

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
FEBRUARY 8, 2012
REGULAR SESSION

Members Present: David Parker, Francis Cavaco, John Whelan, Robert McLintock,
William Rice

Town Administrator: Pamela T. Nolan

Executive Assistant: Anne P. Rogers

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

He advised the meeting was taped via audio and video and asked if anybody in the audience was taping. Mr. George Morse of the Seekonk Star was taping audio.

LICENSE HEARING

Consider Approval of DiParma Italian Tables Change of Manager from Del Marshall to Nadine Snow

Executive Assistant Anne Rogers advised that the paperwork is in order. Ms. Snow was in attendance.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Whelan, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the change of manager from Del Marshall to Nadine Snow at the DiParma Italian Table.

Consider New Class II Motor Vehicle License for H and D, Inc., located at 1075 Newman Avenue, Ahmed Elhennawi, Manager

A motion was made by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. Cavaco, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the new Class II motor vehicle license for H and D, Inc. located at 1075 Newman Avenue (Ahmed Elhennawi, Manager), with the stipulation that there be no more than six vehicles on the property.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Consider Approval of Work Session Minutes for January 12, 2012

A motion was made by Mr. Rice, seconded by Mr. McLintock, and it was

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Abstention; To accept the minutes of January 12, 2012.

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The vote: Mr. Rice – Aye; Mr. McLintock – Aye; Mr. Cavaco – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye; Mr. Whelan – Abstained.

Consider Approval of Gifts, Both Monetary and Tangible, Donated by Save A Pet Society, Inc. to Animal Shelter

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Whelan, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To authorize the Animal Shelter to accept gifts, both monetary and tangible, donated by Save A Pet.

Mr. Cavaco thanked Mrs. Nolan and Chairman Parker for their donation to the shelter following a bet on the Patriots/Giants Super Bowl game.

Sign Warrant for Presidential Primary Posting for Town Clerk

Document signed by Board members.

Consider Approval of New Mutual Cooperative Agreement through Greater Attleboro HOME Consortium

Mrs. Nolan advised that this is an annual agreement with surrounding communities (Taunton, Attleboro, Berkley, Carver, Dighton, Easton, Lakeville, Mansfield, Middleborough, Norton, North Attleboro, Plainville, Raynham and Seekonk) for eligibility to receive HUD funds under the National Affordable Housing Act.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Whelan, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Mutual Cooperative Agreement through the Greater Attleboro HOME Consortium.

Consider Approval of Tow Contract Renewal for the Town

Mrs. Nolan advised that she updated the contract. There are two in the north and two in the south ends of Towns. Towing does not have to be bid. She obtained the necessary paperwork. It requires the signature of all Board members.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Whelan, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the towing contract as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Central Avenue Project

Town Engineer David Cabral advised that the traffic lights are working and sidewalks installed on the west side from Bakers Corner to Attleboro. Work is completed until the spring. National Grid is moving the poles. The project is ahead of schedule and the contractor should be out of there by July 1, 2012.

Central Avenue Update on Report of Changes Including Approval of Extra Work Orders #6-13

Mr. Cabral explained that Report 6 is a credit back to the Town of \$22,156.68 for pavement milling that did not occur. Report 7 is a credit of \$10,150 for catch basins. Report 8 is an additional charge for manholes (\$14,400). Report 9 is for additional gutter inlets (\$6,600). Report 10, \$3,550 for additional drain work. Report 11 for 10 inch ductile iron pipe at a cost of \$17,849.40. Report 12, a credit of \$6,607.21 for 15 inch reinforced concrete pipe. Report 13, electric service riser relocation, an additional \$40,668.31. This item was not included originally. There is still a net balance of \$75,104 in the contingency fund.

Mr. Cabral said the project is well within the budget.

Mr. McLintock and Mr. Cavaco had several questions that they will discuss with the resident engineer.

A motion was made by Mr. McLintock, seconded by Mr. Cavaco, and it was

VOTED: 3 Ayes; 2 Nays; To postpone discussion until next week's meeting.

The vote: Mr. McLintock – Aye; Mr. Cavaco – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye; Mr. Rice – Nay; Mr. Whelan – Nay.

Central Avenue Traffic Control Agreement Including Acceptance and Approval

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. Rice, and it was

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Nay; To accept and approve the Central Avenue Traffic Control Agreement.

The vote: Mr. Cavaco – Aye; Mr. Rice – Aye; Mr. Whelan – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye; Mr. McLintock – Nay.

Mr. McLintock expressed dissatisfaction with the Central Avenue intersection. He felt the Town should not be responsible for that intersection at this time.

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Mr. Cabral said that Agreement is for the final acceptance of the project when the work is complete as shown on the plan.

Mr. McLintock felt it is a mistake.

Consider Increase of Budget for Construction Engineering for Central Avenue Project

Mr. Cabral advised there will not be enough money in the budget for construction engineering services. A lot of it had to do with the pavement redesign that occurred early and which amounted to approximately \$4,100. There are five properties that had some work (\$885). The shortfall is \$5,000. He requested Board approve. This is Chapter 90 money.

Mr. Cabral noted that the engineer had modified the plan at no cost. Mr. Cavaco and Mr. McLintock were aware of this.

Mr. Cavaco wanted to take it under advisement until the meeting with the resident engineer.

Mr. McLintock wanted to pay the engineer (GPI) the \$5,000 with thanks for all the money they have saved the Town on this project. However, he concurred with Mr. Cavaco to wait until discussion with the resident engineer.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. McLintock, and it was

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Nay; To postpone consideration of the budget increase for construction engineering until the next meeting.

The vote: Mr. Cavaco – Aye; Mr. McLintock – Aye; Mr. Whelan – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye; Mr. Rice – Nay.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss, Consider, Vote to Accept Changes to M.G.L. Chapter 32B, Sections 21-23

Due to a conflict of interest, Chairman Parker turned the meeting over to Vice Chairman Cavaco and Mrs. Nolan.

Mrs. Nolan advised that Treasurer Chris DeFontes, Finance Director Bruce Alexander and Ginger Hastings from Groups Benefit Strategies were in attendance.

She said the firefighters union indicated they were not properly notified by certified mail. Therefore, the vote will have to be taken next week.

Ms. Hastings stated that the legislature has given an opportunity to be able to change the health plan without collective bargaining. Section 21 is the process, Section 22 is plan design changes up to a benchmark and Section 23 is transferring subscribers to the GIC.

Mrs. Nolan advised that this was addressed at the MMA Convention a few weeks ago.

The unions would like the Town to adopt a plan that will save money but not go to the GIC. Employee contributions will go down. Twenty-five percent of the savings in the first year will go back to employees. The plan could go into effect on July 1, 2012 and would significantly reduce the cost of health insurance.

Mrs. Nolan said that there would be no change in doctors.

Mr. McLintock commended Mrs. Nolan for setting this up with employees.

Mrs. Nolan said “thank you” but it is required.

A motion was made by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Mr. McLintock, and it was

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Abstention; To postpone action until the next meeting.

The vote: Mr. Whelan – Aye; Mr. McLintock – Aye; Mr. Cavaco – Aye; Mr. Rice – Aye; Chairman Parker – Abstained.

Consider Acceptance of Pat Paola as DPW Snow Plow Vendor

A motion was made by Mr. Rice, seconded by Mr. Whelan, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Pat Paola as DPW snow plow vendor.

Set Date for Annual Town Meeting per Category 1 of the Town By-Laws

A motion was made by Mr. Rice, seconded by Mr. Cavaco, and it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Annual Town Meeting will be held on Monday, June 25, 2012.

Review Budget and Discuss Departments to Review at Future Meetings

Mrs. Nolan noted that the Animal Shelter and Human Services may have to consider a possible move into new buildings.

She will set up Tuesday work sessions for budget discussions with department heads. Finance Director Bruce Alexander will also attend.

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Discussion and Vote to Send Exit Interview Letters to Former Call Firefighters Asking Reasons Why They Left

A motion was made by Mr. McLintock, seconded by Mr. Whelan, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To draft an exit interview letter to send to call firefighters.

Mr. McLintock and Mr. Rice felt the letter should be sent to all employees who leave.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Nolan advised a rabies clinic would be held on Saturday, March 10, 2012, at DPW from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Accounts Payable Warrant

Mr. Cavaco referred to a bill from GPI for work on Rte.152 - Tony's Gas Station renovations. He questioned why DPW would submit a bill in February 2012 that is dated November 14, 2011. The amounts are \$5,610.75 and \$871.87. He also questioned why the Town did not contact the owner to recoup the money.

Mr. Rice said the Board had voted on making those changes. These items are not the same.

A motion was made by Mr. Cavaco, seconded by Mr. McLintock, and it was

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Nay; To hold the bill from GPI for further information as to why a bill dated November 14, 2011 was submitted in February 2012.

The vote: Mr. Cavaco – Aye; Mr. McLintock – Aye; Mr. Whelan – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye; Mr. Rice - Nay.

Discussion on Subcontractor Bills

Mr. Cavaco stated that the bills to pay subcontractors for snow plowing were not received by the Finance Department until Wednesday after 10 a.m. The deadline is Friday at noon. He said that Mr. Rice had asked the Finance Department secretary why Mr. Cavaco was holding up payments. Mr. Cavaco felt he is being accused of doing something he had nothing to do with. He wanted to know who called Mr. Rice to complain.

Mrs. Nolan noted that any problems should be addressed to her.

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Chairman Parker announced that there will be free activities at the YMCA in conjunction with the Lions Club from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. Please bring a canned item for the food pantry.

There are a few tickets left for the Celtics game on March 4th. Buses will leave Town Hall at 10 a.m. The Seekonk Police Honor Guard will present the colors and Seekonk children will be allowed to greet the players.

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

Mr. Blanchard suggested the exit survey should be for all employees who leave.

He announced that he is a candidate for Board of Selectmen. He will sponsor a candidates' night at the end of the month.

Mr. Gary Sagar also announced that he is a candidate for the Board.

He would like to talk to the Town Clerk about the mechanics of the election. He felt he could do that the night ballot positions are drawn.

Mr. Cavaco said he has information about how to contact the owner of M & S Transportation. This company cost the Town from \$162,000 to \$175,000.

He asked about the town hall sign at the entrance to Peck Street.

Mrs. Nolan said she found out the Town does not own the land. She is trying to reach an agreement with the owner (Jenkins family). Mrs. Perkins wants time to think about it.

Chairman Parker noted the Town paid \$1,100 to get the sign done.

Mr. Cavaco inquired about putting a stop sign at Coleman Street.

He suggested the Board schedule a six-month evaluation of the Town Administrator.

It will be scheduled during a work session.

Mr. Cavaco and Mr. McLintock talked about the Master Plan questionnaire – the question about an alternative to open town meeting style of government and the different types of government. They felt it was political.

Mr. Rice said it was created by the Planning Board for its own information.

Chairman Parker advised Executive Session was not necessary due to a resignation.

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A motion was made by Mr. Rice, seconded by Mr. Cavaco, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To dissolve at 9 p.m.

The vote: Mr. Rice – Aye; Mr. Cavaco – Aye; Mr. McLintock – Aye; Mr. Whelan – Aye;
Chairman Parker – Aye.

Respectfully submitted,

John Whelan, Clerk

Patricia Gamer, Secretary