

A regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Monday, September 14, 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

Chuck Horan from East Bridgewater Kiwanis spoke about the 5th annual Field of Flags event that was on the Board of Selectmen's Agenda tonight and is asking for the Selectmen's support. Mr. Horan stated the proceeds from this helps support the Fisher House in Boston and the East Bridgewater Kiwanis which in turn gives back to the community.

Open Forum closed by the Chairman

Appointment

Susan Silva from East Bridgewater H.O.P.E. gave an update and stated there has been a total of four overdose deaths in East Bridgewater since January 1, 2015. Ms. Silva mentioned that EB H.O.P.E. will be holding their annual candle light vigil on Thursday, September 17, 2015 in the Town Common.

William Dowling thanked the members of EB H.O.P.E for everything they do in East Bridgewater.

David Sheedy stated that the vigil is a great event that everyone should attend and bring their families.

Appointment

Many members of the Recreation Commission were in attendance and introduced themselves to the Selectmen. Robert Packer gave an overview of what has been going on with the Recreation Commission recently. Mr. Packer stated the Commission has been trying to get the Friends of Trails to their meetings to get an update from them, he stated the Christmas Parade Committee came up with the Toy Story theme for this year's parade. Diane Carey stated the East Bridgewater B.A.S.E. is trying to raise funds for a new skate park and has a long way to go. They would like to start with a temporary park until enough funds can be raised for a permanent park. William Dowling asked how much is needed for the skate park. Ms. Carey stated that \$150,000.00 is needed for this project and the committee only has about \$6,000.00 at this time.

Mr. Packer mentioned John Shea handles the Strong Field baseball field. Mr. Shea handles all the scheduling and maintenance of the field with the help of the DPW. The field was renovated a couple of years ago.

David Sheedy asked who handles the scheduling of the Belmont Street field. Mr. Packer stated he did not know but would find out and let the Selectmen know. Mr. Packer mentioned that Dave Floeck does a lot because that field has only soccer and Mr. Floeck controls the whole soccer program.

David Sheedy mentioned that this is the first time that the Recreation Commission has had a full Board. Mr. Sheedy asked if the Commission has a regular scheduled meeting each month. Bob Packer stated the meeting is the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm and is normally in Selectmen's Conference Room. Mr. Packer stated that now that the Commission has a secretary they will be working with the Clerk's Office to make sure the Minutes are submitted and the meetings are posted with an Agenda.

David Sheedy asked if any of the other members had anything to add. Peter Furia stated that he wants to get a better understanding of how the Commission works in relation to the town.

Diane Carey stated she would like to raise more money to do more fun things for the town and realized there was not even enough money for them to sponsor a movie night for the town.

David Sheedy stated that there is a revolving account set up for the Recreation Commission. The Town Accountant, Phyllis Tirrell explained, in detail, how the revolving account works. Mr. Packer explained that 90% of the fees collected for the use of the fields is put back into the fields and 10% goes back to the Recreation Commission for their operational expenses. Ms. Tirrell explained that the donations for the skate park and the Christmas parade are separate.

John Shea asked what the balance is at this time. Ms. Tirrell stated she was not sure but could find out. Mr. Packer stated he thought it was about \$12,000.00. Mr. Shea asked if there were any minutes for meetings within the past 8-9 months, Diane Carey stated she just turned some into the Town Clerk that day. Mr. Shea asked how the Commission would go about voting on a new Chairman. Martin Crowley explained it would have to be a majority vote and all you needed was a motion, a second and a vote. David Sheedy explained that in some circumstances the Chairman cannot perform their duties for one reason another, the committee can sit down and decide to make a change during a posted meeting with the item on the agenda.

Martin Crowley asked if any of the fees that are collected is used to pay back the town for the work the DPW does on the fields? Mr. Shea explained 10% of the money collected goes back to the Recreation Commission and the rest is used for maintenance and repairs of the fields. David Sheedy asked if the same procedure was followed at the Belmont Street fields. Mr. Packer stated yes.

David Sheedy thanked the commission for everything they do and appreciated the members coming in.

Action Items

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a majority vote, approve the minutes of August 24, 2015 meeting, Martin Crowley abstained.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve the request from Heather Craven for the use of the Town Common on Saturday, June 18, 2016 from 8:00 am through 12:00 pm for a 5K Run/Walk for the Sydney Craven Memorial Fund.

David Sheedy explained the fund is set up as a memorial for the young girl in East Bridgewater that suddenly passed away in last March.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, adopt, with assistance from the Old Colony Planning Council, the Old Colony Region Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan as this jurisdiction's Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Fire Department Lieutenant David Rapeta gave the Selectmen a printed power point presentation and explained the plan which is a requirement for grants. Once adopted by the town the plan will go to FEMA and MEMA for their approval and will be good for five years. And the next time the town can do it on its own.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve the appointment of Gregory Lott to the Historical Commission effective immediately through June 30, 2017.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve the request from Chuck Horan from the EB Kiwanis Club for the use of the Town Common from October 31, 2015 through November 14, 2015 for the display of American Flags.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve the request from Janet Cheney to hang pink ribbons around town on September 30, 2015 and/or October 1, 2015 to bring awareness of the fight so many women are waging against breast cancer.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve the request to transfer the Class 3 License located at 358 Thatcher Street from Donald A. Galante, dba Regal Auto Parts, to Andrade, Inc., dba Everetts Auto Parts.

Attorney Jim Burke, representing Roy Andrade, was in attendance with Mr. Andrade explaining the improvements that has already been done on the property since they have purchased it and they are looking forward to doing business in the town.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve to instruct the dog officer, Annie Brown, to issue non-criminal violations to dog owners which have not licensed their dog(s) as of Friday, September 18, 2015.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve the stipend of \$2,500.00 from Line Item #01-199-510-5181 appropriated at Town Meeting for Phyllis Tirrell for the duties as Chief Procurement Officer.

William Dowling stated he spoke to an attorney at the Inspector General's Office regarding concerns of the Town Accountant being the Chief Procurement Officer. Mr. Dowling stated he was told there are no laws against this and there is no law violation doing this but discourages against it.

George Samia stated he also talked to the same attorney at IG's Office and was told the same. Mr. Samia explained the responsibilities of the Town Accountant, to the person at the IG's Office and that the Selectmen did speak with Town Counsel. The conversation ended with the attorney stating she would make note of everything Mr. Samia told her and would contact Mr. Samia if there was an issue.

There was more discussion regarding this appointment and the future certification of Phyllis Tirrell as the Chief Procurement Officer.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve the stipend of \$2,500.00 from Line Item #01-199-510-5181 appropriated at Town Meeting for Gloria Mitchell for the duties as the Associate Public Purchasing Officer.

Town Administrator Report

George Samia stated the final bond issuance for the items approved at the last Annual Town Meetings have been done. Mr. Samia read an article from the Brockton Enterprise regarding Brockton's poor credit rating by using all of their reserves. Mr. Samia commented that East Bridgewater has maintained their AA3 rating which is one of the best ratings a town can get, this affects the borrowing rate.

David Sheedy mentioned that this was due to the fantastic financial team that is in place and hopes to continue this and appreciate all the hard work by everyone.

Board Discussion

William Dowling questioned when the Efficiency Review Committee was going to be implemented. David Sheedy stated that the Selectmen have received the At Large letter in and was just waiting to hear from the Finance Committee and the School Committee to appoint their liaisons.

David Sheedy mentioned he would like to continue bringing in the different committees that are appointed by the Selectmen to introduce themselves and to give updates. Mr. Sheedy has requested for the members of the Arts Council and Richard O'Flaherty whom is the liaison for the Old Colony Planning Council, Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee and Southeastern Mass Commuter Rail Task Force to attend the next scheduled Selectmen's Meeting for this purpose. Martin Crowley stated it is a good idea for this to be an ongoing practice.

David Sheedy also mentioned that a Special Town Meeting will most likely be scheduled for the fall.

Reminders

REMINDER FROM TOWN CLERK

If you have not obtained your 2015 Dog License you have until Friday, September 18, 2015 to do so before Non-Criminal Violations are issued. You are responsible for all late fees.

Any questions feel free to call the Town Clerks office at 508-378-1606.

Martin Crowley asked the Town Clerk when the Absentee Ballots for the November 4th Election will be available. Town Clerk, Dina Livingston, stated generally they are available 3-4 weeks prior to an election but there will be a Primary Election on October 6th.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm



Board of Selectmen Clerk