
*BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES*

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2016 – 6:30 P.M.
TRAINING ROOM – PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING**

This meeting was taped for local television.

PRESENT: Leo Janssens II, Chair, Duncan Phyfe, Member, Kyle Johnson, Clerk, Heather Budrewicz, Town Administrator and Mary Calandrella, Executive Assistant.

I. SALUTE THE FLAG

Leo Janssens called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Leo Janssens and the Board wish a grand farewell to Doug Briggs as this will be his last attended Board of Selectman meeting. Doug has been a great asset to the Town and a pleasure to work with over the years. All the best Doug.

- II. SOLICIT PUBLIC INPUT - David Mei owner of the Turnpike Rod & Gun Club was asked to address the board on the change of venue at his establishment. David Mei states there have been no changes. They have always offered food to the members/guest/public on different events throughout the year. He states that they serve breakfast and lunch Thursday-Sunday only and to members/guests only. Kyle Johnson states he has no problem with serving food as the Board of Health and Building Inspector has no current issue. The Board concern is with the Liquor License and the establishment status as a Club versus Restaurant. The Board has asked Heather to seek Legal Counsel Advice on this matter.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Duncan Phyfe motioned to approve the agenda as presented and was seconded by Kyle Johnson. Motion carried.

IV. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

Jesse Beauchesne representative from Roy Bros/Osterman address the Board seeking a permit to store (5) 1,000 gallon propane tanks on site at the new Cushing Academy dormitories. Roy Bros/Osterman provided the Board with a map of the site/plan of the protected gate. The Board asked if there were any abutters in the audience that were there to speak for or against the permit. There was no response to either. Leo Janssens stated that the Fire Chief Paul Rekos reviewed and approved the permit.

Kyle John made a motion to approve the permit for storage of propane tanks to Roy Bros/Osterman and was seconded by Duncan Phyfe. Motion carried.

The Friends of Steve Gallant spoke to the Board on memorializing Steve Gallant for all that he has done as a volunteer here in Ashburnham. Members spoke of his accomplishments and asked to place a bench at the Winchester Park in his memory. The bench will be paid for from the Friends through donations. Kyle Johnson agreed that Steve Gallant was a great asset to this town and would like to view other opinions for that park such as a tree in his memory. The Board feels that there needs to be a policy and a direction for the future of each park. The Board asked for the Friends of Steve Gallant to view alternatives if any and come again in front of the Board on January 23rd at 6:35pm.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Kyle Johnson spoke on the Rte 101 TIP status. He has contacted the MASS DOT to find out our current status within the process. He stated that he will be attending the next MRPC meeting to see if this project can be moved up on the TIP.

The Board also had to change Doug Briggs to Heather Budrewicz as the ex-officio member to the Economic Development Commission.

Duncan Phyfe made the motion to appoint Heather Budrewicz as the ex-officio member to the Economic Development Commission and was seconded by Kyle Johnson. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board reviewed all the letters of interest and took Bill Johnson’s recommendations under Review. The Board thanked all the interested parties for their desire to serve on this new important commission.

Kyle Johnson made the following selection as members of the Economic Development Commission and was seconded by Duncan Phyfe. Motion Carried

| POSITION | PERSON | QUALIFICATIONS | APPOINTMENT TERM |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| <i>Board of Selectman</i> | <i>Leo Janssens II</i> | <i>Board of Selectmen, Chairman</i> | <i>Annual</i> |
| <i>Advisory Board</i> | <i>Ron Putnam</i> | <i>Advisory Board, Vice Chairman</i> | <i>Annual</i> |
| <i>Planning Board</i> | TBD | | <i>Annual</i> |
| <i>Citizen</i> | <i>Bill Johnson</i> | <i>Resident/Property Owner</i> | <i>3 year</i> |
| <i>Citizen</i> | <i>Chris McNabb</i> | <i>Resident/Property Owner</i> | <i>2 year</i> |
| <i>Citizen</i> | <i>Christina Sargent</i> | <i>Resident/Property Owner Chairman, Historical Commission</i> | <i>3 year</i> |
| <i>Business Owner</i> | <i>Jaclyn Wooding</i> | <i>Triumph Play System Owner</i> | <i>3 year</i> |
| <i>Business Owner</i> | <i>Rosemarie Meissner</i> | <i>Meissner Economics, Served on Downtown Focus Committee</i> | <i>2 year</i> |
| <i>Business Owner</i> | <i>John Enright</i> | <i>Enright Construction</i> | <i>1 year</i> |
| <i>Cushing Academy</i> | TBD | <i>Cushing Academy, CFO</i> | <i>2 year</i> |
| <i>Town Planner</i> | TBD | | <i>Annual</i> |

VI. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S UPDATE

Heather Budrewicz reported on her first week on the job as the new Town Administrator. She spoke in the Green Energy Grant closeout and thanked Ed Vitone and Mark Carlisle for all their hard work on preparing the reports. She attended the annual Christmas Tree lighting and was thrilled as to how well it was attended by the community and she thanked the Parks & Recreation for all their efforts. She notified the Board that she has just received Fire Chief’s Paul Rekos resignation and will begin the process of advertising that position. She also will be negotiations with the Fire Union in January. She has also recommended George Concannon as the new regional Assistant Veterans Agent. Heather will also be attending the upcoming MRPC meeting on December 14th with the regards to the MassDOT TIP program.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. November 21, 2016– Regular Meeting

Kyle Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes of November 21, 2016 and was seconded by Duncan Phyfe. Motion carried.

VIII. BOS CORRESPONDENCE

None at this meeting

IX. DECEMBER MEETINGS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kyle Johnson read the following Town Clerk Reminders:

- January 1st and on – Open registration of voters at the Town Hall, Town Clerk’s Office, 32 Main Street, from 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Mondays and 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday thru Thursday, and closed on Friday.

- **What Is Islam? – Stevens Memorial Library Events:**

Wednesday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Snow Date: December 14

How much do you know about Islam? For most non-Muslims, it’s not a topic that we learned about in school, and the messages we get on the news are confusing. What do Muslims believe? How do they practice? What do their holy texts say?

The Worcester Islamic Center joins us to answer all of these questions and more. Well over one billion people practice this religion – let’s learn about it together!

- X. SOLICIT PUBLIC INPUT (5 minute limit) Bill Johnson wanted to thank Doug Briggs for his service to the town of Ashburnham. He stated that the town is in great shape today due to all of Doug’s efforts over the years.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION None at this meeting

XII. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:35 p.m. Kyle Johnson motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Duncan Phyfe. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Calandrella, Executive Assistant