

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JUNE 27, 2018
REGULAR MEETING

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 (2 Board of Selectmen appointments), 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

Chairman Andrade read a letter from Ms. Elizabeth Eklund, a member of the School Committee and also chair of the superintendent's search committee. She thanked Mr. Cadime for serving on the search committee. She said he was extremely professional and dedicated to the process. She referred to a June 5 article in the Sun Chronicle by Joel Siegel. The information contained in the article was based on a Facebook posting making reference to an executive session in which the poster was not in attendance.

Chairman Andrade said this is an agenda item. Discussion should focus on the articles and not on the individual.

PRIORITY MATTERS

Update from Community Preservation Committee

Chairman John Alves explained the Community Preservation Committee consists of nine members established by bylaw after adoption of the Community Preservation Act in 2009. It requires that local communities must have a member from Planning, Conservation, Parks and Recreation, Housing Authority, and Historical Commission. The Board of Selectmen appoints four members.

Mr. Alves urged residents to come forward and volunteer.

He noted that CPA monies can be used for open space for recreation or preservation of open space as well as protection of farm and for affordable housing. The CPC is very interested in the agenda item to discuss the old town hall.

Discussion of Right of Way Opening Permits During a Moratorium and the Planning Board Request to Establish a Working Group with the Board of Health to Establish Procedures

Chairman Andrade said he received letters from the Board of Health and Planning. The Board of Selectmen is sworn to uphold the by-laws and that is exactly what they are doing. The Board is getting repeated requests to ignore the by-law.

Planning Board Chairman David Sullivan said some people don't know there is a moratorium. There should be a list.

DPW Supt. David Cabral has a list that can be put on the website.

Chairman Andrade said it should have been changed in reviewing the by-laws.

Mr. Cadime said that Mr. Cabral forwards a list to the Building Department. A process is in place to check off permits. It should be the developer's responsibility.

Chairman Andrade suggested requests should be made on the date the moratorium expires.

Discussion Regarding Accuracy of Recent Articles in the Sun Chronicle

Chairman Andrade stated that, from the time he was elected to serve on the Board of Selectmen, he has had issues with articles being semi-factual and inaccurate. There has been a few recurring issues over the last nine months. The most recent being the superintendent of schools position and the hiring of a firefighter. Residents deserve to have accurate information.

To clarify, Mr. Cabaceiras is not on the Fall River City Council and Mr. Cadime is not President of the City Council. A quick search would confirm that. Mr. Cabacerias went on his own to become an EMT; saving the town money because he did not have to go to the academy.

Chairman Andrade has a problem with the Board being slammed based on inaccurate facts.

Mr. Viera noted that he and Ms. Hines have lived in Seekonk for many years and know everybody who comes before the Board. By knowing an individual, you can attest to their work ethics, etc. The town deserves the best person.

Chairman Andrade noted that meetings are recorded and accurate information can be obtained from that.

Mr. Almeida is disappointed in the Sun Chronicle in general. It goes back to 2012.

He said the comments made about the candidate for superintendent of schools will follow him. He should go after the reporter. The comments about the newly-hired firefighter are unacceptable.

Ms. Hines noted that you only get sensational news. She doesn't read the Sun Chronicle because it does not cover Seekonk correctly. She has lived in Seekonk her entire life and worked here for 32 years. She has recommended many people for jobs – some got the jobs and some did not. They can't tell department heads they have to keep employees.

She said the reporter should be ashamed because he is not getting all the information. She trusts Mr. Cadime and she knows he is an honest man. She will back him. She had asked Ms. Eklund to include Mr. Cadime on the interview committee. She attended two of the meetings and was impressed with the process.

Mr. Almeida referred to an e-mail to the Fire Chief demanding responses to questions. The Fire Chief would not risk the community or present a candidate that would put the town in harm just to satisfy the Town Administrator.

Chairman Andrade said he replied to that e-mail that town employees do not answer to that individual. Further, the fire chief should be addressed with respect.

Mr. Cadime thanked Board members for their support. He didn't intend to say anything. He has always acted in the Town of Seekonk's best interest. He disclosed that Kyle Riley is a friend of his. He was qualified and deserved an interview. He commended the individuals who served on the interview committee. He spent the entire day with the person who ended up being selected as the superintendent. He took him to lunch and asked if he had any questions. Mr. Cadime is looking forward to building relationships. He is a qualified individual and will be a tremendous superintendent.

The firefighter was the chief's recommendation. There have been 60 hires since he has been in Seekonk. He felt the town has one of the best administrative and support teams.

Mr. Cadime added that he didn't ask Ms. Eklund to write the letter. He thanked the search committee members and the Board of Selectmen for their continued support. He assured residents that he has the best interest of Seekonk.

Chairman Andrade said town residents deserve to know all the facts.

Accept the Resignation of Krystin Gildea from the Position of Public Safety Dispatcher

Mr. Cadime recommended.

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

VOTED: To accept the resignation of Krystin Gildea as public safety dispatcher.

Consider the Reappointment of Michael Dressler to the Historical Commission

Mr. Cadime recommended.

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

VOTED: To reappoint Michael Dressler to the Historical Commission
for a three-year term to expire on June 30, 2021.

Town Moderator Reappointments to the Finance Committee

Town Moderator Peter Hoogerzeil reappointed Anne Hartnett and Jack Horton to the Finance Committee – three year appointments which expire on June 30, 2021.

He appointed Evan Berwick of 36 Washington Street to the Municipal Capital Improvement Committee – three year term to expire on June 30, 2021.

There might be an individual interested in the Historical Commission.

Mr. Hoogerzeil said he served on the superintendent search committee. He concurred with Mr. Cadime that it was a very professional committee. They did a lot of work to take the School Department from good to great. The School Department will have a good superintendent.

He felt badly for Mr. Riley. All three finalists were qualified to serve as Superintendent of Schools.

LICENSE HEARING

Consider the Request for a Class II Motor Vehicle License for Mark Tantimanaco, RIMASS, to be located at 87 Taunton Avenue

Mr. Tantimanaco was in attendance.

Ms. Hines said the Planning Board recommendations are not signed.

Mr. Cadime said it is valid according to Mr. Aubin.

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

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VOTED: To approve the request for a Class II Motor Vehicle license for Mark Tantimanaco, RIMASS, located at 87 Taunton Avenue to include signed site amendments.

Consider the Request for a Mobile Food Cart Permit for Maria Lopes, BAU Healthy Food, to Sell Food at the Seekonk Speedway Flea Market, 1710 Fall River Avenue, Seekonk, MA

Ms. Lopes was in attendance.

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

VOTED: To approve the request from Maria Lopes, BAU Healthy Food, for a mobile food cart permit located at the Seekonk Speedway Flea Market, 1710 Fall River, MA, pending licensing from the Seekonk Board of Health.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider the Request from Alden Hough for a Road Opening Permit at 235 Lincoln Street while under a Moratorium

Mr. Hough said his family has owned that lot for almost 25 years. They never received a notification of moratorium.

Chairman Andrade had documentation from DPW Supt. David Cabral that was mailed out to his dad on April 30, 2015.

Mr. Cabral said it was mailed on April 30, 2015 and the road was paved in June 2016.

Mr. Hough said the Board of Health did a perk test. He has a construction mortgage to build. He is in temporary housing to be able to do this. He wants to move back to Seekonk. He talked about impact molding. It is more expensive and he will pay for it.

Mr. Almeida said developers have told him they can't do it.

Chairman Andrade asked about putting in a well.

Mr. Hough said there is an issue with a well restraint based on septic of neighbors.

He can't get approval from the Board of Health unless he has water tapping from street or a well.

His contractor can do impact molding.

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Mr. Hough said they will meet and exceed any guidelines from DPW to make sure the road isn't damaged. He is pleading to have the option to do the impact molding on both sides.

Mr. Cabral said he is not familiar with it. He is concerned about how to put a 16 inch water main.

Mr. Almeida suggested allowing Mr. Cabral to do research into this particular company.

Mr. Zorra suggested Mr. Hough contact the neighbor across the street.

Chairman Andrade said he could not vote in favor of it based on the information they have and the by-laws. Also, Mr. Cabral is not comfortable with it.

Mr. Hough asked about the next step.

Chairman Andrade said he should contact the lender to get an extension on the construction loan.

Mr. Hough said his rate is locked in with the bank. He felt this is an emergency.

Chairman Andrade said it is not an emergency because he has temporary housing. He said Mr. Cabral will research further.

COMMUNITY SPEAKS – None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discuss Other Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chairman 4 Hours Before the Meeting – None.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Update on Status of Old Town Hall

A letter went out to the tribe – waiting for response.

Update on the Status of Animal Shelter

Construction documents should be ready for Friday. Bids are due and bid opening on August 24. A mandatory walk through is on July 20 at 11 a.m. Additional site inspections will be on July 27 at 10 a.m.

Update on the Status of the EnerGov Online Permitting Software from Tyler Technologies

Interactive training was held on June 18-20. They will return on August 31 for further training.

Update on the Status of the Attleboro Dye Works, Maple Avenue Property

Mr. Cadime advised there have been internal meetings with town employees and the consultant. There was a kickoff meeting of the steering committee. The assessor's office is working on abutters list.

Students from Martin School visited town hall. Mrs. Miller worked with them. They went on the trails. Mr. Pozzi had games for them outside. They also went to Public Safety. It was an all-day event.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Viera said the howitzer is in place. DPW will put the slab down. Necessary repairs are being made to bricks.

He asked about the feasibility study for the south end fire station.

Mr. Cadime will follow up with Chief Healy.

He said the generator was ordered for the senior center and should be installed mid-July.

Mr. Viera wanted to make sure the burned house at Banna Estates is boarded up.

He asked to have the building inspector check on the house near the Seekonk Speedway that is storing boats in the backyard.

Mr. Zorra asked about new hires.

Mr. Cadime said there are several openings but they have to wait until after July 1. All positions are budgeted.

Mr. Zorra thanked the individual who reached out about an issue with the website. He asked about posting the year-end budget.

Mr. Cadime said that is not usually posted.

Mr. Zorra suggested that projects should be shovel ready in case a grant is available. He felt it should be an agenda item for discussion.

Mr. Hines reminded residents about the special election on Monday, July 16, 2018, for the approval of funding for Aitken School doors and windows. Absentee ballots are available at the town clerk's office.

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She talked about the Second Annual Seekonk Family Fun Day at the Hurley School from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, August 4. It is a free event. The first 200 children in grades K-6 will receive backpacks filled with supplies. She listed the various sponsors. People are asked to bring canned goods for Doorways.

Mr. Almeida asked if National Grid pulls one permit for residents who are connecting to gas or do residents have to pull their own permits.

Mr. Cabral said he has been working with National Grid. They are changing new lines. Residents do not have to pull permits.

Mr. Almeida cautioned residents to keep doors and windows locked.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9 p.m. Mr. Viera motioned, seconded by Ms. Hines, to go into Executive Session to conduct negotiations with the Fraternal Order of Police MASSCOP Local 215 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 and to consider the executive session minutes of May 2, 2018; not to return to open session.

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

Respectfully submitted,

David Viera, Clerk

Prepared by,

Patricia Gamer, Secretary

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Items Distributed at the Board of Selectmen Meeting of June 27, 2018

Seekonk Planning Board re: new developments along town roads subject to no-cut moratoria

Documentation for Class II Motor Vehicle License for Mark Tantimanaco, RIMASS, 87 Taunton Avenue

Documentation for Mobile Food Cart for Maria Lopes, BAU Healthy Food for Seekonk Speedway

Request for road opening permit at 235 Lincoln Street during moratorium

KP Law re: Old Town Hall