Aye; Mt. Sullivan – Nay.

Mr. Cadime will provide Board members with a list of people who have submitted interest.

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

Ms. Sluter inquired about the ballot vote for the Aitken School expansion.

Chairman Andrade said it will be on the May 1, 2019 agenda for discussion.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discuss Other Topics not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chairman 48 Hours before the Meeting

Chairman Andrade advised a determination came in today from legal with respect to the animal shelter. It will be forwarded to members of the Board and to Planning and ZBA.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT- None.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Aitken School Expansion Building Committee Report - None.

540 Arcade Avenue Building Committee

Mr. Almeida advised he attended the meeting in Mr. Viera's absence. Brewster Thorton presented four drawings. Basically, looking at adding office spaces up top to be used for schools or town purposes and to expand the existing senior center on the main level. DPW Supt. Cabral will look at the septic system to make sure it could accommodate the expansion.

Letters will go out to neighboring businesses or property owners to see if anyone is interested in selling property for parking.

They talked about an elevator or a Lula (limited use, limited access).

Chairman Andrade noted the Lula is less expensive than an elevator. A vertical lift can be used in Massachusetts.

They want additional recreational area so they do not have to take down tables and chairs that are set up.

Chairman Andrade questioned how they can divide space without know what the needs are going to be.

It was determined it would not be a good fit to put the School Department program for ages 18-22 in that building with senior citizens. It would be a similar situation as they had at the Pleasant Street location.

The next meeting is on April 25, 2019 at 7 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:25 p.m. Mr. Viera motioned, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to go into Executive Session to conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Parks and Recreation Director, per M.G.L Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) , to conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with Fraternal Order of Police MASSCOP Local 215 per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) and to conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Seekonk Public Library Employee Association per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as having the discussion in Open Session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the Town; not to return to Open Session.

The vote: Mr. Viera – Aye; Mr. Sullivan – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Chairman Andrade - Aye.

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Respectfully submitted,

David Viera, Clerk

Prepared by:

Patricia Gamer, Secretary

Items Distributed at the April 17, 2019 Board of Selectmen's Meeting

Talent Bank form from David A. Reis, Sr. for Veterans Council

Talent Bank form from William Curtis

Notice of \$2,500 donation from Coliseum Software Co. and Roman K-9 Academy to the Animal Shelter

Resignation of Ashley O'Connell as Kennel Worker

Documents for Change of Manager at Longhorn Steakhouse

Information of Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program Grant

Amendment to Administrative Policy #44 Adopting a One Day Amendment from Seekonk, Charter Committee Special Event License Application