

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES - JANUARY 14, 2008**

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7:00 p.m. - Selectmen's Meeting Room, 63 Main Street, Northborough, MA

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** William Pantazis, Chairman  
Leslie Rutan, Vice Chairman  
Fran Bakstran, Clerk  
Jeff Amberson  
Dawn Rand

\*Pledge of Allegiance

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 10, 2007 REGULAR MEETING**

Selectman Rand moved the Board vote to accept the Minutes of the December 10, 2007 Regular Meeting as submitted; Selectman Amberson seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**7:00 p.m. - PUBLIC HEARING**

To consider the application of Compete, Inc. d/b/a Romaine's to alter the premises at 299 West Main Street where an All Alcoholic Restaurant License is in effect.

Richard Romaine was present to inform the Board of his plans to enclose the outside patio to make it the new function room and to expand the bar/lounge area.

Mr. Romaine met with the Fire Chief, Building Inspector and Detective Sergeant Bill Lyver to discuss the alterations. There are no concerns with the application and all recommend approval.

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to approve the application of Compete, Inc. d/b/a Romaine's to alter the premises at 299 West Main Street where an All Alcohol Restaurant License is in effect; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**7:05 p.m. - VIRGINIA SIMMS GEORGE  
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIR  
Winter Ball Presentation**

Chairman of the Community Affairs Committee Virginia Simms George was present along with Member Matthew Baevsky. Ms. Simms George announced that the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Winter Ball will be held on Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at the White Cliff's. Tickets are \$50 each and can be purchased at Lowe's and in the Town Clerk's Office. Donations to help sponsor the event are still being accepted.

**7:10 p.m. - SENIOR CENTER BUILDING COMMITTEE**  
Presentation on Senior Center Project.

Chairman of the Senior Center Building Committee Jeff Leland was present along with Council on Aging Chairman Jerry Anderson, Senior Center Director Kelly Burke and Joseph Rizza of Court Street Architects, Inc. Also present in the audience were members of the Senior Center Building Committee, the Council on Aging and the Friends of the Northborough Senior Center.

Mr. Rizza made a presentation to the Board on the design phase of the project. The proposed Senior Center has been modified and value engineered to reduce the overall square footage down to approximately 14,000 sq. ft. by reconfiguring circulation areas such as hallways, but preserving core programmatic space. The new design is a more efficient and cost effective use of the building space and of the site itself. The Senior Center Building Committee, Council on Aging and the Friends of the Senior Center are all in unanimous support of the design being presented tonight.

Following the presentation on the design phase of the project, Ms. Burke informed the public that this, as well as other information can be viewed on the Town Website.

Mr. Brenner added that once the design phase of the project is finalized, the Town will seek public competitive bids. A firm, fixed construction price will be attached to the project when presented at the Annual Town Meeting in April. In order for the project to go forward it must first be approved at the Annual Town Meeting in April and then be excluded from Proposition 2½ by a ballot vote at the May Town Election.

Following questions and comments from members of the Board, the Board thanked everyone for their presentation.

**7:40 p.m. - HEARING**

To consider the application of Ireneusz (Eric) Omiecki for a Class II Used Car Dealer's License at 95 Southwest Cutoff.

Eric Omiecki was present to request a Class II Used Car Dealer's License at his residence located at 95 Southwest Cutoff. The business will be conducted from a home office with the capacity to store up to two vehicles in the garage. A small sign will indicate the location of the home office with a separate entrance. The sale of used cars will include retail and export to Europe.

For the record, the application was reviewed by Detective Sergeant Bill Lyver. He recommended approval of the license will the following conditions:

1. No more than two (2) vehicles shall be stored or displayed for sale on the premises and storage and display of said vehicles shall be limited to inside the garage at 95 Southwest Cutoff.

**HEARING CONT. . .**

2. License will allow for retail sales and export to Europe.
3. A sign must be displayed on the building by the door or on a post that indicates that a business is in operation at the premises.
4. An office must be maintained that is clearly distinguishable from the residential portion of the property with a separate entrance specifically for the purpose of conducting Class II automobile transactions and subject to unscheduled law enforcement entry and inspections per Chapter 140, Section 66.
5. A Registry of Motor Vehicles approved Used Vehicle Record Book must be fully maintained listing all vehicles purchased at auction and to whom they were sold.

Selectman Rand moved the Board vote to approve the application of Ireneusz Omiecki for a Class II Dealer's License at 95 Southwest Cutoff; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**7:50 p.m. - HEARING**

To consider applications for One-Day Licenses for Wine & Malt Beverages pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 138, Section 14 as submitted by Saint Bernadette's Church for premises located at 266 Main Street.

Maggie Lellman was present on behalf of Saint Bernadette's Church to request One-Day Special Liquor Licenses for the following events:

Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> 6-12pm  
Comedy Night in the Activity Center

Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> 6-12pm  
Dinner Gala in the Activity Center

The applications for both events were reviewed by the Fire Chief, Police Chief and Building Inspector. All recommend approval of the applications.

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to grant One-Day Licenses for Wine & Malt Beverages to Saint Bernadette's Church for premises located at 266 Main Street on:

Saturday, February 2, 2008	6 p.m. to 12 a.m. (snow date Feb 9 <sup>th</sup> )
Saturday, April 12, 2008	6 p.m. to 12 a.m.

with the condition that the applicant receive the required "304 certificate" from the Fire Department, and to waive the fee; Selectman Amberson seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**7:55 p.m. - MARK LEAHY, POLICE CHIEF**

- Appointment of Police Officers.
- Recruit Training Fee Agreement.

Appointment of Police Officers

Chief Leahy introduced Robert Haglund and Shane DiDonato as the top candidates to fill two Police Officer vacancies created by the recent retirements of Sergeant Thomas Martin and Lieutenant Dusty Shead. Both candidates are recent graduates of the Basic Recruit Academy at Boylston. They are fully trained and ready for duty. Their employment will begin on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Selectman Bakstran moved the Board vote to appoint Robert Haglund and Shane DiDonato as Police Officers effective January 28, 2008; Selectman Amberson seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

Recruit Training Fee Agreement

Selectman Bakstran moved the Board vote to approve a Police Department Recruit Training Fee Agreement with Police Officer Nathan Fiske effective June 15, 2007; Selectman Amberson seconded the motion, all members voted in favor.

**8:05 p.m. - KATHY DALGLIESH, CABLE TV ACCESS DIRECTOR**

- Presentation of Cable TV Franchise Renewal Ascertainment Report for Charter Communications.
- Presentation on Cable TV Franchise Issuing Authority Report for Verizon.

Cable Access Director Kathy Dalgliesh made a brief presentation to the Board on the preliminary ascertainment findings in connection with the determination of the Town of Northborough's franchise renewal needs and interests.

Mr. Brenner provided some additional information on the federal and state laws and regulations relative to the renewal process for the franchise agreement with Charter Communications and the initial franchise agreement with Verizon.

In response to a question from Selectman Bakstran, Ms. Dalgliesh informed the Board that Verizon anticipates being able to offer their service to Northborough residents anywhere between six to twelve months from the date of their October 29, 2007 application.

Selectman Rand moved the Board vote to approve the Ascertainment Report for the Cable TV Franchise Renewal with Charter Communications; Selectman Bakstran seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

Selectman Rand moved the Board vote to approve the Issuing Authority Report for the Cable TV Franchise with Verizon; Selectman Amberson seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

## REPORTS

### Dawn Rand

- Thanked Assistant Town Administrator John Coderre for scheduling a recent meeting with Congressman James McGovern to meet with various Town officials at the 119 Colburn Street site to discuss Federal funding for the various projects being proposed there.
- Noted the recent retirement of Lieutenant Shead from the Police Department after 38-years. Noted that tickets for his retirement party are still available.
- Noted that the Senior Center Building Committee will meet on January 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am at the Town Hall.

### Jeff Amberson

- Noted that the Regional School Committee is meeting this evening with their legal counsel to discuss the options presented to them by the Towns of Northborough and Southborough regarding the SBA reimbursement issue. He hopes to hear whether or not a decision has been made by tomorrow.
- Requested an update on the status of the Snow and Ice Budget. Informally, Mr. Brenner stated that after today's storm the little balance that was left has been most likely exhausted.
- Requested that residents keep sidewalks and fire hydrants clear of snow and debris. Also asked that residents be kind to the snowplow drivers.
- Requested an update on whether or not the High School Project is complete. At the suggestion of Mr. Brenner, the Board agreed to forward this inquiry to the Regional School Committee.

### Fran Bakstran, Clerk

- Pleaded with residents to keep their sidewalks clear of snow for the safety of the public. Acknowledged concerns from school bus drivers regarding the safety of students who have to walk or wait for buses on the sidewalks.
- Attended a recent Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony for Matthew Sleeper.
- Noted that January 16<sup>th</sup> is the last day to register to vote for the Presidential Primary Election on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

### Leslie Rutan, Vice Chairman

- Thanked the Fire and Police Departments for their efforts in fighting the devastating house fire on Whitney Street. Noted her appreciation of the wonderful system that is set up for the victims of such an event.
- Noted that CVS is finally empty and will be demolished soon. The temporary CVS is located on Blake Street.
- Thanked Rob Theve of the Fire Department for coordinating the Toys for Tots Program. Also thanked all the residents who contributed to this cause.
- Noted that the Cultural Council has completed their grant application process and thanked them for their work.
- Announced that the Library is planning another Comedy Night fundraiser on March 8<sup>th</sup> at Guiseppe's Grille. More information to come.

Barry M. Brenner, Town Administrator

- Noted that due to today's snowstorm the collection of solid waste will be delayed by one day.
- Noted that he is still working on the draft Budget for next fiscal year. He anticipates scheduling this for discussion on the next meeting agenda.

William Pantazis, Chairman

- No report.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No comments. Chairman Pantazis encouraged the public to come forward and take advantage of this opportunity to speak and be heard.

**APPROVAL/EXECUTION OF ELECTION WARRANT FOR PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY**

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to approve/execute the Election Warrant for the February 5, 2008 Presidential Primary Election; Selectman Bakstran seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**APPROVAL/EXECUTION OF SNOW PLOWING AGREEMENT**

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to approve/execute the Snow Plowing Agreement for Private Ways Dartmouth Drive and Copley Drive for the 2007/2008 Winter Season; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**PROCLAMATION – OBSERVANCE OF GOVERNOR JOHN DAVIS DAY**

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to proclaim January 13, 2008 as Governor John Davis Day; Selectman Rand seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**APPROVAL/EXECUTION OF CEMETERY DEEDS A756 – A761**

Selectman Bakstran moved the Board vote to approve and execute Cemetery Deeds A756 through A761; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD**

Selectman Amberson informed the public that following a recent fire at the Nicholas Michaels Spa, the company held a fundraising event to raise funds for the Northborough Police and Fire Departments. The company was able to raise a large sum of money and donated \$12,500 to each the Fire and Police Department.

By agreement, the Board asked that representatives from Nicholas Michaels be invited to a future Selectmen's Meeting where the Board would present them with a Certificate of Appreciation.

**8:35 p.m. – EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 39, Subsection 23B, Subsection 3, Personnel Matter; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Bakstran	“aye”	Pantazis	“aye”
Amberson	“aye”	Rand	“aye”
Rutan	“aye”		

Chairman Pantazis announced that the Board would return from Executive Session only to adjourn.

**10:35 p.m. – RETURN TO OPEN MEETING**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to adjourn; Selectman Bakstran seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Wackell  
Executive Assistant to the Board of Selectmen