

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 22, 2010**

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

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

*Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 8, 2010 REGULAR MEETING

Selectman Rand moved the Board vote to approve the Minutes of the February 8, 2010 Regular Meeting as presented; Selectman Rutan seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

7:00 p.m. - PUBLIC HEARING

To consider an application to transfer the All Alcoholic Beverages Restaurant License from KLRR Foods, Inc. d/b/a Celtic Tavern to CJ Restaurant Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Celtic Tavern for premises Located at 45 Belmont Street – Route 9.

Mr. Coderre informed the Board that the proposed manager was unable to attend tonight's public hearing due to a scheduling conflict.

Chairman Bakstran opened the public hearing and invited comments from the public. There were none.

Selectman Rutan moved the Board vote to continue the public hearing to consider the transfer of the All Alcoholic Beverages Restaurant License from KLRR Foods, Inc. d/b/a Celtic Tavern to CJ Restaurant, LLC d/b/a Celtic Tavern for premises located at 45 Belmont Street (Route 9) due to a scheduling conflict with the proposed manager. The continued public hearing will be held on March 8, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.; Selectman Amberson seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

7:05 p.m. - ANTHONY ZITON

Presentation by The Friends of Northborough Dog Park.

Anthony Ziton of 1A Pond View Way made a presentation to the Board on behalf of The Friends of Northborough Dog Park. Mr. Ziton's presentation included information-to-date on the properties being considered for a designated fenced-in, off-leash dog park. Most of the discussion centered on the proposed use of Assabet Park. Also discussed was the Yellick Property and Mustang Stables.

Board members expressed their concern with safety and the potential sites where dogs will be off-leash in the same area where there are children at play. Also discussed was a concern with the continued maintenance and care in order to keep the site clean.

DOG PARK DISCUSSION CONT. . .

Following some discussion, Chairman Bakstran informed Mr. Ziton that prior to any construction of a dog park, the group would need to work with Town staff to be sure that all rules and regulations are complied with. The Board encouraged the Friends of the Dog Park to reach out to the abutters and area residents. The Board also requested more detail regarding future maintenance and safety compliance.

The Board thanked Mr. Ziton for his presentation and asked Mr. Coderre to investigate whether or not there are any deed restrictions for the potential use of a dog park at Assabet Park.

Mr. Coderre indicated the Town is willing to assist the Friends to investigate the use of the Yellick property, and obtain recommendations from the various land use boards and committees on the potential use of a dog park at Assabet Park.

Mr. Ziton stated that he and The Friends of Northborough Dog Park will continue to work on the following for each of the proposed sites:

- Budgetary components of constructing and maintaining the dog park.
- Parking availability.
- Contact the abutting neighborhoods for their input.

REPORTSWilliam Pantazis

- No report.

Jeff Amberson

- Requested reports on the beginning and ending balances for each of the revolving accounts.

Leslie Rutan, Clerk

- Noted that the Naming Subcommittee will be meeting again this upcoming week.
- Announced that the new Senior Center is going to be open to the public this Wednesday. The Grand Opening is scheduled on March 21st.
- Offered her congratulations to the High School Girls Varsity Gymnastics Team for achieving 2nd place at the South Sectional. Wished them luck as they move onto the State Finals at the DCU Center beginning March 3rd.

Dawn Rand, Vice Chairman

- Noted that the Interview Committee met with an applicant for the Cultural Council prior to tonight's meeting. See below for appointment.
- Thanked Mr. Coderre and the Building Inspector for their efforts in educating the local businesses on the Town's sign regulations.

Fran Bakstran, Chairman

- Noted that the Solid Waste Advisory Committee met on February 17th. See below for further discussion.
- The Lion's Club will hold their annual Game Night at the American Legion on March 6th.

John Coderre, Town Administrator

- Announced that the new Senior Center will be open to the public this Wednesday. The Grand Opening is scheduled for March 21st at 1:00 pm.
- Noted that the legislative priorities letter has been sent to the Governor and our State Legislators. Each of our State Legislators will be present at the Board's March 8th Meeting.

APPOINTMENT TO THE CULTURAL COUNCIL

Selectman Rand moved the Board vote to appoint Carl Kinkel to the Cultural Council for a three-year term; Selectman Amberson seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

SOLID WASTE DISCUSSION – UNDER CHAIRMAN BAKSTRAN'S REPORT

Chairman Bakstran noted that the Solid Waste Advisory Committee met on February 17th following the Board's discussion on this matter at their last meeting. She informed the Board that the SWAC wishes to reaffirm their recommendation of Option #3 (fixed fee for fixed costs along with a variable fee for variable costs).

Chairman Bakstran also informed the board that regardless of what is decided for this year, the SWAC stands behind their recommendation from 2008 to further investigate a single-stream recycling system with a two-tote structure. This system is similar to what the Town of Auburn is in the process of instituting, as well as what the Town of Holden has had for the past three years. The SWAC is requesting that Town Staff seek quotes for this service to see if this is a viable option. By agreement, the Board directed Town Staff to seek quotes for a single-stream recycling system for FY12.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Howard Stone of 257 Rice Avenue commented on the Board's need to act quickly in making a decision on the Town's Solid Waste Program.

Kevin Carroll of 45 Auger Avenue requested that the Town look into allowing temporary signs by local businesses in Town. He agrees with the need to prohibit signs being posted by out-of-town businesses. Mr. Carroll also announced that the Garden Club will be holding its 85th Anniversary Celebration at the Library on March 13th.

UPDATE ON THE PRELIMINARY FY11 BUDGET

Mr. Coderre's presentation on the preliminary FY11 Budget included the following:

- A brief update on the status of the FY10 Budget
- Goals for the FY11 Budget
- Revenue Assumptions for FY11
- Northborough State Aid Comparison FY1988-2011
- Fiscal Year 2011 Revenue Sources
- Budget Overview for Town and Schools
- General Government Highlights for FY10 and FY11

In summary, Mr. Coderre informed the Board that based on preliminary assumptions, he anticipates that the expenditure budgets for the General Government, Northborough K-8 Schools and the Assessments for the Algonquin Regional and the Assabet Valley Vocational High Schools can increase just 1.6% in order for the FY11 overall budget to remain within the limits of Proposition 2½. Mr. Coderre reviewed the necessary steps that already have been or need to be taken in order to reach this goal for the General Government, including:

- FY10 cuts and reductions in staff carried forward into FY11
- Donations from the Friends of the Senior Center and the Friends of the Library to help offset their respective budgets
- Negotiation of a zero increase for Building & Liability and Workers' Comp Insurance
- Health Insurance Budget held to a 3% increase due to the plan design changes in FY10
- Finance Department Reorganization
- Negotiate financially sustainable Collective Bargaining Agreements
- Identify appropriate funding sources for Solid Waste
- Continue to monitor key revenue sources, especially State Aid
- Advocate for Legislative Priorities
- Continue to seek solutions that preserve core municipal services

REVIEW OF DRAFT TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Mr. Coderre presented to the Board the draft warrant for the Annual Town Meeting and briefly reviewed each article. He indicated that although this initial review provides a good indication of the matters likely to come before Town Meeting, he stressed that the draft warrant presented this evening contains some incomplete information and several placeholders for articles still being developed.

APPROVAL TO DEFICIT SPEND THE FY10 SNOW & ICE BUDGET

Selectman Amberson moved the Board vote to approve deficit spending of the FY10 Snow & Ice Budget; Selectman Rand seconded the motion; all members voted in favor.

8:55 p.m. – EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Wackell
Executive Assistant to the
Board of Selectmen