

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JANUARY 5, 2011
REGULAR SESSION

Members Present: Robert Richardson, David Parker, Michael Brady

Absent: Francis Cavaco, John Whelan

Town Administrator: Michael J. Carroll

Executive Assistant: Anne P. Rogers

Chairman Richardson called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, Mr. Parker advised that the meeting is being taped via audio and visual. Abigail Crocker of The Patch advised she was recording both audio and visual.

HEARING FOR SEASONAL LIQUOR LICENSE CONVERSION TO ANNUAL

Toti's Pizza Palace
Da Tong, Inc., d/b/a Tai Pan Restaurant

Ms. Rogers explained that these are a continuation of the action taken by Town Meeting and recently approved by the State.

A motion was made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Selectmen forward to the ABCC the conversion of the seasonal to annual liquor license according to Chapter 368 of the Acts of 2010 for Toti's Pizza Palace and Da Tong, Inc., d/b/a Tai Pan Restaurant.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Consider Approval of Class I, Class II, and Class III Motor Vehicle Licenses

A motion was made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Class I Motor Vehicles Licenses for the following, with stipulations as applicable:
Blackstone Subaru, Inc., d/b/a/ Pride Hyundai of Seekonk;
First AG, Inc., d/b/a First Acura;
Herb Chambers 44, Inc., d/b/a Herb Chambers Honda of Seekonk;
Tasca Automotive Group of Rhode Island, Inc., d/b/a Tasca Lincoln Mercury, Inc. (Stipulation: No parking in north side fire lane);
Wright Trailers, Inc.

A motion was made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Class II Motor Vehicle Licenses for the following, with stipulations as applicable:
Adaptive Mobility Equipment, Inc.;
Auto Mart (Stipulation: Only 14 cars may be displayed and only in the area provided);
Pride Chrysler Jeep, Inc.;
The Car Palace (Stipulation: No parking of any vehicles on the sidewalk in front of building);
Continental Auto, Inc.;
Countryside Motors, Inc.;
GDA Enterprises, Inc., d/b/a/ Seekonk Auto Center (Stipulation: No more than 50 cars at any one time);
Martin Auto Placement (Stipulation: No cars are to be stored or displayed on the premises);
Mink Street Auto Sales, Inc.; d/b/a Champion Motorsports (Stipulation: No more than 30 cars on display on lot);
Normø Auto Body & Sales;
Gary S. Sagar; d/b/a Specialty Motors of Seekonk;
Wayside Auto Sales Company, Inc.;
SRS Ultra Service, LLC (Stipulation: No more than 3 vehicles to be on the lot at one time);
Kenneth H. Provost, d/b/a Leerø Auto Sales (Stipulations: No signs; no cars on premises; no advertising on property; no selling of parts on property; used car wholesale license only);
Inmotion Motorsports, LLC;
Seekonk Petroleum, Inc., d/b/a 114A Auto Sales;
Prestige auto Mart, Inc., d/b/a Prestige II.

A motion was made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve Class III Motor Vehicles Licenses for the following, with stipulations as applicable:
A & N Auto Body, Inc., d/b/a Seekonk Auto Body;
Advanced Foreign Auto, Inc. (Stipulation: No parking on landscaped areas);
Gradyø Auto Parts;
Hollister Auto, Inc. (Stipulation: No junk yard. Maximum of five cars on site);
Modern Tractor & Truck Services, Inc.;
Thomas Wall, d/b/a Timø Repair (Stipulation: No more than one car on display on lot);
Tri-Star Auto Body, Inc. (Stipulation: License shall be limited to the buying of second hand motor vehicles for the purpose of remodeling, taking apart and rebuilding same. In no event, shall the licensee operate a motor vehicle junk yard. The premises to be occupied by the licensee for these purposes shall be that portion of the lot currently occupied by Tri-Star;

namely, Lots 79 and 109 of Plat 1 of the Seekonk Assessor's maps. Said space shall be confined to the rear of the lot and in conformance with zoning regulations. Furthermore, said space shall be screened or otherwise partitioned so as to prevent any unsightly or visually disturbing nuisance.

Consider Approval of Entertainment Licenses

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the amusement facility licenses for Fantasyland, LLC; Bay State Racquet Club, Inc.; and Gia Bella, LLC; d/b/a Monster Mini-Golf.

Bristol County Stadium, Inc. was deferred to Item A. under "Old Business."

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the theater license for National Amusements, Inc., d/b/a Showcase Cinemas Seekonk, Route #6.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the miniature golf licenses for Fantasyland, LLC and Seekonk Grand Prix, Inc.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Go-Kart Track license for Seekonk Grand Prix, Inc. with the stipulations that the number of go-karts is limited to 35 without approval of the Board of Selectmen. Any traffic problems to be the responsibility of the licensee. Approved gasoline storage permit or license to store 1,000 gallons above ground.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Entertainment license for the following, with stipulations as applicable:
The Luxury Box, Inc. (Stipulation: Outside entertainment until 10 p.m. only);
J & W Corporation, d/b/a Johnson & Wales Inn (Stipulation: Music to be held indoors only);
American Legion, Inc. Post #311
Seekonk Hospitality, Inc., d/b/a Ramada Inn.

The Seekonk Golf Driving Range was put on hold until Ms. Rogers has an opportunity to check on the miniature golf for that facility.

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A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the amusement machines licenses for BIJAL, Inc., d/b/a Shangri-La Motel; American Legion, Inc., Post #311; Fantasyland, LLC; National Amusements, Inc., d/b/a Showcase Cinemas Seekonk, Route #6; Seekonk Grand Prix, Inc.; The Luxury Box, Inc.; CABB LLC, d/b/a Boneyard Saloon; Gia Bella, LLC, d/b/a Monster Mini-Golf; AppleBeeø International.

A motion was made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Antique & Second-Hand Licenses for Amanda Orifice, d/b/a Amanda Lynnø Antiques; Browser Books, Ltd.; Collectorø Castle; Ruth Falkinburgø Doll Shop; John George; Leonardø Antiques, Inc.; Jacob Winokur, d/b/a Lost Treasures Antiques; Vinnyø Antiques Center.

A motion was made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was unanimously

VOTED: That the licenses for Amanda Orifice and Collectorø Castle are not released contingent upon verification from the Collectorø Office that all taxes have been paid.

Consider the Estimated Temporary Residential Increase for Seasonal Liquor Licenses for ABCC

A motion was made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To sign and forward to the ABCC that the estimated resident population as of July 1, 2011 will be 13,500.

Consider Approval of Regular Session Minutes - November 17, 2010, November 23, 2010, and December 21, 2010

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the Regular Session minutes of November 17, 2010 as submitted.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the Regular Session minutes of November 23, 2010 as submitted.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the Regular Session minutes of December 21, 2010 as submitted.

OLD BUSINESS

Further Proceeding Regarding Rules and Regulations Imposed on Bristol County Stadium, Inc., d/b/a Seekonk Speedway

Mr. Carroll noted that the Board of Selectmen had previously approved the license with extensive conditions. The license holder challenged some of the conditions (Item1B). Counsel has recommended that the Board accept the findings and reasons as presented.

Chief Charron and Chief Jack said they had no problem with the decision.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To remove Item 1B from the Rules and Regulations for the Seekonk Speedway License.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the annual amusement facility license for Bristol County Stadium, Inc., d/b/a as Seekonk Speedway with the stipulation of the Rules and Regulations as just voted.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Findings and Reasons as submitted by Town Counsel.

Consider Recommendation for On-Street Parking at Aitken School

Town Engineer David Cabral advised that he coordinated a study with the School Department and Police Department. He recommended the removal of two parking spots on either side of the northern driveway and two parking spaces at the marked crosswalk on Newman Avenue near the south entrance.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the recommendation of Town Engineer David Cabral regarding the parking situation at Aitken School.

Continued Discussion on Installation of Fiber Optics in the Town of Seekonk

Mr. Russ Hart was in attendance to request that the Board reconsider the RFP and allow Comm Tract to do the installation for the Town. He distributed additional information. He said that in the original RFP only two bidders included the town side in submittal for the schools. Comm Tract is totally committed to the Town and has worked with the negotiating committee to ensure that the installation could be done with the \$132,000 from Comcast.

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Comm Tract has already increased the size of the main trunk line so that the Town could tie in.

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To authorize the Town Administrator to work with Mr. Hart to develop a scope of work for the fiber optic project as submitted.

This item will be on next week's agenda.

Continued Discussion on Fire Department Staffing

Mr. Carroll noted that Chairman Richardson has been in contact with the call firefighters and Chief Jack has talked to them. Some of them came to the meetings to express support of the conversion. Employment opportunities would first be offered to current part time employees subject to all testing requirements.

Mr. Parker asked about the procedure to eliminate the call firefighters.

Mr. Brady felt the union would have to be involved.

Mr. Carroll noted that there is no reluctance from the call firefighters.

A motion was made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To authorize the Town Administrator to take steps to eliminate the call firefighters.

Chairman Richardson stated that he submitted a form to the Town Clerk indicating his son-in-law is a call firefighter.

Job Descriptions

A motion was made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Brady, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the job descriptions, and that each form is initialed and dated January 5, 2011.

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

Mr. Robert McLintock questioned the hiring process for the Fire Department. He felt the Board is deviating from the standard testing process and that the positions should be advertised. He said that state statute requires that jobs are advertised.

Chairman Richardson noted that they would have to go through the agility and aptitude test.

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Mr. Carroll said that a vote was taken at Town Meeting to amend the bylaws so that the recruitment process is the same for all departments. Qualified staff would be considered before advertising. These call firefighters would have to meet the same standards for testing as current career firefighters.

Mr. Parker noted that positions in the Treasurer's Office and Town Clerk's office were filled by transferring employees.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Approval of Sub Contractors for Snow Plowing

Mr. Parker commended Mr. Lamoureux on the condition of the roads during the recent storm.

Mr. Carroll noted that Mr. Lamoureux worked 30 hours straight without sleep.

Mr. Lamoureux said the estimated cost of the previous storm is \$43,000.

He responded to Mr. Parker's question that all except one of the contractors have insurance and they will provide updated information on registrations that expired on December 31, 2010.

Mr. Parker felt that the DPW Commissioner should hire the contractors and it does not need to come before the Board.

Accept Retirement of Human Services Employee

A motion was made by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Parker, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the resignation of Phyllis Corbitt, effective February 1, 2011, with best wishes.

Mr. Carroll advised that he intends to meet with her to see what is expected of that position. He also talked to the Director of Human Services about reorganization of positions and reallocation of salary dollars. He felt the budget could be reduced by a net of approximately \$11,000 by eliminating a part time position.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Parker noted that the Town Administrator's office has an employee from Citizens For Citizens. He inquired about additional help for other departments and the animal shelter.

Mr. Carroll said he would follow up with a letter to Citizens For Citizens.

Mr. Parker asked who would be doing the passports. He said it should be somebody who can work on Wednesday nights.

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Mr. Carroll replied that he understood it would be the Selectmen's Office. He has talked to Ms. Rogers and she is enthusiastic about doing it. All employees of the BOS/TA office will attend training.

This matter will be on next week's agenda.

With respect to the part time person in that office, Mr. Carroll indicated that Mr. Parker and he should interview the second applicant. Several unsuccessful attempts were made to contact the first candidate.

Mr. Brady said he was pleased to see a motion to access damages regarding the claim against M & S Transportation.

Mr. Carroll noted that they can't be located. He intends to talk to town counsel. The probability of recovery is extremely remote.

Mr. Brady said that the court has the ability to seize, equipment, etc.

Chairman Richardson advised that the Taste of the Town is scheduled for February 1, 2011 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Johnson & Wales.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Carroll reported there was an incident over the Christmas holiday where the Veteran's Agent tried to make accommodations for a veteran in a local hotel. The arrangements he made with the hotel were withdrawn.

At the Chairman's request, Mr. Carroll drafted a credit card policy, but there was one in place. The Finance Director has a card and the Town Administrator will have one. All department heads will be notified that they should contact either the Finance Director or Town Administrator if it necessary to use the credit card.

Mr. Carroll advised that agenda packets will go out on Fridays. If a holiday falls on Friday, packets will go out on Thursday. If Board members have lap tops, agenda and materials could be scanned into a web site with restricted access by the Board.

Mr. Carroll advised the owner of property at 78 Wheaton Avenue has an active farm right now and has applied to the state to have an agricultural restriction.

The Pasta Fest is scheduled for Wednesday, January 19th at Seekonk High School at 5 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the fuel and utility fund for Seekonk residents. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children.

The Board of Health will conduct a flu clinic shots on Tuesday, January 25th at 3 p.m. at Town Hall.

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Chairman Richardson inquired about the vacant position in the Board of Health.

Mr. Carroll said that he would meet with the person and it will be on next week's agenda.

Mr. Carroll advised that Mr. Cavaco will attend the Legislative luncheon on January 12th. If Board members have matters to discuss with legislators, they can contact Mr. Cavaco.

Chairman Richardson suggested that Mr. Carroll contact surrounding communities about working together in the future.

At 8:45 p.m. Mr. Brady motioned, seconded by Mr. Parker, to adjourn Open Session and return to Executive Session for collective bargaining and approval of Executive Session minutes of December 21, 2010; not to return to Open Session.

The vote: Mr. Brady ó Aye; Mr. Parker ó Aye; Chairman Richardson ó Aye.

Respectfully submitted,

John Whelan, Clerk

Patricia Gamer, Secretary