

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
6/22/15
6:30PM-General Meeting~3rd floor meeting room, Town Hall

Selectmen Present: Philip Trapani, Chairman; Gary C. Fowler, C. David Surface, Stuart M. Egenberg, Douglas W. Dawes, Clerk

Others Present: Michael Farrell, Town Administrator; Janet Pantano, Administrative Assistant

Absent:

Call to order

Invocation-Douglas W. Dawes
Pledge of Allegiance

Warrant & Minutes

Warrant to be signed

Minutes April 28, 2015

Mr. Egenberg moved to approve the minutes of April 28, 2015. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote. Mr. Dawes abstained

Correspondence

Mr. Trapani stated that the board received a letter from the Building Inspector regarding storage at the bowling lane.

Mr. Trapani stated that the board received a letter from FEMA regarding a risk meeting on the watershed

New Business

Code Red Update-Police Chief Cudmore to be present

David Schofield, Light Dept. and Lou Mammolette, Water Dept. were present

Chief Cudmore explained that he has reviewed our system and looked at new systems. He stated that the Water and Light Department have and will pay for the system. He stated that what they looked at are new ways to notify residents for Water and Light issues and non-emergency issues. He stated that Blackboard Connect is the product they are looking at as it is more than an emergency contact system.

Dave Schofield explained he was impressed with the system and that it is user friendly and has different ways to communicate to the public. He stated that it is a program that all can use.

Lou Mammolette also stated that the program is user friendly and the important part is to get the information out to the public.

Chief Cudmore stated that the program will be the same price as what we are using and easier to use.

Mr. Trapani asked if it allows for more questions. Chief Cudmore stated it is an option. Mr. Trapani asked how a resident signs up. Chief Cudmore stated that listed phone numbers will be added to the system and residents can go to the website and sign up. Mr. Trapani asked when the new system will be implemented. Chief Cudmore stated that with a vote tonight the system can be started July 1st. Mr. Surface asked if the School Dept. uses the same system. Chief Cudmore stated that they do but their system is Connect Ed. Mr. Dawes asked if there is a cost savings. Chief Cudmore stated that the cost is the same but gaining services.

Mr. Farrell stated that this is a good upgrade from the system we have. He stated that the town was going to share the cost. Mr. Fowler asked from whose budget the funds would come from. Mr. Farrell stated from the administration Technology budget.

Mr. Egenberg moved to move forward with the *Blackboard Connect* emergency contact program. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Parcel F, 172 East Main Street

Steve Przyjemski, ConCom Agent; Howard Snyder, Town Planner

Laura Repplier, ConCom; Jim DiMento, Park & Rec; Andrew Currie, ConCom were present

Mr. Trapani stated that since last meeting not much has been done and that they need a plan to make a decision. Mr. DiMento stated that he was going to discuss with Planning Board and then the BoS. He stated he has not discussed Parcel F with the ConCom. Mr. Trapani stated he feels the board needs to see the land. Mr. Dawes stated that he did a mini tour and this is a large piece of property. Mr. Surface asked if the boards have talked. The board members present stated no. He stated that the boards should discuss and work something out. Mr. DiMento stated that they need the two boards to get together. He stated if three members from each board get together to discuss the meeting would have to be posted. He stated that they are more interested in the property behind this parcel.

Mr. Trapani asked members to pick a date before the next meeting to meet at the site for a walk through. He stated after the walk through then have another joint meeting.

Mr. Przyjemski stated that abutters are here tonight. Mr. Trapani stated to the residents that he would give them time for questions/comments.

Lynn Grosslein, 16 Lisa Lane stated that they are not sure what is happening with the parcel and has a petition signed by 94 residents with what they feel should happen as was stated in the hearings. She stated abutters would like to be part of the process.

Chris Lapaca, 9 Rosemarie Lane, is concerned on the amount of water on the site and the change from 2004 to 2014. She stated that she has lost land to water and the change started with the Pillsbury Lane project, and then Lisa Lane.

Jack Grosslein, 16 Lisa Lane stated that he went to all the hearings for the Turning Leaf development and concern of the traffic to the area with the development and from the parcel. He

stated that they have some of the worse traffic issues and if used for anything else but passive recreation this would cause increased traffic.

Jean Nelson, 30 Searle Street stated that she agrees with Mr. Grosslein. She stated that she did not make hearings but from what she has researched the intent was for Passive Open Space. She stated she does not consider fields as passive but active.

Carl Stecher, 26 Searle St stated the traffic issues are a major concern and does not know why nothing has been done. Mr. Trapani stated that he is familiar with area and defers to the Police Chief. Chief Cudmore stated that the department is aware of concerns of the area and does have zero tolerance with trucks in area. He stated trucks do not use the truck route as there is not signage on the highway and the DOT will not allow the town to put signs up on interstate. He stated that the department has 17 hot spots in town and is working to try to change GPS routes.

Lynn Grosslein, 16 Lisa Lane thanked Chief Cudmore for his help with the truck traffic. She stated when residents signed the petition a lot of residents voiced concern on the traffic from the trucks.

Jill Osborn, 18 Lisa Lane stated traffic is an issue. She stated that from the hearings passive recreation is what she was aware of the parcel becoming.

Mr. DiMento stated that when they started the Greenway the intent was for fields at each end and if they can purchase the Herrick land they would put an access off of Martel Way. He stated that if they are kicked off the West St. fields then will need more fields and need to have a masterplan for future land use for fields. He stated that they want to be proactive. He stated that the board is just trying to plan for the future.

Mr. Trapani stated that all this is to better the town and fields. He stated that the board will go back and look at minutes and make the right decision for the town.

Whittier Subcommittee

Mr. Trapani stated that the West Newbury is looking for a representative from Georgetown and hopefully by Thursday.

Medicinal Marijuana Dispensary Discussion – Healthy Pharms, Inc.

Valerio Romano, Attorney for Healthy Pharms, Inc.; Nathaniel Averill; and Paul Overgaag, and Chris Crane were present

Mr. Trapani thanked Healthy Pharms, Inc. for coming back in and stated that he has done some research. He stated that on the web there is a lot of pros and cons. He stated that the report from University of Virginia on crime states that there has not been an increase in crime.

Mr. Dawes stated has done some research also and asked if they are looking at Georgetown as Plan B and are they not planning to build in Haverhill. Atty. Romano stated that that Georgetown is where they plan to build and have stopped looking in Haverhill.

Mr. Trapani stated is the change because of the location. He asked if things do not work out what they would do. Atty. Romano stated that they may reapply if had too.

Mr. Surface stated that he did not get the information on crime. He stated that there is a host community agreement are they familiar with this and are they open to this. Mr. Romano stated that he negotiated the agreement in another town and would work on an agreement with the town. He stated that he did one with Plymouth and one with Dennis. Mr. Surface asked if he supports the Excise Tax. Atty. Romano stated that it still has to be approved. Mr. Surface stated cannot say yes or no. Mr. Overgaag stated that there is an option of non-opposition that the board can take. Mr. Dawes stated that he would like to know what Healthy Pharms commitment to the community is. Nathaniel Averill stated that the community is important to them and will work with the town.

Mr. Fowler asked if they need this letter soon. Mr. Romano stated that they meet with the State Wednesday and would like to have the letter then. Mr. Fowler stated that he would sign a letter of non-opposition. Atty. Romano stated in Dennis and in other towns had Special Permit first and had letter then worked with the town. Mr. Surface stated that any town approval would be after they have a host agreement.

Mr. Fowler asked if the Georgetown location would be more regional. Atty. Romano stated that the Haverhill location was a recommendation of a Haverhill board member and was also regional.

Mr. Trapani stated that he is looking at the location as serving patients better and the board has to look at the town infrastructure and be sure it can handle this business. He stated has to look at this and other businesses going in the area.

Mr. Egenberg stated with all that he is seeing is they are going more to tinctures, edibles, and then smoked. Mr. Averill stated that they are. Mr. Egenberg asked how do patients get a prescription. Atty. Romano explained that in MA it is very difficult and explained the process. He stated that they need a certification from a doctor and then signed up in the database and then the Dept. of Health issues an ID and they would have to show both before even entering the dispensary. Mr. Egenberg stated that the Planning Board did a good job on the bylaw and the location is good for the town and for the business. He stated he is not a tax guy but is a proponent of the excise tax. He stated he has concerns of the host agreement. Mr. Surface stated that he wants the agreement for the town.

Tom Drapeau, 14 Spofford Ave stated that his niece has a need for medical marijuana to control seizures. He applauds the board for taking this on and is in favor of the excise tax.

Jill Osborne, 18 Lisa Lane had a picture of her daughter and explained her condition without marijuana and the seizures. She stated that the voters voted for this and it has been three years. She thanked the board for their insightful questions.

Jean Serol, stated that she is a medical marijuana patient and had Stage 3 breast cancer and explained her treatments. She stated that she took classes on marijuana and has her card and buys in Maine and has to drive 4 hours each way. She stated that she had terrible bone pain but since using cannabis the pain has gone away and has no side effects. She stated that no one has died from taking medical marijuana. She stated that she is so encouraged by this board. She stated that the Salem dispensary is opening Wednesday, and others in Needham, and Brockton

soon. She stated that the medical marijuana is so regulated and will be regulated like a pharmacy. She stated that the Governor Baker is behind the medical Marijuana.

Ms. Osborne stated that she had 21 letters from residents in favor of this plan.

Diane Newton, 33 Spofford St stated that she is in favor of this business going into town. She stated that Georgetown can help this child and others.

Jill Shaul, 21 Pillsbury Lane in town 5 years and involved in town. She reviewed the town and is astounded by the commitment of the residents for all things. She stated she has researched the company and this is a good company. She stated that she is in favor of company that will help educate our students.

Lisa Sugerman, 23 Larch Rd, friend of Jill Osborne's stated that she cannot wrap brain around opposition to this.

Desiree Edwards, 3 Village Lane stated that some people do not want this in our backyard. She stated that we voted and need to go forward and this as is no more dangerous than to have a fast food restaurant.

Jean Serol, stated that there is a serious heroin problem in this country and in states where medical marijuana is distributed the deaths from opium are lower.

Mr. Surface stated that it is important to do the peoples work but the board has to make sure that this is the right company and people for the town.

Mr. Farrell stated that he talked with the Dept. of Public Health and talked with Kay Doyle attorney for Dept. of Public Health. He stated that she had worked for K & P and reviewed our marijuana bylaw. She explained the vetting that the state did and scoring. He stated that the management team has been corried for MA and National and this is done by the State for the towns. He stated that it is costing the applicant \$10K to change location and they already spent \$30K for the application and will go through our Building Inspector, Site Plan Approval, State Review, and a Security Review so a face can be pick out on a camera. He stated that all this has to be done before they get certification to grow. Atty. Romano stated that it takes 3-4 months to grow and then the product has to be tested as most patients have compromised systems the product must be approved. Mr. Farrell stated DPH does not get involved in the excise tax but K & P has worked on some docs. He stated that the Excise tax is a one town at a time right now unless the legislature wants to get out to do a blanket change.

Mr. Dawes asked if they still plan \$10Mil sales in three years. Mr. Romano stated projections are blown up and they do not know.

Chief Cudmore stated that this topic brings spirited debate and he protects all on both sides. He stated that training and keeping his officers safe is his issue. He stated he has reached out to towns with dispensaries and to Amesbury with their growing facility. He stated that he will look

at the impact, the calls, and volume of traffic etc. Mr. Trapani stated that he plans that the Police Chief will be a part of the process. Chief Cudmore stated trainings are out there for staff.

Mr. Egenberg moved to allow chair to sign a letter for of non-opposition for Healthy Pharms, Inc. as presented. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

5-Minute Recess

ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Summer schedule: July 20, August 10, August 31, September 21, 2015

Mr. Trapani requested to add an additional meeting on July 27th at 6PM and to post July and August meetings at 6PM.

Board decided on a site visit for Parcel F on Tuesday, June 30th at 6PM.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Fire Chief Recruitment

Mr. Farrell updated the board on the process. He stated that the committee has finished the scoring of the essays with 7 of 11 responding. He stated that they picked the top five and the next step is for the top 5 to meet with the Fire Chiefs panel and they will see if the applicants have the stuff to be a Chief. He stated that the Chiefs panel will send three candidates to the Board.

Mr. Trapani asked if Mr. Farrell talked to UMass. Mr. Farrell stated that he had and they will get back to him in July.

Mr. Farrell stated that the town hall painting would be done at the end of the week and some touch up next week. He stated that that the guys are doing a great job. He stated that Alan and Scott Aulson have been a great help. He stated that Mr. Aulson was able to get Sherman Williams to donate the cover paint. He stated that the bids were for \$68K and will cost around \$10K.

APPOINTMENTS & APPROVALS

FY 16 Appointments

Mr. Egenberg moved to appoint *Michael Farrell* as *ADA Coordinator* term to expire **June 30, 2016. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

Mr. Egenberg moved to reappoint *Katharine Hanlon and Emilee Ann Hopkins* to the *Cultural Council* term to expire **June 30, 2018. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

Mr. Egenberg moved to reappoint *Albert Beardsley, Fire Chief* as the *Assistant Director, Emergency Management* term to expire August 31, 2015. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Egenberg moved to reappoint *Albert Beardsley, Fire Chief* as the *Assistant Director, FEMA* term to expire August 31, 2015. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Egenberg moved to reappoint *Richard Williams and Gary Fowler* to the *Economic Development Committee* term to expire June 30, 2016. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote. Mr. Fowler abstained

Mr. Egenberg moved to reappoint *Albert Beardsley, Fire Chief* as the *Hazardous Materials Coordinator* term to expire August 31, 2015. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Egenberg moved to reappoint *George Perkins and Derek Richards* to the *Historical Commission* term to expire June 30, 2018. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Egenberg moved to reappoint *Joseph Knapp, Edward DesJardins, and Philip Trapani* as *Associate Members* to the *Historical Commission* term to expire June 30, 2016. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Egenberg moved to reappoint *Howard Snyder, Town Planner* as the *Merrimack Valley Planning Commission Representative* term to expire June 30, 2016. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Egenberg moved to appoint *Robert Watts, Planning Board Member* as the *Merrimack Valley Planning Commission Alternate Representative* term to expire June 30, 2016. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Egenberg moved to reappoint *Deborah Rogers, Health Agent* as the *N. E. Mosquito Control, Mosquito Larviciding and Spraying Representative* term to expire June 30, 2016. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Egenberg moved to reappoint *Richard Aberman, James DiMento, Joseph Soucy, Suzanne Caulfield, David Schauer, Juliette Rec, and Al Kitichin* to the *Park & Recreation Commission* term to expire June 30, 2016. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Egenberg moved to reappoint *Stuart Egenberg, Tillie Evangelista, Pamela Lundquist, Peter Durkee, Jeff Wade, George Comiskey, Ellie Sinkewicz, Michelle Smith, Kerry Stauss, Eric Zadina, and James Lacey* to the *School Building Committee* term to expire June 30, 2016. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Egenberg moved to reappoint *Michael Farrell, Carol Jacobs, Margaret Maher, Peter Lucia, and Joan Liporto* as *Non-Voting members of the School Building Committee* term to expire **June 30, 2016. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

Mr. Egenberg moved to disband the *Synthetic Turf Advisory Committee*. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Egenberg moved to reappoint *Mary McMenemy* as the *Town Accountant* term to expire **June 30, 2018. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

Mr. Egenberg moved to reappoint *Kopelman & Paige, P.C.* as *Town Counsel* term to expire **June 30, 2016. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

Mr. Surface stated that the board should look to bid out the Town Counsel services.

Mr. Egenberg moved to reappoint *Philip Trapani* as the *Veterans' District Representative* term to expire **June 30, 2016. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

Mr. Trapani stated that an offer is going out for the vacant Veteran's officer position.

Mr. Trapani stated he wanted to thank the School Committee for allowing students to come in and paint on the walls of the old Penn Brook School and allowing residents to remove shrubs, etc. from courtyards. Mr. Egenberg stated that July 1st they will remove asbestos and start to tear down the school. Mr. Surface asked about dead trees that are in the view from the library. Mr. Egenberg stated that there will be an open house on Wednesday, August 26.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, July 20, 2015 at 6:30PM, 3rd floor meeting room, Town Hall

Adjournment

Mr. Surface moved to adjourn to Executive Session. Mr. Egenberg seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a roll call vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano

Minutes approved August 31, 2015.

Documents used for meeting:

- Minutes April 28, 2015

BoS Minutes
June 22, 2015

- Parcel F, 172 East Main Street-Article from ATM, letters from residents, and petition
- Medicinal Marijuana Dispensary information
- Request to join a Whittier Regional Vocational School budget subcommittee
- Summer Schedule
- FY16 Appointment list