

HALIFAX BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2017- 7:30 P.M.
SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM

Meeting came to order at 7:30 p.m. with Selectmen Troy E. Garron, Thomas Millias and Kim R. Roy present.

The following business was discussed:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board as well as those attending tonight's meeting stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

The Agenda for Thursday, March 16th, was unanimously approved without revision.

MINUTES

Moved by Roy and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously approved the following Selectmen Minutes:

- Regular Session – November 1, 2016
- Regular Session – December 13, 2016
- Regular Session – February 2, 2017
- Regular Session – February 7, 2017

AFFIRMED WARRANT AND COMMITMENTS

Moved by Roy and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously affirmed approval for the payment of the following warrant and commitments:

Vendor Warrant	# 82	\$	34,557.05
Ambulance Commitment	# 3A	\$	14,868.00
Ambulance Commitment	# 3B	\$	51,210.00

APPROVED COMMITMENTS

Moved by Roy and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following commitments:

Mobile Home Park Fee	# 02	\$	5,160.00
Mobile Home Park Fee	# 03	\$	5,160.00

Moved by Roy and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously approved payment of the following Selectmen bills:

CNA Surety Direct Bill (bond/L. Cole).....	\$	600.00
W.B. Mason (binder & paper).....	\$	19.62
Area 58 (contracted payment).....	\$	1,199.00
Harry B. Harding & Son, Inc. (3/7/17 STM warrant).....	\$	878.60

The Board acknowledged payment to the Treasurer for the following turnovers:

<u>TURNOVER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2017-30	\$ 10,400.00
2017-31	\$ 1,199.00

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSIONS

Amy Troup – Reappointment to the Beautification Committee

Amy Troup has completed her online ethics training and therefore can be re-appointed to the Committee.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to re-appoint Amy Troup to the Beautification Committee with a term to expire on June 30, 2017.

Storm Day

Moved by Roy and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously declared Tuesday, March 14, 2017, as a storm day and due to the severe weather both the Town Hall and Pope’s Tavern were declared officially closed.

Silver Lake Land Appraisal

An appraisal was done for the parcel of land that was proposed to be sold by Silver Lake to Kingston. S.G. DeCastro, the firm who appraised the land, valued the property at \$325,000.

Financial Management Objectives, Policies and Procedures

The Town had received a Community Compact grant for this project and the project is done. Copies have been distributed and it will be posted on-line.

Anna Maria College Partnership

Anna Marie College has proposed an affiliation with the Fire Department so that members of the department receive a 10% tuition reduction. Town Counsel has reviewed this and recommends that the Town accepts the partnership.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to accept the partnership with Anna Marie College and to have Chair, Troy E. Garron, sign on behalf of the Town.

Promoter’s License

The Board of Health heard about this state license in February and Seelig followed up on it. He said that and there is nothing for the Town to do but the Board should notify promoters of various events such as horse shows and Mudfest that if they have vendors of any kind at their events, they need this license.

Recycling Abatement Requests

Moved by Roy and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to deny the following Recycling Abatement requests:

2009 Bill #657

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Ambulance Abatement

Moved by Roy and seconded by Millias, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Ambulance Abatement for February 2017 in the amount of \$ 48,888.84.

MSBA Documents

The documents need to be reviewed by Town Counsel. Seelig will bring back on March 28th.

Mudfest June 2017

Robert Bergstrom will be in on March 28th for a live entertainment permit for his June 18th event. Seelig will notify the departments.

Talent Bank Form

The office has received a talent bank form from Gregory Cowan expressing an interest to serve on the Beautification Committee. This has been forwarded to the committee.

Classification and Compensation Study Contract

Draft job descriptions have been written and distributed to employees. Interviews will begin next week.

Monponsett TV Program

Kimberly King is producing a cable TV program on Monponsett Pond and health issues and asked if anyone from the Board would like to appear on the program. Roy asked if she was reached out to Cathy Drinan and Paul Collis and Seelig said Cathy yes but was not sure about Paul. Garron thinks those two would be best to appear on the program.

Building Maintenance Plans

Seelig has written to the school administration and the M&SBC about them being prepared to answer questions about their budgets at Town Meeting in May. He will request that they have formal maintenance plans.

Volunteer Board at Town Meeting

Based on suggestions that were received, Seelig is going to have a display set up at the Town Meeting about boards, committees and vacancies, and ways that residents can sign up.

Halifax & Plympton IT

Seelig was asked about any activity about consolidation. He is not aware of anything and said they have outside people. Roy said she is interested in sitting down and talking about it.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

Dog Hearing – Jennifer Choate – 7 Plymouth Street

At 7:45 p.m., in accordance with MGL Chapter 140, Section 157, Garron opened a hearing to address an incident where a dog that was on Jennifer Choate’s property bit an individual on the left arm while she was at your home. The hearing was held at the request of the Board of Selectmen.

The following individuals were present and sworn in by Notary Public Pamela J. McSherry:

Jennifer Choate Property Owner

Patrick McCarthy Previous dog Owner

Officer McDonnell Police Department

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Garron:

This supposedly occurred on the 19th 2017 approximately 15:49 hours. Officer McDonnell was assigned to the north sector marked cruiser 501. I was dispatched by 7 Plymouth regarding a dog bite. Do you want to take it from there?

Officer McDonnell:

Sure. On February 19th just before four o’clock I got a call about a dog bite at 7 Plymouth Street, possible broken arm (inaudible) radio. When I arrived I saw a female her back was to me I could see her arm had deep lacerations, injury on her leg (inaudible) couldn’t see at the time. I asked what happened, Kathleen and Jennifer, they were out back socializing the dog. They were sitting outside in a couple of chairs, called the dog out, dog came over to Kathleen, sniffed her arm, walked away, they called the dog back, the dog walked over, lunged at her arm, they got the dog off, secured it inside. So the dog got dropped off three days ago to get socialized from another party. At the time she was unable to provide me with the name of the owner of the dog. It was a 14-month-old German Shepherd. Later on in the evening, Noreen came back to the station, provided me with the name of the owners, Justine and Patrick McCarthy. Noreen got ahold of them on the cell phone, put them on speaker so I could hear the whole conversation. They said they actually returned the dog January 30th because it was too rambunctious and they didn’t have money to train the dog, it wasn’t a good fit for the family at the time. It was kind of leave it at that

Garron: What’s the situation of the dog at this time?

Officer McDonnell: I can’t answer that. Not sure.

Garron: Miss Choate?

Choate:

He is quarantined by the State and by Noreen and also believe on a 45-day quarantine which he is segregated from having any communication with anyone except for me having contact.

Garron:

What’s the history of the dog? I mean, what, had the dog had a history of biting people prior to this?

Choate:

Not that I was told or was I aware of. He was a puppy that was purchased from me at eight weeks old from the McCarthy's. I was contacted by them that they were out of job, the husband was out of a job and not able to afford to take him to training and they were having some issues at home. Never was I made aware of any concern about him being a danger by them so I was told them to return the dog to me so I could see what was going on – what had happened with him, what hadn't happened, where his training was at. And my friend came over and the officer said said, we were on the porch and we let the dog out to socialize with us, he did go over and sniffed Katie and turned around and walked back and bit her arm and her leg. Very on the defensive with her.

Garron: How long had you had the dog back before this incident happened?

Choate:

Initially I thought it had been a few days, when I went back and looked it had been, I had down the first in my "Day Timer" but ...

Garron: of January?

Choate:

January 30th, correct, yes. But Patrick is, could be right with him saying the 30th, it was close to that if it wasn't that.

Garron: Kim?

Roy: And the dog didn't exhibit any sort of aggressive behavior prior to that date?

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Choate:

Ah, he was very, very energetic. My assessment of him is that he hadn't been socialized with other dogs or possibly other people either. That he was strictly, you know, in their home with their family.

Roy: So you got him roughly about two weeks before this happened?

Choate: It was about two weeks. Correct

Roy:

About two weeks. And so prior to that, had he been segregated from the other dogs or had you witnessed him having aggressive behavior toward the other dogs or other people, like ...

Choate:

I had witnessed him aggressive behavior towards other dogs, but because I wasn't familiar with him, I didn't put him, you know, in the general public so to say or hadn't taken any ...

Roy: Was he in the house with you, Bobbi?

Choate: He was.

Roy:

Okay, so and then I was reading the report from the Animal Inspector and she said that, did you have a trainer in to see the dog earlier that day, or ...

Choate:

I had taken him to a well-known trainer in this area, to have an evaluation, and see what would be the best suited for him and he did some things with him and what his, his definition was that he was very sharp. In other words, he was definitely, should be, you know, doing work, so to speak, not just hanging around, idle time was not good for him, he needed to go to work and also the fact that he hadn't been socialized, was another thing that was, needed to be addressed.

Roy: Was that the first time that the dog had been with somebody besides you?

Choate: He had been with one other person that let him in and let him out.

Roy: And he didn't show any negative behavior toward that person?

Choate: No.

Roy: And so he was just sniffing and just all of a sudden he clicked?

Merlini: He jumped on me, pushed him off

Garron: Excuse me.

Roy: So just ...

Garron: Just a moment, now, go right ahead.

Roy:

Is it alright? No, I was, no, just, I would like to hear it if that's okay. So you were just out there, he's smelling

Merlini:

I was sitting in the chair doing nothing. He came over jumped on me, I pushed him off me, he turned around and went to jump on me again. I put my arm up, he bit me.

Roy:

Oh, okay. Alright, so I thought he was just like sniffing around and then just bit you. Okay. Thank you.

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Choate:

He did ... there had been someone that had been near his crate that he barked like, lit up I would call it, lit up/barked at, which you know would say he was being protective, he was overly maybe overly protective maybe a fair enough assessment.

Roy:

So I understand that the reason why he has to be quarantined 45 days as opposed to 10 days is that his rabies

Garron: Had expired.

Roy: Had expired, so that did you have to go through all these shots?

Merlini: No, not as long as he's alive.

Roy: Okay. That's good, that's good, at least.

Garron: Let me ask you a question. I'm sorry, your name again?

Merlini: My name is Katie.

Garron: Katie, had you been playing with another dog prior to this incident?

Merlini: I have dogs of my own, so ...

Garron:

Okay, I mean because if the dog wasn't socialized and he smelled another dog on her and might have been instinctive response for coming back. I don't know, I mean the problem that we have right now is that even after 45 days if the dog had been trained, it would be almost two years old now?

Choate: Fifteen months, fourteen months probably fifteen months.

Garron:

I've bred Shepherds and I know their temperament, and if he has not, since he was a puppy, been socialized, I don't know where there's a point unless he's living with somebody intensive in the woods by themselves. I'm sorry for your injuries. You know I'm sorry we're having this hearing cause I hate to having it's usually 'people hearings' and we don't have dog hearings dogs can't

testify on their behalf one way or another to tell what it's thinking so we have to lean towards the somewhere along the line some human made a mistake and didn't do what was proper. Tom?

Millias:

Just to clarify a couple of things, I was a little confused about who actually owned the dog at this time. You seem to indicate the dog came back to you.

Choate: Correct.

Millias:

I read somewhere that the folks who had the dog thought that they had surrendered the dog back to you – just to clarify it for me, what, who owned who at this point?

Garron: Are the McCarthy's in the back?

Mr. McCarthy: Yes.

Garron: Do you want to speak to this issue?

Mr. McCarthy: Yes.

Garron: You are

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Mr. McCarthy:

Yes, yes. We returned the dog back to her. Just couldn't afford to get him trained and what not, and he's never bit anybody – I have this little thing here [gesturing to baby in woman's lap], we have a Shih Tzu

Garron: Hey, hey, hey, hey, hey. It's a beautiful child – it's not a thing.

Mrs. McCarthy:

We have a lot of small children, we have other small animals that we've never had an issue with.

Mr. McCarthy:

We have a Shih Tzu at home, another dog that he lived with, and big fenced-in yard that – there was never any issue.

Mrs. McCarthy: We just couldn't afford to do right by him so we returned him.

Garron: What town do you live in?

Mr. McCarthy: Hanson.

Garron: Is that a server of Halifax?

Mr. McCarthy: What's that?

Garron:

Did the dog officer in Hanson – if we were to call the dog officer in Hanson would there be any reports that the dog had attacked or bitten or excessive barking or anything like that?

Mr. McCarthy: No, no. You can call her right now.

Roy: What would you say his temperament was?

Mr. McCarthy: He was hyper, but not, never towards any of the kids or towards anybody.

Roy:

Did he mind you, like if you said 'sit' or 'come' or, you know, like did he pay attention to your commands?

Mr. McCarthy: Yeah, for the most part. I mean, there was some days he had his ...

Garron: Attitude city.

Mr. McCarthy: Exactly – rambunctiousness and, but ...

Roy:

So did he often jump up on people and that was just one of the, I know what puppies sometimes have, that's what they do, like is that a behavior that he exhibited quite often?

Mr. McCarthy:

My mother came over one day and he laid on the floor, just trying to roll on top of her like ...

Mrs. McCarthy: Pet me, love me, play with me'

Millias: Shepherds can be unpredictable. Have those moments.

Mr. McCarthy: He was, he was never, never ever violent vicious nothing.

Garron: Well

Roy:

So you just couldn't keep, you couldn't care for him in the sense of he was rambunctious and you had no control over him.

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Mr. McCarthy:

And he had a undescended testicle which we bought two vets, and it was going to cost us \$1,200 to get him fixed and, you know, we just don't have an extra \$1,200 laying around to get him fixed and ...

Roy: So the dog was intact? He was intact, he had not been – is it 'neutered' for a boy?

Mr. McCarthy: Correct.

Garron: Snipped.

Mr. McCarthy: Yup, yup, nope he had one down and then one was in his stomach.

Garron: Okay. At this point where is the dog?

Choate: I'm still quarantined him, my property.

Garron: So you're working with him at this time, there's been no training or anything done?

Choate: No. I'm the only one that's, has any contact with him.

Roy:

What is your opinion about the temperament of this dog, and what kind of life this dog would lead? Do you think that it's something that somebody could train him to be in more control, or do you feel that his temperament is not that of which could be adopted?

Choate:

I think that's kind of a difficult thing to answer in that I understand the working lines, I understand what he is and what not, however, what I saw happen was pretty horrifying. Although he came off of Katie, it was, it was pretty significant situation.

Roy: Yeah, I saw the bite, it was just ...

Millias: Yeah, it was really ugly.

Roy: Horrible

Garron: I thought you had lost the arm.

Merlini:

Twenty punctures and a broken arm – it wasn't he just didn't nip at me and walked away.

Choate: I mean he went through her boot.

Merlini: He bit my leg my foot.

Roy: Oh my gosh. So is it your opinion that this dog probably should be euthanized?

Choate:

I, I think for his own safety, his own well-being not to be put in a bad situation again or someone.

Mr. McCarthy: No, no

Garron:

Well, how would you determine what situation he is going to be in – if you're going to keep the dog then that's one thing, if you're planning on selling the dog or giving it to someone else, we need to know that because I don't feel comfortable if it's going out of town to somebody else that they be made aware of the dog's temperament. Don't want to see somebody else get hurt.

Choate:

Absolutely, that's exactly what I'm saying, that I do not want, I don't want the dog (inaudible).

Roy: Obviously it's not ... right.

Choate: Additionally certainly we can ...

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Garron: Someone objects to it.

Mrs. McCarthy: I have something to say on that point.

Choate:

Do I think I can find someone that would clearly take on the liability, the responsibility, the whole story that goes along with him being born and bought, where he was, how long he was near the kids, the dogs, the situation that we were in, I guess that that's – there are people out there, they take that on as their prize. I mean when it all happened and the horror of it, you know, my thought was to put him to sleep, and that, you know we were in a quarantine and so it just kind of, we're in limbo so to speak because of the quarantine.

Garron:

Well, as I said, I stated earlier my concern is that if in fact we do allow the dog to remain alive, is that we may wind up with a situation that he may cause more harm to someone, and like I said, I raised Shepherds, and I know the temperament. It's when those I've tasted the blood type thing.

Choate:

Right, correct – now he's had a piece of that, he's... there's a couple of factors – one is he is still intact and wasn't neutered prior. You do have the situation that he a undescended testicle which means the body temperature ...

Garron: The body's not maturing the way it should be.

Choate:

The testicles are regulated from body temperature, and right now that testicle, he's coming into his own as a hormonal dog. That testicle is hot, it's inside his stomach, it doesn't cool and he could be realistically having hormonal upsurges from the heat.

Merlini: It doesn't stop.

Choate: So, that's ...

Roy: Have you been afraid of him since that incident, like has he exhibited any other ...

Choate:

He hasn't exhibited anything towards me, however, in lieu of my own health issue and concern that's still present, that's being addressed again I do I am nervous going in there with him. I honestly,

getting older, things change, I can't afford a cut I will bleed you know because of blood thinners and other stuff so.

Garron:

Well that's, that's, if you keep the dog, but I'd like to hear from Mrs. McCarthy, but the, you have something you want to say?

Mrs. McCarthy:

Well yes, I did because I had a lengthy conversation with the Animal Investigator, who said she herself was going to try and re-home him to an appropriate place, knowing his history and knowing all of that, she was going to try and find a canine officer who would be willing to take him and train him appropriately. We were also told that someone at her facility had been doing 'bite' work with him which was, would kind of explain why, when you go like this [gesturing putting up elbow/arm up in a defensive position] that dog which you've been doing bite-work with, why he would bite.

Garron:

Well, see that doesn't match with what's been said here, as far as I know, that the dog has had that type of training okay – what you were told. But did you actually see it or have any evidence of that?

Mrs. McCarthy: No that's what the Animal Investigator told me.

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Garron: Alright, well

Mrs. McCarthy: When I spoke with her.

Garron: Well, you're talking about our Animal Control Officer?

Mrs. McCarthy: Yes, I am.

Garron:

Well, she's, I'd have to have her here to hear her statements saying that in order to ... I'm not say that you're lying.

Mrs. McCarthy: Well

Garron: But I'd much rather hear it from her and she's not here right now.

Roy: Bobbi, did you tell Noreen that the dog had had sleeve training?

Choate:

I can actually, absolutely, 100% talk about that in that what I told her which is not what's being said. When I took the dog off the property to this gentleman that does a whole compilation of things in dog training we did have him with a toy pulling on a rope, in other words, that's like a baseline to see about drive and capability to find him a purpose and to re-direct his intense energy you know his go go nature, the working line.

Garron:

You don't do that unless you're having the dog as an attack dog or as a protection dog on the property, you don't teach your dog that to go into a normal home.

Choate:

He went once for an evaluation to see where he'd be properly considered. That was before this happened. And yes, ah, the AC-, not the ACO, the woman that she speaks of

Roy: The Animal Inspector?

Choate:

Yes, the Animal Inspector absolutely did have some context that she wanted to contact the people, she wanted to talk to, and in fact put him in a situation that he might ... she was willing to take on that responsibility with her own experience with Shepherds and ...

Garron: When is the 45-day quarantine up?

Choate: Think April 4th or 5th I believe.

Garron: Okay.

Millias:

I was going to say, it would seem to me that the first thing that would need to happen if this dog was to be, I hate to use the word – ‘saved’ – would be to rectify his physical problem, right? I mean isn’t that the first thing that would probably be needed to have happen – to have the testicle

Choate: Absolutely

Millias: Dropped or

Choate: Surgery, yes

Garron:

I’ve gone through this before, depends how far encroached it is on the stomach, whether it has not circle of the level of skin up around it so it can be moved easily or if it has to be a major operation to remove – take the stomach out and detach it from that portion.

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Roy: Has the rabies shot been given? You know how it was late on its

Choate: I was instructed to wait.

Merlini: Ya you can’t give him the shot

Garron: You can’t give him the shot until the quarantine is over

Merlini: Quarantine is over.

Garron: Make sure it’s not already infected.

Choate:

So my other concern is besides the testicle that surgically puts the effects what contributed that is depending. Unfortunately for him, he wasn’t socialized outside their home, he wasn’t socialized outside with humans or other dogs, and at the age that he is at and from my experience, that’s going to really tough.

Garron:

Well, at this point, Kim, if I could, I’m not really ready to make a decision until after I hear from Noreen our Dog Officer, I mean my first inclination is to put the dog down cause if he’s, if he’s that’s a very painful situation too, to have the testicles (inaudible) the doctors talk about it before, but I’d like to know, err on the side of trying to save the dog, but I need to hear from Noreen what her thoughts are on that because it sounds like she wasn’t going to recommend to us, based on what has been said, to put the dog down. That’s why I’m saying, we’ve got two more weeks.

Choate:

And Laurie might be a good resource because she can talk about her theory or thought or what she ...

Roy: The Animal Inspector?

Choate: That she talked to Justine about.

Roy: Is that our Animal Inspector, Miss Noland?

Choate: Yes, correct – Tracy. Calling her Laurie. Tracy.

Roy: Tracy Noland

Choate: Yup.

Roy:

I think, did you want, did you feel that your dog had been socialized, did you feel – cause you just made a face when Miss Choate ...

Mr. McCarthy: I don't know how she would know

Roy: So did you have your dog besides the Shih Tzu that lives at your home?

Mr. McCarthy: My father's brought his dog over

Mrs. McCarthy: My mother lives across the driveway with another dog.

Mr. McCarthy: Another Shih Tzu, like

Mrs. McCarthy: We've taken him camping numerous times, but he's not ...

Mr. McCarthy: He's been to Maine with us.

Garron: How long did you, how long did you own the dog?

Roy: A year.

Mrs. McCarthy: Yeah.

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Mr. McCarthy: Yeah. We picked him up Christmas morning of ...

Mrs. McCarthy: 2015

Mr. McCarthy: 2015

Roy: So he's been in camp, he's been camping, so he's been around other people and ...

Mrs. McCarthy: Yeah

Mr. McCarthy:

I have pictures on my phone of him. Him was sitting with my 2-year-old son, sitting right next to him.

Roy: Other than your immediate family had he been socialized?

Mr. & Mrs. McCarthy are nodding affirmatively.

Choate: Could I comment on that?

Roy: I think Bobbi has a comment.

Choate:

One of the first things that I was told is that he hadn't been socialized, that he was dog aggressive and I can tell you from the moment he sees another dog even a female coming anywhere, he has no socialization out in public at all.

Roy: Well I'm going to tell you ...

Choate: Camping maybe as a puppy or camping without others around.

Garron:

In all honesty, it doesn't matter whether it's been socialized or not cause obviously whatever was needed wasn't there. If he bit somebody as viciously attacked this young lady as he did.

Choate: Correct

Garron: Something, something was radically wrong, so

Roy:

Well, I will say that I'm inclined to have the dog euthanized unless Miss. Noland and Miss. Callahan can give us, give me, a different reason not to. I mean that was a pretty severe bite and I know that Officer McDonnell did not take photos

Garron: Bites

Roy: of your foot, but the arm is

Merlini: I have pictures if you want to see, I have about thirty of them.

Roy: It was pretty vicious; I mean I just wouldn't want the responsibility of that happening

Millias: To somebody else.

Garron: What do you weigh, 85 pounds?

Merlini: Pretty much.

Roy: I just wouldn't want

Merlini:

I've done this my whole life, let me just tell you, I have competed and trained in Jujitsu, I have competed and trained in agility, and protection, and obedience – this is not my first go-round nor is it the first time I've been bit, but this is the first time I've been viciously attacked. There's a huge difference. I have German Shepherds of my own, I have a Pit Bull at my home.

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I've done this for twenty years, which is why Bobbi called me. I have taken other dogs of hers that have been "issues" from people problems.

Roy: Right

Merlini:

Brought them to my house, re-trained them, crate-trained them, obedience trained them returned them and they've been absolutely fine. This is not the case.

Garron:

Tom, what's your opinion on this? At this time whether we should hold off on this, cause we've got at least another ... we've got to be here on the 28th, and hopefully Noreen come in and ...

Millias:

Well the dog is still going to be in quarantine so nothing can happen during that period of time anyway. At least get the whole story from everybody concerned. It seems like a no-win kind of thing here. If the dog doesn't get treated, if in fact that was the contributing factor to the attack, that something happened to him based on his condition.

Roy: Because of the testicle?

Millias:

Yeah, I mean, if I was reassured in some fashion that if that were to take place but then that would also necessitate that someone was going to take that on and pay for it, which is another aspect of this whole thing that we're not really talking about. I don't have a problem waiting 'til the 28th because it's going to be in quarantine 'til that point anyway, I don't know my mind's going to change a whole lot 'cause I don't sense the dog getting medically treated and if that isn't going to happen, again, not even knowing if that was the contributing factor, I'm tending to lean towards euthanasia.

Roy: If Bobbi's afraid of it and she deals with German Shepherds all the time then

Millias:

My own experience with Shepherds, which is limited, I've had a Shepherd, they are unpredictable from time to time anyway, but once they've reacted in a particular fashion, especially when they've actually bitten somebody, that's awful hard to push back.

Garron: Well there's a difference between being bitten and ravaged, and the dog ravaged her.

Millias: yeah, she wasn't nipped, she was ...

Garron: Mr. McCarthy

Mr. McCarthy:

When I was 10 years old I was bit by a German Shepherd, too, it bit the whole side of my face off, I mean, I've had three of them since and never had an issue.

Garron: Well what happened to the one that bit you?

Millias: We're not talking about the same dog. I mean.

Merlini: (inaudible) the right town they didn't ... I've had three of them.

Mr. McCarthy: No no I was ten years old (inaudible).

Garron:

Well, that's my proposal before the Board is that before we continue this meeting until the 28th and at such time until we will get hopefully get all the statements and the evidence in and make a decision based on that and not just what we have at the present time. But I'll tell you, even with that, my feelings are that the dog is unbalanced in some way or another, if he attacked her that viciously with no apparent threat to himself that's a problem. Okay what do you feel?

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Roy: Okay, that's fine. I'll make a motion that we continue this hearing until March 28th.

Seelig:

And Mr. Chairman, right now we're posted for seven because we have some long appointments, I mean, if the Board wants, we'll just move the beginning of being 6:30 as much as that's irregular for us so, because I think this isn't going to be something that's dealt with in five or ten minutes.

Garron: I was going to suggest that we come in earlier anyway if the Board doesn't mind.

Seelig: What we'll do is start the meeting at 6:30 with this being the first item on the agenda.

Roy: Does that work?

Garron:

And bring the kid – I enjoy it, the rosy cheeks. Does he have anything to say about the dog?

Garron: Okay all in favor?

Garron: Aye

Millias: Aye

Roy: Aye

Jason Conroy – Live Entertainment Permit – Fundraising Event

Mr. Conroy said that he planned on throwing a St. Patrick's Day party but unfortunately recently he lost a dear friend from addiction, which set him off in wanting to do something about this epidemic. He has come up with an idea to start a 'sober house'. Not just a place where people coming in and out of the facility but a place on lines of the Betty Ford-type facility. He has reached out to people he knows asking them to pledge money and has gotten some commitments hence; he decided to turn his party into a fundraising type of thing for that. He expects to have a lot of people there so he has reached out to the Police Department about getting a detail and also the Fire Chief.

Garron asked if he was going to be serving alcohol at this event and Conroy said he was going to hire a caterer to serve the alcohol. Garron then asked if the catering company was going to go through the Board of Health to get their permit and he said yes. If he can't get the caterer then it will be a BYOB-type situation.

Millias asked if he was required to have any kind of permitting from the State or anything regarding the money end of it and Conroy Jason said that he has talked with his accountant and was told as long as he files before next Friday as a 501(C) charity he will be fine. He said he won't get approval but will get the tax ID number and he said he believes he has we have twenty-eight months to get the full filing done.

Millias said he saw a note from the Fire Chief, there was some concern about fires and fireworks, and did not think either of them are actually allowed but he should talk with the chief about it. Seelig said unless the bonfire is a ceremonial fire such as flag burning or something like that is not allowed. As for the fireworks there is a licensing process and permits can only be issued to a licensed professional and applications have to be submitted to the local Fire Department, approved by the State Fire Marshall's Office. Conroy did not think he would have time to get the permit and Seelig said that if he wanted to do that in the future he would want the firm who was doing the event contact the Fire Chief.

Roy asked how many people are you going to have at this event and he said fifty have confirmed and have gotten a lot of maybes and will be sending out invites through social media. He has reached out to state officials, police officers, the State Police, the DA's office some who are willing to come and speak and really address this problem. He should have a better number on Monday but is expecting somewhere in the range of one hundred to one hundred-fifty people.

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She then asked if his property was large enough to be able to house 150 people and he said yes that he has split entry house with a 30 x 60 breezeway and easily fit one hundred people in the whole house comfortably. The party will be both inside and outside and he plans on getting a blow-up Irish Pubs which fits eighty people. Chief Broderick confirmed it will be fine.

Garron was concerned about the parking and the neighbors and asked if he was going to contact your neighbors and let them know what he was doing and Conroy said he will go door to door and let the neighbors know his intentions. He said that he lives on Jordan Road and can probably fit fifteen to twenty cars on that street without impeding traffic or if any emergency officials then some going down Chestnut Rd. and then he is a member of the beach where he can use the parking area down there.

Seelig asked if a donation going to be required because if in return for making a donation, you're going to be able to drink then there's an alcohol license involved and further explained that if someone is throwing a private party and hires a caterer no money is exchanging hands between the people drinking and the caterer. Conroy said that he has not figure that out yet but would rather have a caterer because the liability is on the company not on him.

Conroy said that a lot of the people that are coming are what you'd call 'teetotalers' – they're recovered addicts and drinkers that don't touch alcohol. His plan is to have a voluntary donation at the door and he'll cover the expense of the open bar. Seelig said that if cannot get a caterer who has a proper licensing for serving of alcohol then he can come to the office and get a one-day permit issued to him.

Garron stated that there has to be at least one person sober during the whole night and Seelig mentioned no amplified music after a certain time. Seelig added that he needs to check with the Board of Health to see if he will need a small outdoor/large outdoor event permit. He does not see that being the case given that it's mostly being held inside but still check with them and make sure.

Roy asked Chief Broderick what he would require for a detail and he said he would need a little bit more information for instance whether it's going to be catered or not and how many people will be going. He said is not going to push too hard for a detail if there is only going to be about fifty people and Conroy said he would like one no matter what the number is for his own peace of mind. The chief said that is fine just as long as everybody is aware that the details are there keep the peace, not to check ID's or police the parking they are there to make sure everybody has a good time and stays appropriate.

Garron personally hopes that he has a very successful turnout and follows through with your intentions because this is well-needed. Millias asked if he had any models for a 'sober house' and Conroy said that he has been in contact with a couple of people who actually run half-way houses. He said that he has come up with a sober house because it is like six-month treatment facility, not

something where you're coming and going. Chief Broderick said the biggest problem is running out of beds for people as there are not enough facilities.

Garron stepped out

Roy said that there are five- day facilities you can go to detox but there are not a lot of six months/year treatment facilities around where you are living with other sober people living sober lives, and that's really what's needed. She applauded him for taking this on.

In closing Conroy said that he will touch base with the Board of Health tomorrow or Monday about the permits and as to whether or not he will need port-a-potties.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Roy and seconded by Millias, the Board voted as follows to enter into Executive Session at 8:38 p.m. to discuss Police, Highway, Sergeants, Fire, Dispatchers and Police Contact negotiations:

Thomas Millias - Yes

Kim R. Roy - Yes

Roy announced that no statement would be made at the end of the Executive Session and the Board would not reconvene in open session.

Seelig added we are going into Executive Session because holding this discussion in public session would be detrimental to the Town's negotiations.

Moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board voted as follows to come out of Executive Session at 9:19 p.m.:

Troy E. Garron - Yes

Thomas Millias - Yes

Kim R. Roy - Yes

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:19 p.m.

Kim R. Roy
Clerk

/pjm

