

A weekly meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Monday, October 17, 2011 at 7:30 pm.

Present: Brian Connors, Chair; Robert Condon, Clerk; Joseph L. Miksch; George G. Samia, Town Administrator; Catherine Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Pledge of Allegiance

Opening Remarks - Chairman

Board of Selectmen Chair Brian Connors explained that as then new chairman, he made some changes on the agenda beginning this evening. Specifically, the Open Forum has been moved to the beginning of the meeting, before other Town business, and that the forum will be limited to ten minutes, with speakers asked to limit their time to two minutes each. Connors explained that this policy would not be unchangeable, but he felt that the voices of the public should be heard first. He also reminded the public that the purpose of Open Forum is to bring up questions for the Board on urgent items that may not have made it onto the weekly agenda, and that the Selectmen reserve the right to not make comments immediately on questions asked in order for them to obtain the answers to the questions. Connors also stressed that he would like to avoid the use of Open Forum for editorializing and grandstanding, and that, consistent with *Robert's Rules of Order*, all questions and comments will be directed through the chairman, who will act as moderator. Mr. Connors also mentioned that this evening marks the premiere of the EBCTV.ORG live podcasts of the Selectmen's meetings.

Open Forum

Sue Mulloy of the Board of Health updated the Selectmen on the protocol for the administration of the influenza vaccine. The protocol announced previously was that only the high-risk population without insurance could receive the flu shot through the Town's Board of Health office; However, because of supplemental funding through the State, the Board of Health is now able to offer flu shots at no cost, to any resident over the age of 18, by appointment, by calling 508-378-1642 or by emailing her at smulloy@ebmass.com.

Jacqueline Rose of 241 Plymouth street expressed concern over how the Town Administrator responded at the October 3 Board of Selectmen's Meeting to the allegations made at a meeting held independently by another Selectmen. Ms. Rose stated that she felt the Town Administrator's demeanor and tone of voice was not professional.

Appointment

Senior Center Building Committee

Dominic D'Angelo, chairman of the Senior Center Building Committee and Council on Aging Director Nancy Hill were present to give an update on the construction at the Center at Sachem Rock. Mr. D'Angelo explained that the committee is currently working diligently with the contractors to address delays and lack of progress in the construction caused by the abundance of rock ledge in the soil at the site, which hampered the installation of the underground utilities. He explained that although the construction is 30 - 40 days behind the original schedule, it is only around ten days behind the revised schedule. Temporary heat will be available in the next few weeks, and overall, Mr. D'Angelo feels they are doing a good job. Mrs. Hill asked the public to contact her at the Council on Aging if troubled by construction rumors, so that she can give them accurate information.

Sandra Ockers from the Friends of Seniors was present to remind the public about the memorial bricks that are still available through the Friends of Seniors. Mrs. Ockers explained that the memorial brick walkway will be in front of the old front door of the main house at Sachem Rock. Mrs. Ockers explained the costs and details on ordering the bricks. Forms for ordering are available at the Council on Aging, the Library and at the Town Clerk's Office. The Friends of Seniors have sold around 100 bricks to date, with a total of around 500 to sell.

Action Items

M/Condon, s/Miksch, a unanimous vote, approve the minutes from the October 3, 2011 Board of Selectmen Meeting.

M/Condon, s/Miksch, abstain/Connors, a majority vote, approve the request of the Kiwanis Club for the use of the Town Hall Parking lot green and the Town Common for its Annual Christmas events as follows: Christmas Tree Sale from Sunday, November 20 through December 24, 2011; Annual Lighting of the Common on Thursday, December 1, 2011 from 5 – 8 pm; Annual Christmas on the Common on Saturday, December 3, 2011 from 8 am – 5 pm.

M/Condon, s/Miksch, a unanimous vote, approve the request of David Repeta and the International Association of Fire Fighters to hold its annual “Fill the Boot” fundraising drive to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association at the intersection of Bedford and Central Streets on Saturday, October 22, 2011 from 8 am to 12 pm.

M/Condon, s/Miksch, a unanimous vote, approve the request of the East Bridgewater Democratic Town Committee to appoint Edward J. Sklut to the Board of Registrars of Voters to fill a vacancy caused by the decision of Roberta A. McCarthy not to seek reappointment, effective immediately through June 30, 2014.

M/Condon, s/Miksch, a unanimous vote, approve the request of the Council on Aging to appoint Sandra Lucca as a new member of the Council on Aging to fill the vacancy due to the resignation of Marie U. Day, effective immediately through June 30, 2012.

Town Administrator Report

Town Administrator George Samia gave an update on the setting of the tax rate, stating that he will have definitive information within the next few weeks. Mr. Samia also reported that the Finance Committee will be conducting interviews with three-to-four candidates, and that interviews will need to be set up with the Selectmen also, as they will be joint appointments.

M/Condon, s/Miksch, motion to adjourn.

VOTE: Yes – Connors, Condon, Miksch; a unanimous vote in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 pm

Clerk
Board of Selectmen