

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Monday, February 26, 2018 at 6:30 pm.

Present: John Margie, Chairman; David Sheedy, Vice Chairman; William Dowling, Clerk; and Rebecca Johnson, Administrative Assistant.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Open Forum**

Veterans Service Officer, Robert Charles, was present to update the East Bridgewater residents of East Bridgewater of the services the Veterans Service Office provides. He stated that the Veterans Service office services Veterans as well as the widow / widower of the veteran and benefits are available for them. The phone number to the Veterans Service Office is 508-378-1603.

Mr. Charles mentioned, the second Wednesday of every month a Veterans Group meeting is held at the COA (Council on Aging) at 10:00 am where Veterans get together for one hour to discuss benefits or socialize.

Mr. Charles stated that in conjunction with South Shore Veterans Assistance, Inc., a local non-profit 501-C3 they're working to assist Veterans in need in our local area. They're requesting donations such as new clothing and adult activity items to benefit veterans in need. A box is placed at the entrance of Town Hall.

Mr. Charles also stated that he's also the Passport Agent officer and provides Passport services to East Bridgewater and surrounding towns. Passports are done by appointment only, he explained that credit cards are not an option for payment, and you must pay by check or money order. For further information can be provided by contacting his office.

Resident, Barbara Donovan, Central Street was present to express concerns and get information regarding the new trash / recycle program. Ms. Donovan stated that there was some confusion regarding the pay as you go program. She had thoughts of maybe starting a petition for residents 65 years of age and older to possibly reduce the cost. She explained that being 65 and older, a one person family, and using one trash bag every two weeks the new trash program isn't affordable for her.

Mr. Margie stated the DPW is still working on the final details of the trash and recycle program. The DPW will be holding a public forum for Town of East Bridgewater residents Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 1:00 pm. Residents will be able to ask any questions they may have regarding the new program.

There was a discussion that another option would be to go private as an alternative to the Towns trash / recycle program if it doesn't work for your personal situation.

Mr. Sheedy stated that the forum on March 22 is being run by the DPW and they should be able to answer any questions to the best of their ability regarding the program.

Resident, Bill Butts, Pond Street was present, he explained that he lives on a dangerous curving road. He stated there have been multiple accidents involving vehicles on his property. Mr. Butts stated he spoke with the Town Administrator and DPW Director, John Haines on a couple of occasions regarding this matter and wanted the Town to install a barrier or guard rail. The DPW director, John Haines went to his residence to assess the matter. Mr. Butts stated that Mr. Haines never got back to him regarding the guard rail installation.

Mr. Margie stated he would look into this situation and get back to Mr. Butts within the next couple of days.

### **Appointment**

Robert Charles, Town of East Bridgewater Veterans Service Officer was present. Mr. Margie stated the United States Department of State sent a letter addressed to the Veterans Office regarding the Boston Passport Agency. The letter congratulated and thanked Mr. Charles on receiving an excellent report from the Passport Services' Facility Oversight Program. They appreciate his ongoing effort in complying with the requirements of the passport application process and application acceptance procedures.

Mr. Margie stated that on behalf of the Town, they appreciate not only the work Mr. Charles does with Passports but acknowledge his overall role as the Town of East Bridgewater's Veterans Service Officer.

Mr. Charles stated that he appreciates everyone's support, not only for the Veterans duties but also the Passport duties.

## Appointment

Lisa Rue, Korin Zigler and Ken Reale were present from the Community Garden at Sachem Rock to give a second annual update. Ms. Rue stated that they're going into their third successful season. Ms. Rue reviewed the events that they held for the second season, what they will be continuing next season and new events they are considering. Ms. Rue stated that they have a class coming up taught by Bill Bankson, a Biology teacher, research with Bees. She stated this upcoming season they'll have a Bee Flower Garden to help pollinate the gardens.

Ms. Rue stated they plan to fence in the entire gardening area. There are 16 plots total and they plan to expand the gardens to 22 plots.

Mr. Sheedy mentioned putting up a sign referring to the new bee garden to bring awareness to anyone allergic to bees.

Ms. Rue agreed it was a good idea and stated they would get this done.

## Action Items

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, approve the request from Diane Carey of EB BASE for the use of the Town Common on Sunday, April 8, 2018 from 11:00 am – 5:00 pm for the opening day of the Victoria Snelgrove Mobile Skate Park. Time of the event will be 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Rain Date if needed, Sunday, April 15, 2018

Diane Carey, resident was present and requested to change the time of the event to 10:00 am. Ms. Carey also requested to advertise with lawn signs around the common, in front of town hall and around town. The Selectmen agreed that as long as they were non-political signs and would be taken down after the event it would be ok.

M/Sheedy, s/Dowling, a unanimous vote, to amend action item 11 to change the start time of the event from 11:00 am to 10:00 am.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve the request from the Fire Chief for the quarterly Ambulance Billing Abatements as of November 2017 in the amount of \$28,664.02.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2018 9:00 am Executive Session meeting.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve, the minutes of the February 5, 2018 6:30 pm meeting.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve, the minutes of the February 15, 2018 9:30 am meeting.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve, but not release the minutes of the September 14, 2015 5:30 pm Executive Session meeting.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve, but not release the minutes of the May 2, 2016 9:00 am Executive Session meeting.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve but not release the minutes of the July 26, 2016 1:30 pm Executive Session meeting.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve, but not release the minutes of the March 20, 2017 5:30 pm Executive Session meeting.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve, but not release the minutes of the November 27, 2017 5:30 pm Executive Session meeting.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve, but not release the minutes of the December 11, 2017 6:00 pm Executive Session meeting.

Mr. Sheedy explained the reason for not releasing these minutes was due to ongoing litigation.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve, to appoint Susan Gillpatrick as the Interim Town Clerk effective March 5, 2018 until the Annual Town Election to be held on April 7, 2018.

M/Dowling, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve, to appoint Susan Gillpatrick as the Interim Town Clerk effective March 5, 2018 until the Annual Town Election to be held on April 7, 2018.

Mr. Sheedy would like to make an amendment to change the effective date to March 3, 2018 until after the Annual Town Election on April 9, 2018.

M/Margie, S/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve an amendment to change the effective date to appoint Susan Gillpatrick as the Interim Town Clerk to March 3, 2018 until after the Annual Town Election on April 9, 2018.

M/Margie, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve, to appoint Susan Gillpatrick as the Interim Town Clerk effective March 3, 2018 until after the Annual Town Election on April 9, 2018.

M/Margie, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve, to appoint Susan Gillpatrick as the Interim Registrar of Voters effective March 3, 2018 until April 9, 2018.

M/Margie, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve, the request from Viking Sports Parents for permission to hang two banners, about 5 or 6 feet long at the Town Common for a road race on April 7, 2018.

M/Margie, s/Sheedy, a unanimous vote, to approve, to adopt the EB Public Schools Grants Manual for the Town of East Bridgewater.

Mr. Margie explained that the School Department put together a Grants Manual on how they handle Grants based on the results of a Federal Audit that came back related to Federal Grants that the School Department have received. The School Department was asked to develop this policy, the Town of East Bridgewater needs to accept it for the Town.

## **Town Administrator Report**

### **Staff Reports**

Library Director, Virginia Johnson would like the residents to know there will be an open forum regarding the Library expansion project on Monday, February 26, 2018 at 6:30 pm and Thursday, March 1, 2018 at 3:30 pm. Flyers will be available at Town Hall by the Selectmen's office.

### **Board Discussions**

Mr. Margie stated that it seems like DW Clark has been making progress in removal of the pile. The Board of Selectmen's Office will send a letter to follow up, requesting a documented, written plan with potential acceleration as promised at the 1.22.18 meeting.

M/Margie, s/Sheedy, motion to adjourn.

VOTE: Yes – Margie, Sheedy, Dowling a unanimous vote in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm

  
Clerk  
Board of Selectmen