

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JUNE 24, 2020
REGULAR SESSION

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

Town Administrator: Shawn E. Cadime

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

He announced that, per Governor Baker's order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, the public is not allowed to physically access the meeting. The meeting aired live on TV9 and the Zoom conference. Instructions for remote access is on the town's website.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE OPENINGS UPDATE

Mr. Almeida announced that volunteers are needed on the Capital Improvement Committee (1 Board of Selectmen appointment), Commission on Disability (5-13 BOS), Economic Development Committee (4 BOS), Energy Committee (1 BOS), Historical Commission (2 BOS), Recycling Committee (up to 3 BOS), Zoning Board of Appeals (2 Alternates).

PRIORITY MATTERS

Consider the Appointment of Jason Valderrama to the Position of Patrolman 3rd Class with a Start Date of July 6, 2020

Through Mr. Cadime, Capt. Matthew Jardine requested the appointment of Jason Valderrama to the position of Patrolman 3rd class. Mr. Cadime recommended as stated by Capt. Jardine.

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

VOTED: To appoint Jason Valderrama to the position of Patrolman 3rd class with a start date of July 6, 2020.

Consider the Conditional Offer of Employment to Dean Isabella for the Position of Police Chief

Mr. Cadime advised the search consisted of review of resumes, distribution and evaluation of written questions, oral interviews, formal assessment of four candidates and presentation of the four finalist to the internal search committee for the Town of Seekonk. The search for police chief has been a long process. It was the same search consultant as used for fire chief.

The committee included Mr. Cadime, Mrs. Days, Mr. Sullivan, and Capt. Gauvin from the Fall River Police Department. It is clear that they found someone with the ability and characteristics to mentor the department and create a long tenure plan.

Mr. Cadime recommended the board extend a conditional offer of employment to Dean Isabella for the position of police chief. He is retired from the Providence Police Department. The background check will be conducted through the District Attorney's office.

Mr. Cadime said Mr. Isabella lives in Narragansett. He indicated he would purchase a home in Seekonk if he got the police chief's position.

Mr. Sullivan reiterated Mr. Cadime's comments. From the time Mr. Isabella walked into the room, there was no doubt he was the right person for the job. He has innovated thinking.

Mr. Cadime noted that several people have had good comments to say about Mr. Isabella. If he lives up to those expectations, the Seekonk Police Department is getting a great leader and will benefit from this for a long time.

Mr. Almeida thanked the search committee and the consultant. He has done research. There is no doubt this candidate comes with a great deal of knowledge. However, he felt Seekonk has excellent men and women in the Police Department. It is unfortunate the internal candidate was not selected. He will not be voting for this candidate. He wished Mr. Isabella well and hoped he succeeds in the position.

With great pleasure, Mr. Sullivan motioned, Mr. Viera seconded, and it was

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Nay; To extend a conditional offer of employment to Dean Isabella as Police Chief.

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

Consider the Reappointment of Board and Committee Members: Board of Health, Board of Registrars, Community Preservation Committee, Conservation Commission, Cultural Council, Energy Committee, Human Services Council, Parks and Recreation Committee, and Zoning Board of Appeals

Mr. Cadime recommended the reappointments as follows for three year terms to expire on June 30, 2023.

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

VOTED: To reappoint the following

Jill DeMello – Board of Health
Frank Oliver – Board of Registrars
Community Preservation Committee – Willit Mason
Nathan Socha, Richard Wallace, Kristin Kearney – Conservation Commission
Deborah Baldizar – Cultural Council
Charles Beauchamp – Energy Committee
Beverly Della Grotta – Human Services Council
James Adamonis and James Troiano – Parks & Recreation Committee
Keith Rondeau – Zoning Board of Appeals

Mr. Almeida wanted to make sure there is a physical address on file for Mr. Wallace.

Mr. Zorra asked if Mr. Wallace could serve on two boards. He qualifies for all the boards he checked off.

Chairman Andrade noted this is a reappointment. He might want to serve on another board.

Consider the Disclosure of G.L. Chapter 268A, Section 20(f) and the Reappointment of Special Police Officer James Roy

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

VOTED: To approve the disclosure of G.L. Chapter 268A. Section 20(f) and the reappointment of Special Police Officer James Roy.

Consider the Disclosure of G.L. Chapter 268(A), Section 20(f) and the Reappointment of Special Police Officer William Dallaire

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

VOTED: To approve the disclosure of G.L. Chapter 268A, Section 20(f) and the reappointment of Special Police Officer William Dallaire.

Consider the Disclosure of G.L. Chapter 268(A), Section 20(f) and the Reappointment of Special Police Officer Ronald Ricky

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

VOTED: To approve the disclosure of G.L. Chapter 268A, Section 20(f) and the reappointment of Special police Officer Ronald Ricky.

Consider the Disclosure of G.L Chapter 268A, Section 20(f) and the Reappointment of Detention Attendant Nicole Bourgeois

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

VOTED: To approve the disclosure of G.L. Chapter 268(A), Section 20(f) and the reappointment of Detention Attendant Nicole Bourgeois.

Consider the Disclosure of G.L. Chapter 268(A), Section 20(f) and the Reappointment of Detention Attendant Kathleen Coyle

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

VOTED: To approve the disclosure of G.L. Chapter 268(A), Section 29(f) and the reappointment of Detention Attendant Kathleen Coyle.

Consider the Disclosure of G.L. Chapter 268(A), Section 20(f) and the Reappointment of Detention Attendant Lisa Parker

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

VOTED: To approve the disclosure of G.L. Chapter 268(A), Section 20(f) and the reappointment of Detention Attendant Lisa Parker.

Consider the Disclosure of G.L. Chapter 268(A), Section 20(f) and the Reappointment of Detention Attendant Melissa Zasowski

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

VOTED: To approve the disclosure of G.L. Chapter 268(A), Section 20(f) and the reappointment of Detention Attendant Melissa Zasowski.

Consider the Reappointment of Constables, Special Police Officers, Detention Attendants and Traffic Constables not requiring Disclosure as Recommended by the List Provided by Interim Police Chief David F. Enos, Jr. dated June 18 2010

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

VOTED: To reappoint the following individuals:

Constables 2020-2021

Interim Chief David Enos	Lt. Gerard LaFleur	Sgt. Sean Dowd
Capt. Matthew Jardine	Sgt. Steven Fundakowski	Sgt. Thomas Hedrick
Lt. Christopher Kelly	Sgt. Adam Laprade	Sgt. Shaun Kelley
Lt. Eric Chalifoux	Sgt. Nicholas Peterson	Sgt. Gregory Caser

Special Police Officers 2020-2021

Andrew Galvao	Eric Dallaire	Paul Strollo
Scott Dumond	Edward McDonald	Craig Mace
Gary McNally	Jason O'Hara	David Miller
Arthur St. Hilaire	Nancy Sheldon	

Detention Attendants 2020-2021

Sandra Phillips

Special Police Officers – Town Employees 2020-2021

William Dallaire	Janes Roy	Ronald Ricky
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Detention Attendants – Town Employees 2020-2021

Nicole Bourgeois	Kathleen Coyle
Lisa Parker	Melissa Zasowski

Traffic Constables 2020-2021

Elaine Delano	Gail Turgeon	Karen Contois
Harold Carlson	Ted Dziedzic	Maurice Holmes
Lynn Gagne	Robert Pickett	Brian Rebello
Robert Richardson	Jennifer Parkinson	Kenneth Scolaro
Francisco Braga		

NEW BUSINESS

Accept the Resignation of Mary Madonna from the Position of Kennel Worker

Mr. Cadime noted that Ms. Madonna has indicated she would stay on until the transition period of a replacement. She will work two days.

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

VOTED: To accept the resignation of Mary Madonna from the position of Kennel Worker with regret.

Prior to the vote, Mr. Viera noted the Board had commended her for going above and beyond. He said she will be greatly missed at the shelter.

Discussion of the Town Administrator's Evaluation

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

VOTED: To table the Town Administrator's evaluation until the meeting of July 22, 2020.

Discussion to Allow Remote Participation of Boards and Committees

Mr. Zorra requested this item on the agenda. Other committees would have to implement it themselves. It is not for people who don't feel like attending a meeting.

Mr. Sullivan felt it is good to have the teleconference ability. It might help to recruit people.

Mr. Cadime referred to the Atty. General's office requirements. The Chief Executive Officer of the municipality must accept remote participation. After that, it would apply to all committees and boards. Participation remotely is acceptable only if physical attendance would be unreasonably difficult. It requires that any public body using remote participation must ensure a quorum of the body, including the Chair or person chairing the meeting, must be physically present and members who participate publicly must be clearly audible to each other and votes must be taken by roll call.

Chairman Andrade noted that having to work late isn't unreasonably difficult. Vacation and business trips qualify.

Mr. Sullivan clarified if there is a quorum physically in attendance other members can zoom in.

In response to Mr. Viera's question, Chairman Andrade said there is no need for a facilitator.

Mr. Almeida was not in favor.

Mr. Sullivan noted this has been going on during the pandemic. He would not be surprised if the State allows this going forward.

Chairman Andrade satisfied with it for people who are sick, on vacation or business trips.

Mr. Viera pointed out that town meeting participation diminished when it was aired live on TV9. It made it easier to sit home and watch and then complain the following day.

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

VOTED: 3 Ayes; 2 Nays; To approve remote participation of all Boards and Committees (including elected and volunteer) adhering to state guidelines with restrictions for health impairment, business and leisure travel only.

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

Mr. Almeida stated he favored non-elected boards and committees only.

Consider Approving the Board and Committee “Code of Conduct”

Mr. Cadime explained it is to establish clear guidelines to serve as standards in achieving and maintaining a high level of public confidence, trust, and professional respect with regard to how the town and official conduct business.

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

VOTED: To approve the Board and Committee “Code of Conduct.”

Consider Approving the Human Services Council Orientation Manual

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

VOTED: To approve the Human Services Council Orientation Manual.

Consider the Request from Peter Kasabian to Allow Flying Goose to Conduct a Virtual Community Outreach Meeting

Chairman Andrade felt this is setting a precedent.

Mr. Sullivan said it is because of the state of emergency.

Mr. Cadime said the town has nothing to do with this.

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

VOTED: 4 Yeas; 1 Nay; To permit Flying Goose to conduct a virtual community outreach meeting due to the Covid-19 pandemic for the purpose of the licensing.

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

Mr. Viera asked when they are supposed to take possession of that building.

Mr. Cadime said when they get approval from the state.

General Discussion of Spring Town Meeting

Mr. Almeida thanked residents and department heads who attended the meeting.

Mr. Viera said it was well organized. It went very smoothly. It was very hot. He congratulated Mr. Cadime and his team. There was some criticism both pro and con.

Mr. Sullivan thanked town residents that came out under the circumstances. It was hot and humid.

He told Mr. Cadime the presentation is excellent and in depth.

Consider Approval of the Regular Session Minutes of April 29, 2020

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

VOTED: To accept the regular session minutes of April 29, 2020.

OTHER BUSINESS – None.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Radio Project

Mr. Cadime advised the cutover was done today. It went smoothly. There are a few minor items to take care of.

Senior Center Phase II/540 Arcade Avenue

Mr. Cadime advised the contract for architectural services was signed. The architect is reviewing drawings from the first phase. Will be getting an invoice to cover for the grant for the elevator.

Playground at Town Hall

Mr. Cadime said DPW doing a phenomenal job.

Animal Shelter – They have moved in. Not sure when ribbon cutting will take place due to the current situation.

South End Fire Station

The project passed at Town Meeting. Waiting for Town Moderator to establish a building committee.

COMMUNITY SPEAK

Chairman Andrade said there were questions with regard to Home Rule Charter.

Mr. Sullivan felt the resident is implying that somebody is using legal counsel for personal gain. The answer is "no."

Mr. Zorra noted that, when he first came on the Board of Selectmen, he did contact KP Law on town business with Mr. Cadime's approval.

Chairman Andrade said department heads have to go through Mr. Cadime.

He wanted to make sure Board of Selectmen Liaison Reports and Comments appears on the next agenda.

Mr. Zorra noted the town election is scheduled for Tuesday, June 30, 2020. He extended best wishes to all candidates.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:28 p.m., Mr. Almeida motioned, seconded by Mr. Viera, to go into Executive Session to discuss negotiations with Dispatch AFSCME Council 93 per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3), to discuss negotiations with DPW, AFSCME Council 93 per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3), to conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Finance Director, per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2), to conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Fire Chief per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) as having discussions in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town, and to consider the approval of Executive Session minutes of April 15, 2020 and April 29, 2020; to return to Open Session.

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

Respectfully submitted,

David Viera, Clerk

Prepared by:

Patricia Gamer, Secretary

Items Distributed at the June 24, 2020 board of Selectmen Meeting

List of Boards and Commissions Reappointments to Expire on June 30, 2023

Memo from Interim Chief David Enos – List of Annual Appointments of Constables, Special Police Officers, Traffic Constables and Detention Attendants

Board and Committee “Code of Conduct”

Human Services Council Orientation Manual

Request for Authorization to conduct a virtual Community Outreach Meeting for Flying Goose.