

A regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Monday, September 28, 2015 at 6:30 pm.

Present: David Sheedy, Chairman; William Dowling, Clerk; Martin Crowley; George Samia, Town Administrator; Gloria Mitchell, Administrative Assistant

Pledge of Allegiance

Open Forum

Town Clerk, Dina Livingston, wanted to remind everyone that the primary election for Senator Kennedy's position would take place one week from tomorrow at the Jr/Sr High School. The polling hours are 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. This is only for Precincts 1, 2 & 3. If you have any questions contact the Town Clerk's Office. The regular election is scheduled for November 3, 2015.

Open Forum closed by the Chairman

Appointment

Director of Assessing, Paula Wolfe, was present for the signing of a three year employment contract between herself and the Town.

George Samia spoke about how smoothly the transition went from when Cheryl Pooler left. Mr. Samia also mentioned it has been a pleasure working with Ms. Wolfe and is proud of the financial team that is in place.

David Sheedy mentioned he has seen how much Ms. Wolfe has done since taking on the position.

Martin Crowley stated that Ms. Wolfe has been doing this type of work for a long time and takes pride in her work.

Ms. Wolfe reviewed everything that has been going on since taking the position and what is coming up.

William Dowling mentioned how accessible Ms. Wolfe is and enjoys working with her.

Ms. Wolfe stated it's nice to live in the town and that she has a great department.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve the Employment Agreement Between the Town of East Bridgewater and Paula Wolfe, Director of Assessing from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018.

David Sheedy recognized that there was a group in the meeting and asked if there was a spokesperson. Was told it was Troop 29 from East Bridgewater. The Boy Scouts were attending the Selectmen's meeting to finish up the last step for their Citizen's in Community Batch. Mr. Sheedy welcomed them to the meeting.

Appointment

Attorney Jaime Kenny was present to review the Memorandum of Understand Between the Town of East Bridgewater and the East Bridgewater Town Hall Administrative and Clerical Association. Attorney Kenny reviewed the differences from the previous contract to the new contract and that the contract would be effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018. Attorney Kenny explained there are approximately 18 members of this union which consists of 12 full time and approximately 6 part time employees.

David Sheedy stated this agreement is consistent with the other union contracts within the past couple of years.

Attorney Kenny stated this was a very amicable and short negotiation.

George Samia stated the union did not bring an attorney into the negotiations and seemed to trust the town. Mr. Samia also stated that most negotiations have been going very well and his has saved the town a lot of money in legal fees.

Attorney Kenny also stated that this is a very harmonious relationship with this bargaining unit as is with other units in the town.

Appointment

Many members of the East Bridgewater Arts Council were present. Chairman, Nikole Kelleher, reviewed what the Council has sponsored the past year and what the Council is looking forward to doing in the near future.

David Sheedy stated that the Council has been very busy.

Ms. Kelleher mentioned they are looking forward to giving out three scholarships this year.

William Dowling asked if the Council would be bringing back the Art Show on the Common. Ms. Kelleher stated that task was very daunting and was not sure if they would be doing that. Ms. Kelleher stated that the Council will be sponsoring a Districtwide Art Show, hopefully sometime in April, for K-12.

David Sheedy stated the Council has done tremendous work, thanked them for everything they do and appreciated the members coming in.

Action Items

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a majority vote, approve the minutes of September 14, 2015 meeting.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve the request from Peter Spagone for the use of the Town Common on October 12, 2015 from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm for a Walk for Children to raise funds for the Skylur Spagone Memorial Fund.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve the request from David Sheedy of the World Trade Center Artifact Committee for the use of the Town Common on June 11, 2016 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm for the dedication of the World Trade Center Memorial.

David Sheedy stated the artifact will be permanently placed on the Common, but a lot more work needs to be completed.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve to schedule a Special Town Meeting for November 9, 2015 at 7:00 pm to take place at the Jr/Sr High School Auditorium.

George Samia stated that the budget is usually in order and usually does not have to come back for a Special Fall Town Meeting. But, some capital projects were put on hold last spring, a few zoning issues and a few other items have since come up. William Dowling mentioned that the School Committee's request to change the number of members to be an uneven number is also to be considered. Martin Crowley stated the primary reason for the Special Town Meeting was because of some Planning/Zoning change requests.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve the attached Special Town Meeting Schedule for the November 9, 2015 Special Town Meeting.

David Sheedy reviewed the Special Town Meeting Schedule.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve the extension of the contract between the Town and Republic Services for curb side collection effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018.

George Samia explained the extension was meant to put a cap on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to 4% while the town looks at what options they have for when the contract expires. Martin Crowley stated this

does not increase the price for residents, at this time. David Sheedy stated that the vote was only on the amendments of the contract.

Town Administrator Report

George Samia stated that multiple employment contracts have been completed recently.

Appointment

Richard O'Flaherty is the town delegate for the Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC), Old Colony Joint Transportation and Southeastern Mass Commuter Rail Task Force Committee. Mr. O'Flaherty explained what the OCPC actually does and mentioned difference projects where studies were conducted in East Bridgewater and he brings the information to the Council for review. The OCPC is asked their opinion on projects and the possible effects on the community. Mr. O'Flaherty stated he keeps an eye on things for East Bridgewater and is an advocate for the town. He mentioned that East Bridgewater was included in the commuter rail before completion just in case a stop was needed in East Bridgewater. Mr. O'Flaherty also listed numerous projects that the Council is working on. Mr. O'Flaherty is going to volunteer to take part in a comprehension economic development committee that is being created.

David Sheedy stated that Mr. O'Flaherty is very qualified to be the liaison for these committees and has a hand in a lot of projects in the town. Mr. O'Flaherty feels you need to give back to a community that has been very welcoming to him and his family.

Martin Crowley stated that having the time and experience to be on these Committees makes you more effective in doing it and thanked Mr. O'Flaherty for doing it.

Mr. Sheedy thanked Mr. O'Flaherty for everything he does.

Mr. O'Flaherty told the Selectmen to let him know if there was anything the town needs.

Board Discussion

David Sheedy read a letter that was received from a resident, Patrick Cronin, regarding a golf tournament that is held every year and Ridder lets them use the green for free.

William Dowling asked what was happening with the Operational Review Committee. Mr. Sheedy stated that he spoke to Amy McAlpine and she has been appointed by the School Committee at their last meeting. They are now waiting for the Finance Committee appointment.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, motion to adjourn.

VOTE: Yes – Sheedy, Dowling, Crowley; a unanimous vote in favor

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm



Board of Selectmen Clerk