

HALIFAX BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.
HALIFAX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM

Meeting came to order at 7:05 p.m. with Selectmen Thomas Millias, Kim R. Roy and Troy E. Garron present.

The following business was discussed:

GENERAL MAIL / DISCUSSION

Article 1 - HOPS playground project

In order to be eligible for an Open Space Grant from the State for the HOPS playground project the town must approve an article with very specific wording. As part of the motion the Town must fully fund the project but this will be on a temporally basis and the money will be transferred from the stabilization Fund. This will require a 2/3 vote. Once the money is received the money that was transfer from the stabilization account will be returned to the account. In essence there will not be a direct appropriation by the Town for the HOPS project. Roy will present this article.

Article 2 - Sale of alcohol at 10:00 a.m.

Back in the early 1990's the BOS amended the alcohol license of several restaurants to allow for the sale of alcohol starting at 11 a.m. instead of noon on Sundays. This past year there was a change to allow the sale of alcohol to start at 10 a.m. We did have an establishment come in and asked to open at 10 a.m. and the Board approved it but the town never accepted the State statue. Therefore Article 2 is accepting the Massachusetts General laws Chapter 138, Section 33B which will allow the sale of alcohol at 10 a.m. on Sundays.

Gordon Andrews, member of the Finance Committee, stepped in to ask if the whole parcel (33 acres) was for the HOPS playground and Seelig said according to the State it is required that the whole parcel be dedicated. Andrews then asked what if in the future they needed to expand the school and Seelig said it could not be done. Andrews then asked would it be better to sub divide the parcel and Seelig said it might be but we do not have time to do that but further said that they could get a special act of the legislation through Article 97 of the State Constitution. He stated that Andrews was right if we had sub divided the parcel it would be different. Andrews asked if it could be divided after the fact and Seelig said no because the wording of the article is very specific about the map and acreage of the parcel. Millias could not see legislature denying sub dividing the parcel should it need be in the far future.

Article 2 - Sale of alcohol at 10:00 a.m. (continued)

Seelig asked if everyone was all set with this article and Garron did comment that he does not like the idea of alcohol being served on Sundays as there are six other days of the week but understands from a business sense. Millias will present this article.

Article 3 - By-law wording change - revolving fund for elderbus

This past May the Town approved a new by-law establishing several revolving funds on a permanent basis. The Attorney General's Office has recommended that the language indicating the source of money for the elderbus revolving fund be changed. The change in wording is reflected in this article. Garron will present this article.

Article 4 - By-law wording change - licenses of delinquent taxpayers

This past May the Town revised this by-law and the Attorney General's Office recommended a change in the language as to how often the Treasurer-Collector's office provides a list of delinquent taxpayers. The change in wording is reflected in this article. Roy will present this article.

Article 5 - By-law wording change - foreclosed properties

This past May the Town approved a new by-law regarding the maintenance of property by bank and other financial institutions that have foreclosed on properties. The attorney General's office recommended a change in the language as to the definition of "owner". The change in wording is reflected in this article. Millias will present this article.

Live Entertainment – Happy Dragon Restaurant

Moved by Garron and seconded by Roy, the Board unanimously approved Permit #2018-21 issued to Lily Café II d/b/a Happy Dragon Restaurant for live entertainment (DJ) at 327 Plymouth Street on Sunday, November 26th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. (November 27, 2017).

Andrews came in again with a diagram (on his phone) of the parcel and asked if they were positive that the Water Department is not on it and Seelig said no whatever is on the parcel is already there. Looking at the diagram Millias said that some of the Water Department could be on it and Andrews asked would that have an effect should they want to do anything with the building and Seelig said yes if it is in the lot. Roy asked if he felt that \$50,000 was not worth having the land potentially tied up. Millias did not think it was that debilitating as he has seen legislature give special acts for some incredible stuff and if we needed to expand he did not see it being a problem but at this time he does not see the Water department needing any expansion anytime soon and appreciates Andrews point. Garron stated that in the past they have relocated several pieces of property and asked if anyone has approached about expanding the school and Andrews said no it just a concern he wanted to get clarified. Andrews asked is it going to cost them more than \$50,000 down the road. Roy suggested presenting the article so it is in place and Andrews was fine with that. Seelig stated that if the Water Department or the school wanted to expand and they were within the parcel we would have to go to State legislature and get Article 97 approval to take the property that has been included in open space out of open space. Seelig explained that should the Water Department want to expand that area would is not being used as part of the HOPS playground. Andrew's concern was that with Pope's Tavern renovations was the parking going to be effected. Millias said the expanded parking is planned for in front of the building. Seelig said we have already talked about expanding the parking for the HOPS and library because we already running out of spaces. Andrews thanked the BOS.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, moved by Roy and seconded by Garron, the Board unanimously voted to continue their meeting to the All Purpose Room to attend the Annual and Special Town Meetings at 7:25 p.m.:

Troy E. Garron
Clerk

/pjm