

Hull Board of Selectmen

Minutes

March 1, 2016

The meeting of the Hull Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7 p.m. on Tuesday evening, March 1, 2016, at the Hull Municipal Building, 253 Atlantic Ave., Hull, Massachusetts.

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

APPOINTMENTS

Discussion regarding two-way street study

HRA members Bartley Kelly and Robert DeCoste were present at the meeting to ask the selectmen's support in going forward with the next step in the two-way street project. The HRA and the DCR split the cost of the study and Town Planner Robert Fultz, has been actively involved in the discussions. In June 2015, the HRA hired consulting firm Nelson/Nygaard to conduct the study. The police and fire departments and the DPW and department heads have also been actively engaged in the discussions. Public presentations were held in October and December.

Jason Schrieber of Nelson/Nygaard presented the results and recommendations of the study to the board. The following were some of the points made. The full presentation can be seen on the town website.

- The stated goals of the project are to improve pedestrian safety; eliminate traffic bottlenecks; improve emergency access; realize Nantasket Beach potential; enhance existing businesses and create jobs; and respond to the town's changing demographic.
- There would be no change in vehicular capacity with the change to a two-way system, but there would be less signal delay and lower drive speeds.
- The change would be accomplished by making both Hull Shore Drive and Nantasket Avenue two-way streets and adding cross streets between them. This would improve the opportunities for outgoing beach traffic to turn left at a variety of points instead of bottlenecking at Phipps Street. No signals would be required for these streets.
- Initial implementation options include making Edgewater Rd. a cross-street. This would require a traffic signal. If an additional cross street were added, no signals would be required.
- The shift to two-way traffic has been accomplished with good results in many communities throughout the country, including Lowell and Lawrence.
- There would be parallel parking along both sides of the streets.

Kelly added that they were looking into the possibility of making the entrance into the main DCR lot at the bottom of the beach back into an entrance/exit.

Reilly raised the question about delivery trucks creating traffic flow problems and the few houses whose driveway egress might be impacted. DeCoste said that this has been worked out in other communities through businesses coordinating the timing of deliveries. Schrieber said that there were operational solutions for the driveway issue, such as curb changes and clearing extra feet around the exits. He also said that the response from businesses in communities that have made a similar shift has been very positive.

Kelly said that the next step is going to a preliminary design stage that would be included as an addendum to the RFP.

The selectmen voted to support the concept of the two-way conversion.

Motion	Richardson	To approve the concept of the two-way traffic study presented tonight
Second	Mitchell	
Vote	Unanimous	

Discussion regarding HRA RFP

Kelly and DeCoste also informed the selectmen that the HRA is close to finalizing the RFP for property development and will be hiring a marketing consultant to assist with the rest of the process. They are expecting to have a consultant hired by the end of March and to have the RFP out at the end of May.

Lemnios suggested having a meeting with town departments to prepare them for the implementation phase of the process. .

Fire Hydrant Presentation

Fire Chief Christopher Russo gave a presentation on the status of the town's fire hydrants. Russo stated that the department has a good aggressive plan in place for the replacement of hydrants and it is working well. He stated that there is a priority list for broken and/or old hydrants that is being followed. The department is working closely with Aquarion, which has committed to paying for the replacement of six hydrants per year. Due to the warmer weather, the department has been able to continue working through the winter and have fixed about 90% of the broken hydrants. Lemnios noted that there is \$40,000 allocated annually in the budget for hydrant replacement and there is money coming back to the town for hydrant repairs from last winter's storms. He also noted that replacing them faster than the current rate would require the hiring of a project manager and more staff. Russo noted that he was satisfied with the current rate of replacement.

Discussion regarding town building analysis

Lemnios stated that after interviews with two firms, the town will hire EMG Corporation to conduct the town building analysis. He stated that of the two firms that responded to the RFP, EMG was the preferred candidate and had the lower bid. He said that there is a three-month time frame, in which the firm will review all town buildings and prepare a report. They will also incorporate data from a recent study into their report and will have weekly meetings with town officials and relevant department heads. He asked the selectmen to approve the signing of the contract, which they did, as follows.

Motion	Reilly	Motion to support awarding of the contract to EMG
Second	Richardson	
Vote	Unanimous	

Discussion regarding town meeting warrant articles

Lemnios asked the selectmen to approve the addition of two articles to the Town Meeting Warrant. The articles were submitted by the Canine Control Committee. The first is to see if the town will amend the bylaw to increase various animal control fines and fees. The second is to see if the town will create a revolving fund using those funds to support the animal control function. The selectmen voted to approve the addition of the articles as follows.

Motion	Richardson	Motion to approve the placement of the two animal control articles on the warrant
Second	Reilly	
Vote	Unanimous	

Lemnios further stated that he would have additional articles presented by the town in upcoming weeks.

LICENSES AND RENEWALS

The board voted to approve the following license renewals:

Motion	Reilly	Richard E. Laws, 58 Lynn Ave., Hackney Badge (Seaport Livery) – Renewal. Subject to inspection by Police Department.
Second	Sestito	
Vote	Unanimous	

Motion	Reilly	Richard E. Laws, 58 Lynn Ave., 5 Livery vehicles (A, B, C, D, and E) – Renewals. Subject to inspection by Police Department.
Second	Sestito	
Vote	Unanimous	

Motion	Reilly	Knights of Columbus, 440 Nantasket Ave., One-day all alcohol for March 12, 2016 from 7-11 p.m., requested by Michael Devine (School Principal) for a Hull High School event. Contingent on Devine signing the application.
Second	Sestito	

Vote	Unanimous	
-------------	-----------	--

Motion	Reilly	Nantasket Beach Salt Water Club, 3 Fitzpatrick Way, one-day all alcohol for March 12, 2016, from 12 p.m. to 12 a.m.
Second	Sestito	
Vote	Unanimous	

Motion	Reilly	Motion to waive fee for High School license (as listed above)
Second	Sestito	
Vote	Unanimous	

CORRESPONDENCE

Lynn A. Benway, regarding noise ordinance

A letter was received from Lynn Benway, asking for permission to hold a private wedding party on Saturday, May 14, with music until 11 p.m. Although she has contacted and received support from neighbors, she was concerned about the possibility of noise complaints, as there is no noise bylaw. Lampke said that the board does not have the authority to approve a party of this nature on private property and that the Police Department would handle any noise complaints. Reilly suggested forwarding the letter to the Police Department for their review.

Motion	Reilly	Motion to refer the request to the Police Department and inform them that the couple did notify the Board of Selectmen of the party, and to write back to the couple that the board has referred the matter to the Police Department.
Second	Sestito	
Vote	Unanimous	

Letter from Donna S. Bergamo regarding resignation from ZBA

Brannan stated that a letter had been received from Donna Bergamo, announcing her resignation from the Board of Appeals. Brannan suggested that rather than read the letter aloud, he would like to meet with Town Manager

Lemnios and Town Counsel Lampke to discuss the letter and its contents and bring any recommendations back to the Board of Selectmen. The selectmen agreed to this proposal.

Letter from Andrew Corson regarding request to be appointed to full member of Board of Appeals

Brannan suggested that the board wait on this matter until after the meeting with Lemnios and Lampke regarding the Board of Appeals and Bergamo's letter of resignation. The selectmen agreed to this.

In addition, Brannan requested that an advertisement be placed for Board of Appeals openings. He also noted that members of the Parks and Recreation Committee whose terms have expired would like to be reappointed, and that applicants for the Land Use Committee need to be interviewed. Lemnios will schedule these.

Memo from Town Manager regarding temporary appointment to Board of Registrars

Lemnios asked the board to make a temporary appointment of Catherine Rosalie Caloia, Chairman of the Hull Republican Town Committee, to the Board of Registrars until such time as a permanent appointment is made.

Motion	Reilly	To make a temporary appointment of Catherine Rosalie Caloia to the Board of Registrars until a permanent appointment is made.
Second	Richardson	
Vote	Unanimous	

NEW BUSINESS

Lampke gave an update on the status of the special legislation that would allow the town to combine the May 10 and May 16 elections. The Governor is going to submit one bill that will cover Hull, Marshfield, and Norwell. It has been filed and referred to the Election Committee. Representative Bradley's office and the office of former Senator Hedlund have stated that they will help move it along. In this scenario, the May 16 town election would be held on May 10, along with the special state election. He stated that there will be public outreach to communicate any changes to town residents.

Mitchell asked if the Fort Revere Conservation Committee could be put on the next agenda to discuss the composition of the committee and the charge that would be given to them.

Sestito asked if a review of the selectmen's list of priorities could be put on a future agenda. Lemnios said that he would look into the timing.

Richardson asked if the board can get an update on town leases at a future meeting. He also asked if the cost of capping the landfill was something that could be looked into and potentially discussed in Capital Outlay Committee meetings.

Richardson also asked for an update on the hiring of a new Fire Chief. Lemnios said that the delegation agreement has been executed between the town and Civil Service. Mark Morse is preparing a posting notification, which has to be posted for a minimum of 30 days. He will also be in for a meeting with the board in early April and the assessment center would be held a couple of weeks after that. Reilly expressed disappointment that this may occur after town elections.

Reilly asked for an update on the letter written to Senator Hedlund and Representative Bradley regarding the Seaport Council appointments. Lemnios said that no appointments have been made.

Reilly further asked about the storage shed the DCR wants to put up. Lemnios said that this is a 26x12' canopy shed that they want to put up right before the bend at Mezzo Mare. The town just got the plan this week and will talk with the DCR about why it came to the town so late and the fact that such a shed does not conform to the historic nature of the area.

Reilly asked about the paving report. Lemnios said that this will occur at the board's March 15 meeting. Reilly noted that this will be a joint meeting with the Capital Outlay Committee. Lemnios said he will look into scheduling the meeting at the high school.

Reilly announced that the area in front of Town Hall where the flagpole is will be dedicated to Janet Bennett. He has talked with the Hull Garden Club about beautifying the area with plantings and benches, and hopes that it may be ready for dedication on Memorial Day. This was unanimously approved by the board.

Motion	Reilly	Motion to dedicate area in front of Town Hall in memory of Janet Bennett
Second	Richardson	
Vote	Unanimous	

Reilly also noted that many veteran corner dedication signs have become old or damaged and need repair. He has a list for repair or replacement. The old signs will be offered to the families of the honored veterans.

The following business was raised by residents present at the meeting.

Rhoda Kanet announced that the annual beach grass planting will occur on April 9.

Randy Gould pointed out the recent graffiti at Fort Revere and his willingness to paint. Richardson asked if the town can expedite getting cameras at the location. Lemnios noted that any cameras would be able to help identify perpetrators, but would not be monitored in real time. He said that there is also discussion of closing up the entrance to the bunkers.

Gould also asked for a meeting of the Parking Committee, noting that there are now cars parked along Helen Street and the two-hour parking at the Gut is not being enforced. He said that the stickers are hard to see on the car windows. Brannan said he would look into scheduling a meeting.

Kelly Huxtable asked if the selectmen could look into a solution to the stairs at Gunrock Beach. She stated that it is a hazard for children, as the stairs end right on the street. She also said that the crosswalk at that location has not been painted. Reilly said that there may not be an easy solution to that problem because of the limitations of the space. Lemnios said that it was noted on the redesign plan for Atlantic Avenue. He will bring it up with Parks and Recreation and with the Highway Department.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:20 p.m. Brannan asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to litigation and that the chair declare that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect of the litigating position of the body; to go into Executive Session to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property; to go into Executive Session to comply with or act under the authority of the Attorney-Client privilege; and to go into Executive Session to consult with legal counsel and obtain legal advice pursuant to the Attorney-Client privilege; and to not reconvene in open session.

The matters to be discussed were:

- Property damage claims
- Crescent Beach seawall

Motion	Richardson	Motion to go into Executive Session to into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to litigation and that the chair declare that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect of the litigating position of the body; to go into Executive Session to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property; to go into Executive Session to comply with or act under the authority of the Attorney-Client privilege; and to go into Executive Session to consult with legal counsel and obtain legal advice pursuant to the Attorney-Client privilege; and to not reconvene in open session.
Second	Sestito	
Vote	Unanimous	Richardson – Aye Brannan – Aye Sestito – Aye Mitchell – Aye Reilly – Aye

The open meeting was adjourned at 10:25 p.m. The board will meet next at 7:30 p.m. on March 15, 2016.

Recorded by Catherine Goldhammer

Approved by:

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 March 1, 2016
- License application from Richard E. Laws, 58 Lynn Ave., Hackney Badge (Seaport Livery) – Renewal.
- License application from Richard E. Laws, 58 Lynn Ave., 5 Livery vehicles (A, B, C, D, and E) – Renewals.
- License application from Knights of Columbus, 440 Nantasket Ave., One-day all alcohol for March 12, 2016 from 7-11 p.m., requested by Michael Devine for Hull High School.
- License application from Nantasket Beach Salt Water Club, 3 Fitzpatrick Way, one-day all alcohol for March 12, 2016, from 12 p.m. to 12 a.m.
- Memo from Nancy Allen regarding temporary appointment to Board of Registrars
- Letter of resignation form the Board of Appeals from Donna Bergamo
- Letter regarding noise ordinance from Lynn A. Benway

- Letter from Andrew Corson regarding membership on Board of Appeals
- Two warrant articles from the Animal Control Committee
- Two-way street study packet