

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JUNE 26, 2019
REGULAR SESSION

Members Present: David Andrade, Nelson Almeida, David Viera,
Chris Zorra, Justin Sullivan

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 Capital Improvement Committee (1 Board of Selectmen appointment), Cultural Council (2 BOS), Economic Development Committee (2 BOS), Energy Committee (1 BOS), Finance Committee (1 Moderator), Historical Commission (2 BOS), Recycling Committee (up to 4 BOS), Taxation Aid Fund Committee (1 BOS).

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

Town Moderator Peter Hoogerzeil announced the reappointments to the Finance Committee of Michael Brady of Cypress Road and Norman Ducette of Brown Avenue for three year terms to expire on June 30, 2022. Michael Healy of Simms Avenue was appointed to fill a vacancy to expire on June 30, 2020.

PRIORITY MATTERS

Consider the Appointment of Michelle Hines to the Human Services Council, effective July 1, 2019

Mr. Cadime highly recommended the appointment of Ms. Hines. He noted that she is very active at the senior center.

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

VOTED: To appoint Michelle Hines to the Human Services Council, effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022.

Consider the Appointment of Jill DeMello to the Board of Heath, effective July 1, 2019

Mr. Cadime said he met with Mrs. DeMello. She will be a tremendous asset to the Board of Health. He recommended the appointment.

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

VOTED: To appoint Jill DeMello to the Board of Health, effective July 1, 2019 for a one-year appointment.

Prior to the vote, Mr. Almeida noted the opening was not on the list of openings.

Mr. Cadime said an individual did not want to be reappointed.

Mr. Viera then asked if vacancies could be posted ahead of time.

Mr. Cadime will work with Mr. Viera.

Mrs. DeMello felt her background as a social worker would be positive for the Board of Health. She is looking forward to the opportunity.

Consider the Appointment of Richard John Amaral to the Capital Improvement Committee effective July 1, 2019

Mr. Cadime advised that he interviewed Mr. Amaral. He will be an asset to the CIC. He recommended the appointment.

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

VOTED: To appoint Richard John Amaral to the Capital Improvement Committee effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022.

Mr. Amaral thanked the Board for the opportunity.

Consider the Conditional Offer of Employment to Eric Dallaire as a Special Police Officer

Deputy Chief David Enos stated he is trying to get the number of specials up to 20. Mr. Dallaire is a Seekonk resident who took the test. He took it upon himself and just graduated from the part time academy. He requested the Board approve the conditional offer of employment.

Mr. Cadime concurred with the Deputy Chief.

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

VOTED: To extend a conditional offer of employment to Eric Dallaire as a Special Police Officer.

Mr. Dallaire was in attendance.

Mr. Viera mentioned that Eric's dad has been a special police officer for many years.

Consider the Reappointment of Board and Committee Members; Board of Heath, Cultural Council, Energy Committee, and Recycling Committee (please see attached detailed list)

Mr. Cadime requested the Board approve the reappointments.

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

VOTED: To reappoint the following individuals to three-year terms to expire June 30 2022:

Board of Health

Victoria Kinniburgh

Jonathan Schiller, M.D.

Cultural Council

Christine DeCesaare

Energy Committee

Robert Braunsdorf

Paul Waltz

Recycling Committee

John Pozzi

Andrew Breiter-Wu

Mr. Sullivan thanked them for volunteering and coming to tonight's meeting.

Consider the Request by Tricia Belden to Conduct a One-Day Cycling Event to be held September 28, 2019 to Support Susan G. Komen New England

Mr. Peter Smith of 236 Tiffany Street represented the Susan G. Komen New England. He explained the route.

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

VOTED: To approve the request to conduct a one-day cycling event to be held on September 28, 2019 to support Susan G. Komen New England.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider the Approval of Regular Session Minutes of May 29, 2019\

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

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Abstention; To accept the Regular Session minutes of May 29, 2019.

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

COMMUNITY SPEAKS – None.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

Chairman Andrade advised the deed has been recorded and Old Town Hall is back in the Town's possession.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT - None.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Bristol County Advisory Board – None.

Aitken School Expansion Building Committee Report

Mr. Zorra advised the next meeting is on July 11, 2019 at the school.

540 Arcade Avenue Building Committee Report

Chairman Andrade asked when the Committee would come before the Board with a list of recommendations for discussion.

Mr. Cadime explained there are three options (1) split the building into two and allow the school administration to come into the building and the senior center would use the bottom section; (2) to allow the School Department to bring the 18-20 year olds program and administrative offices into the building; and (3) to use the entire space for the senior center. The committee is inclined to go with (3). The Chairwoman is prepared to explain why.

At the meeting yesterday, the committee looked at parking needs. Currently, there are about 37 spaces – they would need an additional 35. It would require the Zoning Board to allow us to utilize the spaces at the Knights of Columbus. Looking at cost estimate phase which would include upgrading septic system and a lift vs. an elevator to make it ADA accessible. Letters were sent out looking for spaces for parking.

Chairman Andrade requested the committee come to a Board of Selectmen meeting for discussion.

Veterans' Council

Mr. Viera reported the Council will meet next week to recap the Memorial Day Parade. They will try to get insights from the Veterans Service Officer on what he expects from the Veterans Council for additional help for Veterans Day, cemeteries, etc.

Mr. Viera said the Council is working out very well. The individuals appointed to the Council are enthusiastic and eager to get things done.

He would like to engrave the dates of the conflicts on the wall.

Mr. Viera inquired about the Memorandum of Understanding with the Board of Library Trustees.

Mr. Cadime said it needs to be signed by the Board of Library Trustees chairman.

Mr. Zorra announced, due to popular demand, the Board of Selectmen will meet again on Thursday.

Mr. Almeida mentioned that a couple of weeks ago a resident had asked to see the Town Administrator's contract. When he looked at it, he noticed it was negotiated and signed a year in advance. At that time, there was talk other communities were looking to hire Mr. Cadime.

Mr. Almeida felt it might be a good idea to look at the contract which will expire in a year.

Chairman Andrade said it will be an executive session item on the next agenda.

Mr. Sullivan said he attended the Finance Committee meeting last week. He felt the budget process should be restructured.

Mr. Cadime said he has set aside some dates to start the budget process.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:37 p.m., Mr. Viera motioned, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to go into Executive Session

- A. To consider the purchase, exchange lease or value of real property pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(6) as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the negotiating position of the town (0 Pine Street; Map 28/Lot 20);
- B. To conduct strategy session with respect to negotiations with non-union personnel (Police Chief) pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town;
- C. 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) as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town;
- D. To conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Parks and Recreation Director, per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town;
- E. To conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Superintendent of Public Works, per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town;
- F. To conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Administrative Assistant, per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town;
- G. To conduct strategy session with respect to negotiation with the Director of Communications, per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2), as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town;
- H. Consider the approval of Executive Session minutes of May 29, 2019.
- I. Consider the approval of Executive Session minutes of May 23, 2019, to return to Open Session.

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

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

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

VOTED: To return to Open Session at 9:37 p.m.

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

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

VOTED: To accept the resignation of Chief Frank John in accordance with the separation agreement.

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

Chairman Andrade read the Statement of the Town of Seekonk Board of Selectmen regarding Police Chief Frank John's resignation from employment, as follows:

At its meeting tonight, the Board of Selectmen voted to accept the resignation for purposes of retirement of Police Chief Frank John and to approve the terms of a separation agreement with him. A copy of the parties' separation agreement will be made available to any member of the public upon request.

As set forth in the Agreement, Chief John's resignation will be effective July 31, 2019. In connection with his resignation, Chief John will be paid for the unused leave balances that other resigning members of the Seekonk Police Department have historically been paid for. Chief John will be on sick leave during the period leading up to the July 31st effective date of his resignation during which time Deputy Chief David Enos will continue to oversee and be in charge of the day-to-day operations of the Police Department.

As this is a personnel matter, neither the Board of Selectmen nor the Town Administrator will be commenting any further on this matter.

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

VOTED: To approve the contract with John Pozzi, Director of Parks and Recreation.

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

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

VOTED: To approve the contract with David Cabral, Director of Public Works.

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

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

VOTED: To approve the contract with Kristen L'Heureux, Administrative Assistant.

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

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

VOTED: To approve the contract with Carol Ann Days, Communication Director.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Viera motioned, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn at 9:40 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

David Viera, Clerk

Prepared by:

Patricia Gamer, Secretary

Items Distributed at the June 26, 2019 Board of Selectmen Meeting

Talent bank form for Michelle Hines for Human Services Council

Talent bank form from Jill DeMello for Board of Health

Talent bank form from Richard John Amaral for Capital Improvement Committee

Deputy Chief David Enos – Conditional offer of employment for Special Officer Eric Dallaire

Reappointment of Board and Committee

Request for One-Day Cycling Event for Susan G. Komen New England