

Hull Board of Selectmen

Minutes

January 19, 2017

The meeting of the Hull Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday evening, January 19, 2017, at Hull Municipal Building, 253 Atlantic Ave., Hull, Massachusetts.

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

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APPOINTMENTS

Satishkumar Patel, regarding new manager for liquor license

Satishkumar Patel was present to request a manager change on the liquor license for Quick Pick. The new manager, Indravadan Patel, stated that he has previously worked in a liquor store in South Boston for four years.

Motion	Mitchell	Motion to approve
Second	Sestito	
Vote	Unanimous	

William Simmons, regarding livery license for Bayside Coach

Simmons stated that he is seeking a license for a livery badge for Bayside Coach. He said that he has been driving for them since they opened and previously drove for Nantasket Charter for three years.

Motion	Sestito	Motion to approve a livery badge for William Simmons as presented this evening.
Second	Mitchell	
Vote	Unanimous	

LICENSES/APPROVALS

Katlin Murphy, regarding wedding on the beach

The board had received a letter from Murphy, requesting permission to hold a wedding ceremony on the beach near Warren Street on Saturday, May 20, 2017. The wedding is for 80 people and is scheduled to begin at 1:30 p.m. and

last 30 minutes. They have permission from the Chief of Police to park on Beach Avenue for the ceremony. They will place 10-16 folding chairs on the beach for seating.

Motion	Sestito	Motion to approve the request this evening from Katlin Murphy to have a wedding on the beach at Warren Street on May 20, 2017 from 1-2:30 p.m., pending any requirements that are recommended by public safety personnel.
Second	Mitchell	
Vote	Unanimous	

Emergency parking ban authorization

The board voted to authorize the Chief of Police to declare an emergency parking ban when necessary. This would eliminate the need for emergency authorization on a case by case basis and would expedite the process of any necessary traffic measures. Police Chief John Dunn was present for the discussion.

Motion	Sestito	Motion to authorize the Chief of Police to declare an emergency parking ban when he or she sees fit.
Second	Constable	
Vote	Unanimous	

CORRESPONDENCE

Memo from Chris Krahforst, Conservation Administrator

The board received a memo from Chris Krahforst, Conservation Administrator, regarding an update to the town’s Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan. The plan will be posted to the town website and provided to the local press.

Lemnios noted that FEMA flood maps are an active issue locally and regionally and that the town continues to pursue map revisions through Woods Hole Group.

APPOINTMENTS, CONTINUED

Joint Meeting with Planning Board, Board of Health, and HAPSA regarding marijuana law

The board met in joint session with the Planning Board, the Board of Health, HAPSA, Chris Di’Iorio, Director of Community Planning and Development; and Police Chief John Dunn to discuss potential actions regarding the new state law legalizing marijuana use and sale. In a previous meeting of the board, Town Manager Lemnios and Town Counsel Lampke had discussed with the selectmen the option of imposing a time-limited moratorium while the town researches zoning and other options. Typically a moratorium is for a year or less. Lemnios noted that a moratorium would not infringe on individual elements of the law, which have been in effect since December 16, 2016.

The effective date on the law’s implementation has been pushed back by the legislature to July 1, 2018. Lampke noted that an additional reason to impose a moratorium is that the date change was not received well by the proponents of the ballot question and it is unclear whether there will be a challenge to it. He also noted that there is a separate issue of whether the town can ban the sale of marijuana outright, or whether they can ban on-premise consumption. A moratorium would require a 2/3 vote at Town Meeting, as it would relate to zoning. Lemnios stated that it would give the town protection in the event that the date changes are challenged.

Harry Hibbard, Planning Board Chair, stated that the Planning Board is in agreement that it will not support a ban, and that the actions of the state regarding the implementation date make a moratorium unnecessary. He further stated that if someone appealed the dates and it was passed, the town could call a Town Meeting and enact a moratorium at that time. Hibbard said that economic development was a key issue in the Planning Board’s considerations. He stated that a moratorium would send a negative message to anyone considering opening a related business in town. Planning Board member Steve Flynn noted that a related business in town would generate taxes. Planning Board member Jason McCann stated that required hearings on a moratorium would not produce a productive discussion.

Joyce Sullivan, Public Health Director said that there are bylaws that regulate the sale of smoking materials in relation to distance from schools, and that sales are restricted to those 21 or over. Board of Health member Jennifer Butler-Rickard stated that a moratorium would offer protection while the town considers its options.

Constable stated that although the town voted to approve the law, a 57/43 split was not an overwhelming referendum and she would like to look out for the residents who voted against it as well as those who did. She pointed out the implications for youth and those with mental health issues and noted that the issue is much deeper than potential economic development. She stated that in Colorado drug-related driving fatalities have increased. She stated that she supports a moratorium.

Sestito noted that he is more concerned about health and safety and less about economic development issues related to the sale of marijuana. He stated that he would support a moratorium while the town learns more.

Police Chief Dunn stated that in terms of public safety there is still a developing picture of how the legalization of marijuana is affecting people. He noted that the Police Chiefs Association of Massachusetts did not support it. He pointed out that the drug can also be sold as soda and as candy, leading to overdoses and mistaken use by children. He stated that it would not hurt to have a moratorium.

Lemnios pointed out that it is not just the Planning Board that will have to address the question, but that there are numerous town departments that will provide input.

After lengthy discussion, the board voted to create a study task force consisting of Chris Di’Iorio, Director of Community Development, and one representative from each of the following: Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Board of Health, Police Department, Fire Department, School Department, HAPSA, and the Chamber of Commerce.

Motion	Sestito	So moved
Second	Constable	
Vote	Unanimous	

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Pavement Plan Update

Lemnios presented an update on the 2016-2017 paving program, which is consistent with the previous plan as created by Beta Engineering. This will utilize Chapter 90 funds and will affect 19 roads and approximately 8.3 miles or 17% of Hull’s roadways. Lemnios said that the town will meet with the contractor in March and work will begin in the spring.

Communications Policy

Constable presented a communications policy for the board’s consideration. The presentation covered the following points:

- Delivery of consistent, accurate, and timely information via social media, quarterly reporting, quarterly newsletters, and Hull TV;
- Encouraging public involvement and two-way communication via a social media policy, Board of Selectmen office hours, improvement of the town website, and conversations with neighborhood associations and the Chamber of Commerce;
- Promoting relevancy among and between residents, businesses, neighbors, and visitors via information from town department heads, Town Manager, emergency services, and the schools.

Lemnios stated that when the town first developed its website there were limited options to choose from. There are now more options available at a higher but not unreasonable cost. Mitchell suggested adding communications tie-ins with utility companies as well as season start/end reports from the harbormaster and police and fire departments.

The board voted to adopt the policy as follows:

Motion	Sestito	Motion to approve the Town of Hull communication plan as presented this evening
Second	Constable	
Vote	Unanimous	

Constable also presented social media guidelines regarding the development of town Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages.

After discussion, the board voted to adopt the social media guidelines as follows:

Motion	Sestito	Motion to adopt the Town of Hull social media guidelines as presented this evening, with an amendment to read: “The town and its agencies will not follow or friend any organization or individual without the approval of the Town Manager.”
	Amendment	The policy is subject to final review by Town Manager and Town Counsel.
Second	Constable	

Vote	Unanimous	

NEW BUSINESS

Richardson stated that the Lions Club will be hosting a meeting at which Police Chief Dunn will be the guest. This is open to the public.

He further asked that cemetery fees be added to the agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:30 p.m., Richardson asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to litigation, and that the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the body; to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property, and that the Chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the body; to comply with or act under the authority of the attorney client privilege; and to consult with legal counsel and to obtain legal advice pursuant to the attorney client privilege; and not to reconvene in open session.

The matters to be discussed were:

- Property damage claim
- Possible property acquisition

Motion	Sestito	So moved
Second	Constable	
Vote	Unanimous	Richardson – Aye Mitchell – Aye Constable – Aye Sestito – Aye Reilly – Aye

The open meeting was adjourned at 10:35 p.m. on a motion by Sestito, seconded by Mitchell. The board will meet next at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 9, 2017.

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's agenda and added agenda for January 19, 2017
- License application from A. Wayne Padula regarding Livery Badge for Bayside Coach
- License application from James E. Charubini, regarding Livery Badge for Bayside Coach
- Email from Katie Murphy regarding wedding on the beach
- Pavement Management handout
- Pre-disaster Mitigation Plan
- Town of Hull communications plan and social media policy