

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**NOVEMBER 14, 2012**  
**REGULAR SESSION**

Members Present: Francis Cavaco, Gary S. Sagar, David Parker, Nelson Almeida  
Absent: Robert McLintock

Finance Director: Bruce Alexander

Town Counsel Jeffrey Blake was in attendance.

Chairman Cavaco called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence. In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 20, he stated that anybody taping the meeting must notify the Chair. All Board of Selectmen meetings are taped via audio and video and televised on TV 9.

He noted that Mrs. Nolan is out of town and Mr. Alexander is in attendance.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR LICENSE VIOLATION**

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

**VOTED:** To open the hearing at 6:01 p.m.

**To Hear a Violation Against a Liquor License Issued to 822 Fall River Avenue Leasing Corp., Inc., d/b/a Cross Roads Convenience, Located at 822 Fall River Avenue, Seekonk, MA 02771, Demetrios E. Haseotos, Manager, for Selling Alcohol to a Minor**

**Consider Modification, Suspension, Revocation or Cancellation of Liquor License for 822 Fall River Leasing Corp., Inc. d/b/a Cross Roads Convenience**

Atty. Michael Levison, representing 822 Fall River Avenue Leasing Corp., stated that the establishment does not dispute the facts in the police report and acknowledge that there was an underage sale. It was the first offense and corrective action has been taken. The employee was terminated. A memorandum was issued to all employees regarding verification of IDs. They have posted it on all registers. There is a zero tolerance policy at this location. They are set up for additional training. They would be willing to take a five-day suspension.

Police Capt. Craig Mace introduced Patrolman Christopher Kelly, who read the report into the record.

Capt. Mace said this is still a criminal matter. The clerk is 22 years old and the purchaser is 19 years old.

Ms. Rogers indicated this is a seasonal license approved by the ABCC on April 19, 2012.

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Chairman Cavaco commended the establishment for firing the employee. However, this cannot be tolerated.

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There was discussion about an establishment in the north end that had two 30 day suspensions.

Atty. Blake noted that, in that case, it was a lack of disregard of what was going on.

Capt. Mace recommended the Board do the same as has been done in the past, and he respectfully referred to the Board.

The Public Hearing closed at 6:18 p.m.

Mr. Parker commended the police department and Officer Kelly for his prompt reaction in this case.

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

**VOTED:** To issue a five day suspension to 822 Fall River Avenue Leasing Corp., d/b/a Cross Roads Convenience from November 19 through November 24, 2012. All alcohol in the establishment must be removed from the building. They must provide training of all employees, which they indicated they had. Such training will be required in order to get the license renewed.

Atty. Levison advised the entire staff will be trained on November 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman Cavaco noted that documentation about training must be submitted to the Board or the establishment would be open for further suspension within 7 days or additional penalties

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Discussion with Attorney Steven Navega to Remove (Town) Stipulation for 500 Contiguous Square Foot Area for Alcohol Display at Mormax Corporation in BJs Wholesale Club**

Atty. Steven Navega advised that 45 BJs employees were trained and TIP certified.

At an August 8, 2012 public hearing, he represented BJs and requested 500 sq. ft. but actually showed a floor plan in detailed area that was highlighted at 1,590 sq. ft. It was a miscalculation of the area. It is the same area. The 1,590 sq. ft. includes the walking area.

ABCC has approved the license.

Mr. Peter Hoffman, Vice President of Development for BJs emphasized that the 743 sq. ft. is the three display racks. He wanted to have it clearly understood before alcohol is brought into the building.

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

**VOTED:** To increase the selling area at BJs to 743 sq. ft.

**UPDATE WITH NATIONAL GRID AND TOWN'S EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TEAM ON HURRICANE SANDY**

Mr. Joseph Carroll, Director of Community and Customers for National Grid in Massachusetts, Mike McCallum, Director of Emergency Planning, and Branch Directors Mary Fuller and Jeff Merritt were in attendance.

Mr. Carroll thanked Chief Jack. They met this afternoon and talked about better communication. He acknowledged that there was some confusion on the larger outages.

He thanked for the Board and town employees for their professionalism during the storm.

Mr. McCallum stated that planning started days before the storm (Hurricane Sandy). They monitor and communicate the forecast and make sure they have the proper staffing levels – internal and external resources. It is difficult to get external resources. They were aggressive the week before the storm reaching out to other utilities and mutual aid assistance and contractors throughout the country. They operated at a system level ICS. They had a community liaison whose primary responsibility was to set priorities and communicate back and deploy resources and communicate with communities.

Mr. Merritt explained that they prepare for liability during a storm. Day to day operation is about tree trimming and checking the lines. They trimmed about 30 miles of circuit throughout Seekonk this year and will do the same for next year.

They patrol stations and sub-stations to make sure they are in the proper condition. Seven days prior to the storm, they look at circuits in town and anything found immediately gets repaired.

They establish shifts and figure out where to deploy crews. They had 45 external crews for the entire area. It is all about safety.

He assured that issues raised by Chief Jack have to be corrected.

Chief Jack said that initially it was somewhat frustrating. Communication was an issue. He was not getting accurate information. He said a lot was accomplished in the meeting this afternoon. He said the liaison was extremely helpful.

Mr. Parker was pleased that local officials have resolved problems with National Grid. He appreciated the interest of National Grid in a small town like Seekonk.

Mr. Almeida agreed. He thanked DPW and National Grid for responding to concerns and for a good resolution.

Mr. Sagar, a resident of the north end, said that residents feel that service is lacking in that part of town. He asked about sharing crews with Rhode Island.

Mr. Merritt said they plan ahead but they cannot decide how to move crews until the storm actually hits. This was such a wide event; it was difficult to move crews. He felt National Grid had a decent plan.

Mr. Sagar questioned why crews actually came from South Carolina and Georgia. He felt there could have been a better allocation of resources.

He said the Board would invite 24 communities to attend a critique of the recent storm on November 27, 2012. National Grid president does not want to participate but would rather meet one on one with each community. He felt it could be postponed until the beginning of 2013.

Mr. Sagar commended the Police and Fire Departments and DPW. He felt the liaison did a good job but at times did not know what was going on. He noted that National Grid reached out to Chief Jack today.

He asked if the age of the infrastructure has an impact on these problems.

Mr. Merritt said they make sure all equipment is in good shape.

Chairman Cavaco thanked Seekonk's Emergency Management team.

He heard that residents have commented that the Board did not respond to complaints about National Grid. He emphasized that this Board is working with National Grid and will continue to work with all utilities in town.

The Chairman asked if Mrs. Allen or Mr. Kinniburgh had any comments.

Chairman Cavaco thanked the National Grid representatives for attending.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Discuss Shared Services with School Personnel**

Tabled until November 28 at the request of School Committee chairman.

**Discussion with Human Services Director on Bingo License (Gambling)**

Tabled until November 28.

**Consider Acceptance, or Not, of FY2013 Local Cultural Council Funds from Massachusetts Cultural Council**

Chairman Cavaco noted that a few weeks ago he voiced his opinion and will be meeting with legislators to see if this can be changed. Seekonk sells a lot of lottery tickets.

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

**VOTED:** To accept the \$3,870 grant and authorize the Town Administrator to execute the documents.

**Review Administrative Policies 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21**

Tabled until November 28,

**Discussion on Zero Base Budget for FY 2014**

Tabled until November 28, 2012.

**Discussion on Support Letter for SRPEDD for e-permits in Health and Building Departments**

Mr. Alexander reported this application is for phase 2 of the grant the Fire Department was successful in obtaining last year to implement electronic permitting.

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

**VOTED:** To support the grant application for e-permits in the Health and Building Departments.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Discuss Other Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chairman 48 Hours Before the Meeting**

None.

## **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

None.

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

### **Accounts Payable Warrant**

Chairman Cavaco noted that the Board had previously agreed that department heads should not sign their own requests for reimbursement. In this case, a department head is looking for a clothing reimbursement. It should be signed by the Town Administrator or Finance Director. Also, the Board requires an original receipt for reimbursements.

Mr. Alexander said he would take care of it.

Mr. Parker questioned why the Town Administrator argued for support of the Banna Station article at Town Meeting. The Board had voted against the \$500,000 from free cash.

Mr. Sagar said he asked for her comments since she submitted the article on behalf of the Banna Fire Station Committee.

Mr. Parker asked if the Town had enough snow plows ready to go. He asked about the senior center.

Mr. Sagar said the chairman of the senior center building committee has been in the hospitalized and a few items were put on hold. The Town Administrator has met with companies regarding the oversight.

Mr. Parker felt the Board should schedule a special town meeting for February and the vote in April on the debt exclusion. This will be an agenda item for the November 28, 2012 meeting.

He mentioned a historical presentation at the library on Tuesday, November 27 at 6:30 p.m. This is the last event for the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The owners of Jacobs Hill Inn and the Grist Mill will be in attendance.

Mr. Almeida announced that Seekonk Parks and Recreation has started an arts and crafts program on Saturdays. at the Hurley Middle School from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Mr. Sagar said that several people have told him they were upset with the vote at Town Meeting on the Banna Station. However, some of them did not attend the meeting to support it.

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Chairman Cavaco announced the fundraiser scheduled for Saturday, November 17, 2012, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Bone yard to benefit the Veterans Memorial Garden. The groundbreaking ceremonies and Veterans Day observance will be held at 10 a.m.

He thanked all those who bought tickets.

He noted that Mr. Parker would be making a presentation to the School Department at the November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Parker said he is prepared to pay on the bet with the Chairman.

Board members extended best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving.

Chairman Cavaco and Mr. Almeida will be deliver meals. Mr. Parker is available if needed. Mr. Almeida suggested Board members sign up for bell ringing for the Salvation Army to benefit Human Services.

### **COMMUNITY SPEAKS**

None.

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

**VOTED:** To adjourn at 7:24 p.m.

The vote: Mr. Parker – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Mr. Sagar – Aye; Chairman Cavaco – Aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary S. Sagar, Clerk

Patricia Gamer, Secretary