**Hull Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes**

**June 23, 2015**

The meeting of the Hull Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday evening, June 23, 2015, at the Hull Municipal Building, 253 Atlantic Ave., Hull, Massachusetts.

Present: John C. Brannan, Chair; Domenico Sestito, Vice-Chair; Christopher Mitchell, Clerk; John D. Reilly, Jr., Member; and Kevin Richardson, Member. Also present were Philip E. Lemnios, Town Manager; James Lampke, Town Counsel; and Catherine Goldhammer, recording secretary.

………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**MINUTES**

The selectmen voted to approve minutes for the Board of Selectmen meetings of April 21, 2015 and June 2, 2015.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Sestito | To approve minutes for April 21, 2015 and June 2, 2015. |
| **Second**  | Reilly |  |
| **Vote** | Unanimous |  |

**APPOINTMENTS**

**7:30 p.m. Troop 20 Scouts Recognition**

The selectmen recognized the accomplishments of Morgan Leeber, Douglas Gibbons, Brendan Holden, Patrick Condon, Nathaniel Souza, and Cody Preston for their accomplishments and presented them with a certificate of recognition. The selectmen also thanked the scout leaders present at the meeting. These were Scout Leader Captain William Souza, Paul Leeber, and Jeanne Souza. Captain Souza recognized the contribution of former leader Peter Bechtold. The selectmen also recognized Augie Augenstern for his long-time involvement and development of the town’s scouting program.

**7:45 Public Hearing: Preep Corporation, dba Quick Pick, 265D Nantasket Ave., regarding change to wine and malt (annual) license, new manager, new officer, and transfer of stock**

The selectmen voted to continue the hearing to June 30, 2015, as one of the principals was not present due to being caught in traffic.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Richardson | To continue the hearing to next week |
| **Second**  | Sestito |  |
| **Vote** | Unanimous |  |

**8 p.m. Town Accountant and Treasurer/Collector regarding notes**

Town Accountant Michael Buckley and Treasurer/Collector Eileen White asked that the selectmen authorize three notes, at a .55% rate, for Atlantic Ave. paving ($198,950); the Surfside Revitalization Project ($418,468); and the Stoney Beach seawall project ($1,185,362). These represent the balance of payments due to contractors and will be reimbursed by the state from the grants that were obtained for these projects. The selectmen voted to approve the notes as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Reilly | To approve a note for Atlantic Avenue paving for $198,950 |
| **Second**  | Sestito |  |
| **Vote** | Unanimous |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Reilly | To approve a note for the Surfside Revitalization Project for $418,468 |
| **Second**  | Sestito |  |
| **Vote** | Unanimous |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Reilly | To approve a note for the Stoney Beach seawall for $1,185,362 |
| **Second**  | Sestito |  |
| **Vote** | Unanimous |  |

Buckley also asked the selectmen to approve a transfer between accounts in order to end the town’s fiscal year in balance. An amount of $75,996 that was surplus in the Health Insurance budget was transferred in the following manner: $26,194 into the COLA account for cost of living adjustment for those not covered by collective bargaining agreements; $5,973 into the Treasurers Collectors Tax Account; $10,000 into the Public Buildings Account, mainly for Town Hall maintenance and utilities; $15,000 into the Workers Compensation Account; $6,240 into the Medicare Tax Account; and $12,589 into the Town Insurance Account.

The selectmen voted unanimously to approve these transfers.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Reilly | Motion to transfer from the health insurance account into Cost of Living Adjustment Account ($26,194); Treasurers Collectors Tax Account ($5,973); Public Buildings Account, ($10,000); Workers Compensation Account ($15,000); Medicare Tax Account ($6,240); and Town Insurance Account ($12,589), a total of $75,996.  |
| **Second**  | Sestito |  |
| **Vote** | Unanimous |  |

 **8:15 p.m. Charles Sand, regarding application for livery badge (new)**

Charles Sand appeared before the selectmen regarding his application for a new livery badge. The application was accompanied by a letter from Police Chief Billings stating that based on obtainable information, Sand appeared to be a suitable applicant for the license. Lampke noted that the application needs to list who he is going to be driving for. This application was related to the previous meeting’s public hearing regarding the new taxi service business called Seaside Transport. Following a discussion about whether the business was being set up to function more as a livery service than a cab service, the selectmen suggested that the applicants take a week to reflect on their business model and return on June 30, 2015 to report on their decisions. Lemnios noted that they can withdraw and resubmit the license for a livery service if they so choose.

**8:30 p.m. Gail Gillette, dba Marvel’s Lunch Box, 163 Nantasket Ave., regarding application for Common Victualer (new)**

Ms. Gillette is the new owner of Marvel’s Lunch Box and sought to have the appropriate license issued to her for the continuation of the business. The selectmen voted to approve the license.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Reilly | To approve Common Victualer license (new) for Gail Gillette, dba Marvel’s Lunch Box, 163 Nantasket Ave. |
| **Second**  | Mitchell |  |
| **Vote** | Unanimous |  |

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**Read aloud by Brannan: Letter from James K. Leahy and neighbors, asking permission to block off Third St. for annual block party**

Leahy asked the selectmen to approve a block party to be held on Saturday, July 25 from 6-10 p.m. This is a long-standing event that occurs annually. The request is to block off Third St. between Edgewater Rd. and Whitehead Ave. The selectmen voted unanimously to approve.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Sestito | To approve, conditional on notification of Police and Fire Departments |
| **Second**  | Reilly |  |
| **Vote** | Unanimous |  |

**Summarized by Brannan: Memo from Town Clerk regarding resignation from Logan Airport Committee**

A memo from Janet Bennet informed the selectmen that Liane Bromberg has submitted her resignation from the committee.

**Summarized by Brannan: Email from Joan Meschino regarding MAPC supporting Hull Artists Design Contest for the Surfside project**

An email from Meschino notified the selectmen that MAPC is supporting Hull’s “Artists and Planning” branding project. She said that Community Development director Robert Fultz is handling the timeframe. The selectmen voted to publically thank Meschino for her continued involvement.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Sestito | So moved |
| **Second**  | Reilly |  |
| **Vote** | Unanimous |  |

**Read aloud by Brannan: Letter from Chief Billings regarding seasonal appointments**

A memo from Police Chief Billings asked the selectmen to approve the appointment of two seasonal police officers, Peter Roffo and Christopher Lydon, pending their passing of required exams.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Mitchell | To approve the appointment of seasonal police officers  |
| **Second**  | Sestito |  |
| **Vote** | Unanimous |  |

**Read aloud / summarized by Sestito: Letter from Lori Perry regarding a farmer’s market for Hull**

A letter from resident Lori Perry suggested that the town institute a weekly farmers market during the summer months. Lemnios informed the board that there is a state agency that helps towns with these endeavors and he said that a designated “Market Master” would interface with them for guidelines on planning and logistics. He said that he would contact Perry about this.

**Read aloud by Brannan: Letter from HRA regarding contract award**

A letter from the HRA notified the board of a contract agreement with Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates in Boston for a study regarding the possibility of two-way traffic for the Nantasket Beach Project.

**LICENSES AND RENEWALS**

The selectmen voted to approve license renewals for Trung Dang, dba Lucky Stars; and Pemberton Bait & Tackle, Bill Dwyer, manager.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Reilly | To approve a Common Victualer license renewal for Trung Dang, dba Lucky Stars, 385 Nantasket Ave. |
| **Second**  | Sestito |  |
| **Vote** | Unanimous |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Reilly | To approve a Common Victualer license renewal for Pemberton Bait & Tackle, Bill Dwyer, Manager |
| **Second**  | Sestito |  |
| **Vote** | Unanimous |  |

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Continuation of Goals**

Brannan gave an overview of the previous week’s goals as further broken down into categories by Lemnios. [See document.]

Regarding priorities, Richardson moved to put discussion of a potential debt exclusion on the agenda for June 30, 2015.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Richardson | Motion to have on the next agenda a presentation by the Town Manager and discussion of the impact of the school debt on the current budget and the potential money that could be freed up for capital by excluding that debt.  |
| **Second**  | Sestito |  |
| **Vote** | Unanimous |  |

Lemnios stated that many of the items on the goals list are administrative and scheduling tasks and that some can be taken care of before getting more suggestions from the public. Brannan asked that board members come to the next meeting with their three or four top priorities identified.

**Board and Committee Vacancies**

Brannan proposed that he write a letter to The Hull Times listing vacancies and encouraging participation.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Reilly | Motion authorizing the chair to send a letter on behalf of the board stating the need for volunteers on various boards and stating that the board will be setting up times to interview candidates. |
| **Second**  | Richardson |  |
| **Vote** | Unanimous |  |

A discussion ensued on the need for a canine committee, answering to the selectmen exploring, empaneled to explore a narrow range of subjects.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Richardson | To advertise in a letter to the Hull Times a canine committee of five members tasked with exploring a dog park, dog clean-up, dogs on beach, and current canine bylaw review. |
| **Second**  | Sestito |  |
| **Vote** | Unanimous |  |

Richardson volunteered to attend the first meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS, AGENDA**

**Fire Chief Civil Service Process**

Lemnios presented a handout on the various ways of hiring a fire chief under the Civil Service process. These include: test only; test plus assessment center; and assessment center only. Any option that includes the Civil Service test would not be able to begin until the next test date, which is March, 2016. Lemnios said that the most significant issue is the assessment center, whether used alone or in conjunction with the test. He noted that the results of the test do not include any breakdown of the scores or what questions were asked. He also said that the Civil Service assigns extra points to the test for a variety of non-test-related applicant categories. He noted that the town used the assessment center option for the last fire chief and deputy chief. He said that the test carries with it the risk of a bypass appeal if the highest scoring candidate is not ultimately offered the position, and noted that this can throw a department into turmoil. He said that the significance of the test is not great enough to risk the possibility of an appeal. He recommended that the board use the assessment center only.

He further explained that the town can tell the assessment center what qualities they are seeking. The panel is 3 or 4 individuals, either chiefs or deputy chiefs and sometimes a town manager or administrator. A civil service representative is present and the sessions are videotaped. The candidates are graded by the panel and the names are presented to the board in order of the panel’s ranking. The selectmen can then interview the candidates.

Lemnios also noted that most towns hire from within and that towns that hire outside candidates often do so because the existing department is dysfunctional, which Hull’s is not. He said that they cannot do a nationwide search, due to Civil Service regulations.

Former Fire Chief Richard Hollingshead said that the potential applicants currently in the fire station are beyond the test and that the board needs to do what is right for the community.

Brannan suggested that the board take a week to consider the options.

**Finding grant writers and establishing what grants can apply to our town [Brannan]**

Lemnios explained that the town always has several grants pending at any given time and that most grants are federal grants that flow to the state level. He will compose a list of grants that have been obtained and put the idea of hiring grant writers to the departments. Resident Kelly Huxtable asked if there was support available for townspeople who wanted to help with grants they have identified that are available to nonprofit organizations. Lemnios said that he would like to see the grants.

**NEW BUSINESS, OTHER**

Lemnios announced that the town has been bargaining with the Police Union for a successor agreement to the agreement that expired in June 2014. They have come to a one year agreement with a 2% wage increase, which will amount to $60,000 to fund this fiscal year. The agreement raises the detail rate by $1 per hour, which does not apply to town-contracted jobs. The union ratified the agreement on June 22, 2015.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Motion** | Richardson | Motion to ratify the contract |
| **Second**  | Sestito |  |
| **Vote** |  | Brannan - AyeSestito - AyeRichardson - AyeMitchell - AyeReilly - Abstain/recused due to son’s employment |

Richardson asked that the chair make an announcement at the beginning of each meeting asking that anyone who is taping the meeting declare that they are doing so.

Sestito noted that one side of the Pemberton Pier is closed. Lemnios explained that it was misaligned and they are meeting with MBTA regarding its repair.

Sestito also announced that the Opiate Task Force met and created a vision statement. Its next meeting is July 20.

Mitchell said that he is working with the Lifesaving Museum regarding the upcoming commissioning of the Coast Guard ship James. They are trying to have the ship on the other side of the lighthouse on July 5. There will also be tours of the vessel in Boston.

Rhoda Kanet announced that the Beach Management Committee’s annual summer meeting will be held on July 15 at the Senior Center.

Kelly Huxtable asked about the possibility of live-streaming Selectmen’s meetings for those who don’t have cable. Lemnios said that Peter Seitz, Program Director of Hull Community Television, is looking into it.

**The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 p.m. The board will meet again on June 30, 2015.**

*Recorded by Catherine Goldhammer*

Approved: July 14, 2015

**Documents**

The following documents were included in the Board of Selectmen’s packets or were presented during the meeting and are available in the Board of Selectmen’s office upon request:

* Board of Selectmen agenda and added agenda for June 23, 2015
* Categorized list from Board of Selectmen’s Meeting of June 23
* Application for livery badge for Charles Sand
* Board of Selectmen’s minutes for 4/21/15 and 6/2/15
* Application for common victualer license from Gail Gillette
* Application for common victualer license renewal from Trung Dang
* Application for common victualer license renewal from Pemberton Bait & Tackle
* Letter from Town Accountant regarding bond notes
* Packet of statements from or regarding Troop 20 Scouts
* Packet from Preep Corporation, dba Quick Pick, 265D Nantasket Ave., regarding change to wine and malt (annual) license, new manager, new officer, and transfer of stock
* Summary of Fire Chief hiring options
* Letter from James K. Leahy regarding block party
* Memo from Town Clerk regarding Logan Airport Committee resignation
* Email from Joan Meschino regarding MAPC support
* Letter from Police Chief Billings regarding seasonal appointments
* Letter from Lori Perry regarding farmers market