

Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833
Ph. (978) 352-5755 * Fax (978) 352-5727
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
Memorial Town Hall
Third Floor Meeting Room
12/18/06
7:00 PM

Selectmen Present: Richard Clough, Chairman; Lonnie Brennan, Clerk; Matthew Vincent

Others Present: Stephen Delaney, Town Administrator; Janet Pantano, Administrative Assistant; Jack Moultrie, Highway Surveyor; Mark Unger

Absent:

Call to Order

Mr. Clough opened the meeting at 7:12PM.

Public Hearing Assessors

Cynthia Bateman and Dave Bogdon, Assessors and Paul D'Olimpio, Assistant Assessor were present

Paul D'Olimpio, Assistant Assessor explained the purpose of the Public Hearing and that the Board would vote individually on the tax classification. He stated that the first category would be Open Space. He stated that Georgetown does not have a classification for Open Space.

Mr. Vincent moved to set an Open Space Assessment. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was not approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. D'Olimpio stated that the next is a Residential exemption. He stated that in the past Georgetown has not allowed this exemption as it would not help the town.

Mr. Vincent moved to establish a Residential Exemption. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was not approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. D'Olimpio stated that the next is a Small Commercial Exemption for businesses with 10 employees or less and less than \$1 million in value. He stated that the Assessors do not recommend this exemption.

Mr. Vincent moved to accept the Small Commercial Exemption. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was not approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. D'Olimpio stated that the next vote is on Classification. Discussion on classification in other towns and how they are assessed. Mr. Vincent stated that they are trying to do

what they can to help businesses. Mr. D'Olimpio stated that the Assessors recommend a classification of one.

Mr. Vincent moved to recommend a Tax Classification factor of one. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Vincent asked Mr. D'Olimpio if he has seen many changes in the Town. Mr. D'Olimpio explained tax rates in the new subdivisions Chaplin Hills and the Littles Hill. There was a discussion on values and the 2 ½ percent and how this affects the tax rate. Mr. Clough asked about values and how rates change with improvements. Mr. D'Olimpio explained how they work with the Building Department.

Mr. Brennan asked about what exemptions are available to the senior citizens. Discussion on the different exemptions for senior citizens. Mr. Vincent stated that there is a Veterans exemption. Ms. Bateman stated that there are brochures at the office to explain the exemptions available. Discussion on senior citizen incentive for 10 people with a \$500 exemption off property taxes. Mr. Brennan asked for a brochure to be made up for residents. Mr. Brennan stated that they are looking at new limits. Discussion on overlay and when and how to release these funds.

Mr. Brennan moved to close the Public Classification Hearing . Mr. Vincent seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Correspondence

Mr. Brennan stated that they have received the resignation of Mark Gauthier from the ConCom and CPC Committee.

Mr. Brennan stated that they have also received the resignation of Arthur and Kelly Ferretti from the Bailey Lane Stewardship Committee.

New Business

Mr. Brennan asked Mr. Delaney to look at CVS and other businesses and if they should be licensed.

License Renewals

ABCC

Mr. Brennan moved to approve the Liquor License for *The Georgetown Club-All Alcohol-General on premise, Rock Pond Restaurant-All Alcohol-Restaurant, and Olde Towne Tavern-All Alcohol-Restaurant*. Mr. Vincent seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Automatic Amusement

Mr. Brennan moved to approve the Automatic Amusement License for the *Olde Towne Tavern*. Mr. Vincent seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Common Victualler License

Mr. Brennan moved to approve the Common Victualler License for *The Georgetown Club, Mystra Donuts, Inc., Scotty's Service, Inc., Richdale Convenience, Johnnies Place, Steve's Family Restaurant, Georgetown Bowling Lanes, Theo's Restaurant, Georgetown Fish & Game, Rock Pond Restaurant, Olde Towne Tavern. The Chocolate Cellar.* Mr. Vincent seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Vincent moved to approve the Common Victualler License for *The Chocolate Cellar.* Mr. Clough seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote. Mr. Brennan abstained

Bowling

Mr. Vincent moved to approve the Bowling License for *Georgetown Bowling Lanes.* Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Sunday Live Entertainment

Mr. Vincent moved to approve the Sunday Live Entertainment License for *The Georgetown Club.* Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

State Sunday Live Entertainment

Mr. Vincent moved to approve the State Sunday Live Entertainment License for *The Georgetown Club.* Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Weekly Live Entertainment

Mr. Brennan moved to approve the Weekly Live Entertainment License for *The Georgetown Club, Rock Pond Restaurant, and Olde Towne Tavern.* Mr. Vincent seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Trap Shooting

Mr. Brennan moved to approve the Trap Shooting License for *Georgetown Fish & Game.* Mr. Vincent seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Class II-Used Car Sales

Mr. Vincent moved to approve the Class II-Used Car Sales License for *Georgetown Citgo Service Station.* Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Second Hand Shop

Mr. Brennan moved to approve the Second Hand Shop License for *Instant Replays.* Mr. Vincent seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Selectmen's Report and Comment

Mr. Brennan stated that there is a Library Tile Fundraiser video that will be playing on Cable and for residents to watch for it. He stated that Mr. Sarno's Christmas lights are up on Tenney Street and look great.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Delaney stated that they had a Tax Title payment came in today from 1977 for \$150,000. He stated that this property was in court and the homeowner wants to sell and that is what prompted the payment. He stated that the Treasurer has Collected \$201,000 in the last few months. Mr. Clough asked what it cost to recoup that money. Mr. Delaney stated about \$10,000.

Mr. Delaney stated that the Executive Session has been postponed for this evening.

Appointments

Mr. Brennan stated that there is an opening on the ConCom and CPA.

Board Business

Bailey Lane Bridge

Mr. Moultrie, Highway Surveyor stated that he was here out of concern over an email that was sent out today. He stated that he was unaware of the situation and has found out that the situation was not what was stated in the email. He stated he gave credit to Mrs. Unger for bringing this forward. He stated that he does not understand the negative comments directed to his department. He stated that the gate at the bridge has been broken and the road has been barricaded at the request of the Police Department and that the Police and Fire Departments were okay with the closure. He stated engineering is going forward and the Water Department is giving them land for wetland replication and he is working with the ConCom. He stated that he will present a plan to fund rebuilding the bridge without an override. He stated that there are not enough Chapter 90 funds to fund this project. He stated that the Unger's have proposed some options but they must go through the permitting process with the ConCom. He stated that his concern is the safety of the public and not for certain groups. He state he invites Mr. and Mrs. Unger down to his office and that he would work with anyone. Mr. Vincent asked Mr. Moultrie about his proposal to fix the bridge. Mr. Moultrie stated he would present the proposal with his budget and he stated that he is not done with the ConCom wetland replication. Mr. Vincent stated Mr. Unger has a price for the bridge at \$50,000. Mr. Moultrie stated that the bridge must be bid and bonds posted with prevailing wage rates paid, etc. Mr. Vincent asked about other bridges in Town. Mr. Moultrie stated he would give a report on these bridges at a future meeting. Mr. Vincent asked if any bridges were damaged in the floods. Mr. Moultrie stated that the North Street culvert had damage and that this bridge is in the engineering process. Mr. Clough asked about the West Main Street culvert by Rock Pond. Mr. Moultrie stated that this was part of an article that was rejected at Town Meeting. Mr. Clough asked about West Street. Mr. Moultrie stated that this would be in his report.

Mr. Unger stated that there was an incident at the Bailey Lane bridge were emergency vehicles were called and were at both sides of the bridge. He stated that this brings forward the issue of safety and what side of bridge to be on. Discussion on if a tree falls and blocks the road and what would happen. He stated that he has been to the ConCom meetings regarding the wetland replication. Mr. Unger stated that it was stated what would happen in a 100 year storm and it was stated that the water would still go over the road. He stated he gave information on a bridge to Mr. Moultrie in October 2005. He

stated a lot of ideas have been shot down. He stated that he has been attending meetings and wants to move forward. Mr. Clough stated he wants to move forward and that he would like to see Mr. Moultrie's proposals. Mr. Unger stated that it was stated in a meeting that they would work together. Mr. Unger stated that the Police and Fire Departments have stated that the closing is a safety concern. Mr. Brennan stated that Police and Fire have rescinded that opinion. Mr. Vincent stated that he has been contacted by a resident with an ill family member in this area and is concerned about emergency vehicles responding. Mr. Clough asked about steel plates and if this could be a temporary fix. Mr. Moultrie stated that there was a concern on traffic and who would monitor weight limits. Mr. Moultrie asked if after the Holidays they could put together a meeting with BoS, Police, Fire, the Unger's, and anyone else who is concerned. Mr. Moultrie stated that a more substantial gate would have to be put in if they want to open for emergency only. He stated that it has been costly to repair the current gate and pay for locks and chains. Mr. Brennan stated that they should go with the recommendation of the Police and Fire Departments. He stated that twice they have gone to Town Meeting to repair the Bridge and the article has failed. Mr. Vincent stated that residents have been patient and getting together soon would be a good idea.

Mr. Clough asked who should attend this meeting. Mr. Moultrie stated a representative from the BoS and/or Mr. Delaney, a CIP member, a FinCom member, the Unger's, a ConCom member, and the Engineers. Mr. Unger stated that if residents want to give him their ideas he would present them at this meeting. Discussion on ideas and funding. Mr. Moultrie stated that if they go forward against his recommendation and the engineers then the BoS would take the liability. Mr. Delaney asked what is the goal and expectations of this meeting.

Discussion on web and email addresses on the town server.

Mr. Vincent moved to adjourn. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano.

Minutes approved April 5, 2007.