

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
APRIL 18, 2018
REGULAR SESSION

Members Present: David Andrade, David Viera, Michelle Hines

Absent: Nelson Almeida, 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), anybody recording the meeting must notify the Chairman. The Board of Selectmen is recording via audio and video.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE OPENINGS UPDATE

Ms. Hines announced that volunteers are needed on the Capital Improvement Committee (1 Board of Selectmen appointment), Charter Study Committee (3 BOS), Conservation Commission (2 BOS), Energy Committee (2 BOS), Finance Committee (2 Moderator), Historical Commission (1 BOS), and Property Tax Work-Off Committee (3 BOS).

COMMUNITY SPEAKS – None.

PRIORITY MATTERS

Discussion with Board of Selectmen's Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) Representative Steve D'Amico

Mr. D'Amico said communities have 35 hours per year to utilize SRPEDD services. However, SRPEDD has resources and expertise and continuously works with the town on projects.

SRPEDD is trying to put together a non-profit in order to attract foundation money to work on larger economic development projects. There is talk of a coastal economic development district to include the entire southcoast and possibly looking into Rhode Island in the future.

Mr. Viera asked if SRPEDD has done any work at the Attleboro Dye Works.

Mr. D'Amico said “no” and suggested the town should ask for assistance.

He said that SRPEDD gets funding from assessments to cities and towns and particular projects.

PUBLIC HEARING

FY'19 Budget Hearing (Continued from April 4, 2018)

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

VOTED: To continue the FY19 budget discussion at 7:14 p.m.

No comments.

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

VOTED: To close the public hearing at 7:15 p.m.

Ms. Hines assured residents that the budget to be presented at the May 14 Town Meeting has been discussed by Board members, department heads, and Town Administrator.

Mr. Viera suggested the budget be mailed to every household in the future. Residents will be better prepared when they come to town meeting.

Ms. Doreen Taylor noted that the Finance Committee is supposed to have recommendations fourteen days prior to town meeting as per the Charter.

Mr. Cadime said the Finance Committee had input in the budget preparation and will have recommendations for town meeting. He intends to have all information on the website.

Chairman Andrade said he spoke to Mr. Horsman, Chairman of the Finance Committee, who intends to have recommendations.

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

VOTED: To approve the FY'19 budget.

Mr. Cadime thanked department heads.

OLD BUSINESS

Vote on the Summary of the Board of Library Trustees Vote on the Placement of the Howitzer Cannon

Chairman Michael Durkay and Director Peter Fuller were in attendance.

Chairman Andrade understood that the Board of Library Trustees voted to place the howitzer at the Veterans Memorial Park to the left facing The Meadows.

Mr. Durkay agreed. He said the two Selectmen in attendance provided their support.

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

VOTED: To take the howitzer out of storage, refurbish it, and place it at the Veterans Memorial Park to the left facing The Meadows.

Chairman Andrade said it has been a long process; however, the two boards were able to work together. The next item is the Memorandum of Understanding.

Mr. Durkay said he would like to see comments from Mr. Cadime and the Board of Selectmen In order to expedite the process.

Consider the Request to Rezone a Portion of the Property Located at 800 Fall River Avenue from “Highway Business/Residential-3” to “Highway Business” and Refer to the Planning Board for a Public Hearing

Chairman Andrade advised this matter is for reconsideration. Previously, it was a 2 to 2 vote.

Mr. Viera questioned the urgency to get this done. He asked if this would continually come before the Board until some people get the answer they are looking for. A vote was taken and people have spoken.

Town Planner John Aubin said it isn't the exact proposal that was before Town Meeting last year. The 4 acres were removed and it takes into consideration comments made at the Town Meeting and at the last Board meeting. .

Chairman Andrade felt there should be a definite yes or no.

Mr. Viera asked the amount of taxes on that property right now and what would be different by changing the zoning.

Chairman Andrade responded to make it more marketable so the building won't be vacant. He felt the town is better served by having commercial real estate maximized than vacant.

He said if a potential buyer comes before Town Meeting for a change in zoning, the Planning Board could put certain stipulations on the developer.

Mr. Aubin said stipulations are in place one way or the other.

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

VOTED: 2 Ayes; 1 Nay; To refer the request to rezone a portion of the property located at 800 Fall River Avenue from “Highway Business/Residential-3” to “Highway Business” for a public hearing.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Consider the Request to Authorize the Submission of an Application to the Housing Choice Program to Designate the Town of Seekonk as a Housing Choice Community

Mr. Aubin advised recently the Governor and Lt. Governor’s office announced the Housing Choice Initiative Program, a program similar to the Green Communities Program.

It rewards communities that develop and create additional housing. To qualify, the community must demonstrate that 500 units were produced over the last five years or 5% of housing production or 3% of housing production or 300 units and demonstrate a number of best housing practices.

From 2013 to 2017, Seekonk has generated a total of 523 new units; approximately 10-11% growth or 15% growth in population. This shows where the pressure is coming from for the schools. The building inspector has certified the number.

The Town would still be required to meet the 10% affordable housing mandate. There is a housing crunch going on in the state. Seekonk has become a desirable community.

The program qualifies the town for capital improvement grants. However, the town will have to address the affordable housing situation. Mr. Aubin explained what would qualify for capital improvements.

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

VOTED: To authorize submission of an application to the Housing Choice Program to designate the Town of Seekonk as a Housing Choice Community.

Discussion with Town Planner Regarding Zoning Bylaw Amendments for the Spring Town Meeting Warrant

Mr. Aubin advised that last Tuesday the Planning Board conducted a public hearing on proposed Zoning By-law Amendments. He summarized the proposed amendments.

Ms. Hines said she attended the public hearing.

Consider Appointing Two Members of the Board of Selectmen to the Conservation Committee

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

VOTED: To postpone the appointment of two members of the Board of Selectmen to the Conservation Commission until the next meeting.

Discussion with Capital Improvement Committee Regarding Recommendations for Town Meeting

CIC Chairman Keith Tavares was unavailable. Members Steven Rutter, Nicholas Amaral, and George Piquette were in attendance. Mr. Rutter advised that, through a state grant, Collins Center representatives met with all department heads to prepare a five-year plan for capital improvements. They also met with the CIC. Members of the CIC met with department heads as needed.

Mr. Rutter presented the recommendations for FY'19. It represents a 2% increase over FY'18. There are 15 items totaling \$891,529.42.

Lease for Fire Department – Year 5 of 7 - lease aerial fire apparatus -	\$106,872
Lease for Fire Department – Year 3 of 7 - lease for fire truck -	71,352
Lease for Fire Department - Year 1 fire truck -	78,571.42
Animal Control Shelter software	15,000
Conservation Commission trail improvements	5,000
Parks and Recreation precision cut, trim mower	41,000
Police Department – pistol and DVD replacement	
Police Department – reinforce front of building	86,325
Public Library – identification system	25,000
Public Works - replacement roadside mower	110,000
Public Works - replacement of 2 trucks	140,000
Town Hall electronic files	28,000
Town Hall backup server	15,676
School Department – two industrial dishwashers	64,320
School Department – refurbish running track at high school	60,230

Consider the Approval of Warrant Articles for Spring Town Meeting

Mr. Cadime explained the 29 articles.

Mr. Viera asked about purchasing some of the eliminated items this year to save money.

Mr. Cadime didn't see much savings.

Ms. Hines asked about the mower for Parks and Recreation.

Mr. Cadime said it is for the fields.

Mr. John Alves, Chairman of the Community Preservation Committee, explained the \$82,000 is to preserve the architectural land restriction regarding the Prey Farm.

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

VOTED: To approve the warrant articles for the May 24, 2018 and authorize the Town Administrator to make minor changes, if needed.

Ms. Taylor questioned the change in number of Conservation Commission members.

Mr. Cadime said it has to be approved at Town Meeting and then placed on the ballot.

Consider the Recreation Software “MyRec.com” for Parks and Recreation Camp Registration

Parks and Recreation Committee Director John Pozzi asked for authorization to enter into an agreement for the software program “MyRec.com.” It will streamline the registration process and the entire program. It is a one-year commitment. The cost is \$2,895.

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

VOTED: To approve the agreement with “MyRec.com” for one year at \$2,895.

Accept the Resignation of Bruce Ballard as a Firefighter Paramedic for the Fire Department, Effective April 12, 2018

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

VOTED: To accept the resignation of Bruce Ballard as a Firefighter Paramedic effective April 12, 2018.

Consider the Acceptance of an Anonymous Donation in the Amount of \$200 to the Seekonk Animal Shelter

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

VOTED: To accept the anonymous donation of \$200 to the Seekonk Animal Shelter.

Consider Rescinding Administrative Policy #16 “Underground Utility Service”

Rescinded on May 18, 1988.

Consider Replacing Administrative Policy #12 – “Computer and Internet Use Policy” with the “Access and Use of Telecommunications Systems Policy”

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

VOTED: To replace Administrative Policy #12 – Computer and Internet Use Policy” with the “Access and Use of Telecommunications Systems Policy,” including the changes.

Prior to the above vote, Ms. Hines motioned, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To amend as follows: Page 1 second paragraph – All electronic equipment and software are the property of the Town of Seekonk and the Town may monitor at any time, therefore town employees should not expect **any privacy on any telecommunications system or equipment**, and next paragraph Therefore, use caution as e-mails, faxes, records of phones calls made and received and Internet sites visited can be considered public information and can be reviewed not only by the Town but also any third party **who legally has the right to any information**. Also, All employees are required to register any computer passwords with the **Director of Municipal Finance**.

When Ms. Hines questioned why passwords should be registered with the Finance Director, Mr. Cadime explained typically it is always the Director of Municipal Finance.

Consider the Approval of Regular Session Minutes of March 26, 2918

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

VOTED: 2 Ayes; 1 Abstention; To accept the minutes of March 26, 2018 as submitted.

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

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

Mrs. Sandy Foulkes questioned if the budget would meet the guidelines in accordance with the Charter.

Mr. Cadime said the only figures missing are for collective bargaining. The warrant will be ready on April 30.

Mrs. Foulkes asked about Finance Committee recommendations.

Mr. Cadime said last time the Finance Committee wanted to wait until Town Meeting.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – None.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS

Veterans Memorial Committee Liaison Report

Mr. Viera stated that Ms. Hines and he attended the Board of Library Trustees meeting last night. The Board voted to return the howitzer back to the Veterans Memorial Park. The next step is to refurbish it. It should be in place by Memorial Day. The pad will not be poured by them.

Mr. Viera advised that bricks are available. Bricks purchased now will be ready for Memorial Day.

Ms. Hines was pleased with the way the School Committee interacted with the other boards. She would like to continue that open dialog.

She reminded residents of the May 14 Town Meeting. She would like to see more information out there prior to Town Meeting. She noted that Board of Selectmen meetings can be assessed on TV9.

Ms. Hines mentioned the success of the Save-A-Pet Auction held recently.

She asked why the landfill is not open late on Saturdays.

Mr. Cadime said a study showed there wasn't enough people to extend the hours.

Mr. Viera said most of the people go more than once on the same day.

Ms., Hines wanted information on painting lines on the streets.

Chairman Andrade also reminded residents about the May 14 2018 Town Meeting. The budget is \$55M.

At 9:05 p.m., Mr. Viera motioned, seconded by Ms. Hines, to go into Executive Session to conduct strategy session with respect to negotiations with DPW AFSCME Council 93 per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) as having discussion in Open Session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town; to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(6) as having discussion in open session would be detrimental to the negotiating position of the town

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(Old Town Hall, 624 Taunton Avenue) and to consider the approval of Executive Session minutes of March 26, 2018; to return to Open Session.

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

Reconvene to Open Session

The meeting reconvened at 9:20 p.m.

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

VOTED: To approve the three-year contract with DPW AFSCME Council 93.

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTED: To adjourn at 9:25 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

David Viera, Clerk

Prepared by:

Patricia Gamer, Secretary

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Items Distributed at the April 18, 2018 Board of Selectmen Meeting

Town Planner John J. Aubin III – Documentation for Housing Choice Community Designation

Town Planner John J. Aubin III – Documentation on Zoning By-Law Amendments for the 2018 Spring Town Meeting Warrant

Parks and Recreation Director John Pozzi – Information on MyRec.com

Bruce Ballard – Resignation as Firefighter/Paramedic

Check in the amount of \$200 – Donation to Animal Shelter

Administrative Policy #16 Underground Utility Service

Administrative Policy #12 – Access and Use of Telecommunications Systems Policy