

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MAY 1, 2013
REGULAR SESSION

Members Present: Nelson Almeida, Gary Sagar, Michael Brady,
Robert McLintock, David Parker

Town Administrator: Pamela T. Nolan

Executive Assistant: Anne P. Rogers

Chairman Almeida 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, Chairman Almeida advised that persons taping the meeting must notify the Chair.

Jonathan Friedman of The Patch advised he was taping audio.

Chairman Almeida welcomed Mr. Parker back.

Mr. Parker said it was good to be back. The Seekonk Rescue gave him a slim chance. Thanks to everybody's prayers he got through it.

Recognition of Rescue Personnel on Scene April 16, 2013 Motorcycle Accident on Pine Street

Fire Capt. Michael Healy advised that on the morning of April 16, 2013 the Police and Fire Departments responded to a very serious motorcycle accident on Pine Street. The first arriving police officer, James McDonald, knew it was a very serious situation and immediately started first aid. Other responders included: Lt. Michael Bourque, Adam Dalessio, Shaun Whalen, and Gary Bourque. The patient was transported to Hasbro Childrens Hospital. Later in the day, the ER doctors and the trauma management coordinator of Rhode Island Hospital commended those firefighters. Capt. Healy congratulated them for a job well done.

Police Chief Craig Mace said it was a dire situation. Lynda Lyons was on dispatch. Officer McDonald was the first to arrive. He was presented with a situation where the 14 year old was not breathing. He established an airway and maintained care of his head and spine until rescue arrived. Capt. Frank John, Officer Scott Gaucher, Officer Greg Casper, Det. Charles Mello, and Det. Nickolas Peterson responded. The teen did not have identification on him. The detectives were able to find out where he lived and identified him.

Chief Mace congratulated all of them. They were all in attendance.

Fire Chief Alan Jack added his congratulations.

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Mr. Brady said he had asked for this to be on the agenda. He noted that so often there is criticism about the response time. They respond and do their job. Without the men and women standing here, we would not be able to function as a community, state or country.

MEDAL AWARDS CEREMONY

Presentation by Chief Mace for the Seekonk Police Department Public Service Award to Providence Police Officer Daniel Sirignano for Life-Saving Actions at Accident Scene from October 21, 2012

Chief Mace noted there was a contingent from the Providence Police Department.

He read a letter written by former Chief Ronald Charron in recognition of Officer Sirignano's life saving actions at a crash scene in Seekonk on October 21, 2012.

Chief Mace presented the award to Officer Sirignano. He was off duty when he came upon the accident.

Officer Sirignano said he did what any other officer would do.

Presentation by Chief Mace for the Meritorious Conduct Medal to Seekonk Police Officer Andrew Amaral for Making a Significant Contribution Toward the Betterment of the Seekonk Police Department

Chief Mace advised that Officer Amaral implemented and maintained the one call now system. The vote of the Awards Committee was unanimous. He presented the medal to Officer Amaral.

LICENSE HEARING

Consider New Class II Motor Vehicle Dealer License for State Line Auto, Located at 1683 Fall River Avenue, Michael C. Ferreira, Owner

Atty. Stephen Navaga represented Mr. Ferreira.

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

VOTED: To approve the new class II motor vehicle dealer license for State Line Auto, 1683 Fall River Avenue, subject to favorable business certificate for a 4 car display.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Animal Shelter Expansion with Patricia Cloutier

Mrs. Cloutier said she was asked to appear here tonight. She is here as Chairperson of the Building Committee (nothing to do with Save A Pet).

She advised that the plans for phase 1 have been completed and given to Mrs. Nolan.

Mrs. Nolan said she had not distributed the plans because they were incomplete.

Mrs. Cloutier stated that they were told in order to go out for a RFP they had to have mechanical, electrical, and plumbing. They have been working with engineers. They came before the Board and asked for a specific amount of money for the structural plans. The engineers came back with estimates that were too high. They feel the percentages should stay around 10% and the building is estimated at between \$200,000 and \$250,000. They are not asking for extra money. They want access to another \$15,000. They feel the budget is the same as it was in the beginning. They anticipate going forward by the fall.

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

VOTED: To approve the \$15,000 from the appropriation for the animal shelter.

Mrs. Cloutier asked why the animal shelter was excluded from the MCIC report.

Mrs. Nolan said she would look into it.

Mrs. Cloutier felt the new roof should not come out of the money allocated. They got a quote for a new roof of \$20,000.

She noted that DPW did a lot of the work that needed to be done at the animal shelter.

Mr. Parker suggested that Mrs. Cloutier address her questions to the MCIC through the Town Administrator.

Mrs. Nolan said Ms. Walsh, Chairperson of the MCIC, indicated the report is available on the website.

Mr. Brady said some of the estimates in that report are very high.

Update on Veterans' Memorial Park with Donald Kinniburgh

Mr. Kinniburgh gave an update on the proposed park on property adjacent to the library. The committee met with the Park Committee and the Library Board of Trustees. They are working

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with Zoning. He described the architect drawing. The names of every veteran from Seekonk will be included. The war memorials at Town Hall will be moved to the park.

He spoke to Michael Durkay of the Library Board of Trustees. They will draw up a letter that "The Meadows" will always be the home for the park.

Mr. Sagar asked about moving the Viet Nam memorial.

Mr. Kinniburgh said he will ask them if they want to move it.

Mr. Sagar questioned the parking issues.

Mr. Kinniburgh said it was discussed with the Trustees. It would only be seven spaces. The Library Trustees unanimously said they could use that property and so did the Park Committee.

Mr. Sagar said it is a Planning Board issue. There needs to be discussion on that piece of property.

Mr. Kinniburgh said they are waiting for the special permit.

Mr. McLintock said he was very moved by the drawing. He hoped it would happen.

Mr. Kinniburgh assured the Board that he would provide updates every month or so.

Mr. McLintock said this is the least they can do for those who served and gave their lives for us.

Update on Memorial Day Parade with David Vera

Mr. Viera said the parade will be on Saturday, May 25, stepping off at 10 a.m. from the Seekonk High School. There are a number of outside agencies participating this year. They are adding the bicycle brigade for elementary school children. Children are asked to decorate their bikes and will be judged by Kiwanis Club members. Trophies will be given for first, second, and third place. The American Legion will provide hot dogs after the parade.

The Veteran's Agent will select a grand marshal.

Mr. Sagar suggested a reverse 911 call the night before the parade. The information will also be on the website.

Consider How to Resolve Violations at Pleasant Street

Human Services Director Bernadette Huck provided an update.

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She has a call into Building Commissioner Mary McNeil for approval to move two desks from one side to the other side of the room. There is nothing on the walls.

The School Department has been cooperative about the stair lift. They will be getting a remote control for that. She would like to put a buzzer at the bottom of the stairs.

She might be able to buy laptops.

Chairman Almeida requested that she provide a further update on May 8th.

Mr. Sagar suggested that Mrs. McNeil do a follow up inspection prior to that date.

Continued Discussion and Vote to Approve or not the Temporary Move of Human Services to Knights of Columbus Hall Located at 582 Arcade Avenue

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

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Nay; To rescind the previous vote to move the seniors to 582 Arcade Avenue.

The vote: Mr. Parker – Aye; Mr. Brady – Aye; Mr. McLintock – Aye; Chairman Almeida – Aye; Mr. Sagar – Nay.

Mr. Sagar noted that no matter how much work is done in that building it cannot correct some of the problems. He is opposed to keeping the seniors there.

Consider and Potentially Sign Contract with Misplace for the Lease of a Modular Unit for Use as a Temporary Human Services Office in Conjunction with the Temporary Relocation of the Senior Center

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

VOTED: To indefinitely postpone the lease of a modular unit for use as a temporary Human Services Office /senior center.

COMMUNITY SPEAKS (First Session)

Mr. David Saad, 129 West River Street, presented a warrant article that addresses the authority of the Board of Selectmen in Article 6 of the Home Rule Charter. These amendments would restore authority back to the Board of Selectmen to be part of negotiations. The other has to do with appointees. The Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen could make recommendations on appointments to boards and commissions.

Mr. Parker had a problem with the wording. It can be amended on town meeting floor.

NEW BUSINESS

Interview William Rice for SRPEDD Commission

Vote to Appoint or not William Rice as Board of Selectmen SRPEDD Representative for a One-Year Term to Expire May 31, 2014

Mrs. Nolan advised that she had interviewed Mr. Rice. She recommended the appointment.

Mr. Rice stated that the SRPEDD representative serves as liaison between the Board of Selectmen and SRPEDD on regional issues.

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

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Nay; To appoint Mr. Rice as the SRPEDD representative.

The vote: Mr. Sagar – Aye; Mr. Parker – Aye; Mr. Brady – Aye; Chairman Almeida – Aye; Mr. McLintock – Nay.

Prior to the vote, Mr. McLintock expressed concern with Mr. Rice. He served on the Planning Board, Community Preservation and Board of Selectmen and each time he resigned. He felt that someone who walks away from those important boards should not be put on SRPEDD.

Mr. McLintock felt that SRPEDD has never been given the attention it should be given.

Chairman Almeida felt there are reasons why people have to drop out. This candidate is interested. He noted that board members had their packets over the weekend and could have talked to Mr. Rice.

Mr. McLintock asked Mrs. Nolan why she recommended Mr. Rice.

She replied that she recognizes the passion he has for this kind of work.

Mr. Sagar noted that Mr. Rice resigned from the Board of Selectmen for health reasons. The demands would be much less; just once a month.

Mr. Brady stated that the previous representative provided good information and resources. He agreed with Mr. Sagar to give Mr. Rice another chance.

Mr. Parker said that Mr. Rice fits into this position. He is interested and has a passion for it.

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Consider Approval and Sign or Not Contract with Flansburgh Associates as Architects of Senior Center Project

Mr. Richard Pomeroy and Jorge Cruz were in attendance.

Mrs. Nolan advised that the addendum represents the changes. This is a standard AIA architect's document.

Mr. Cruz advised that his attorney and Kopelman & Paige negotiated the language and came to the final language in the addendum.

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

VOTED: To approve the contract with Flansburgh Associates as architects for the senior center project and authorize the Town Administrator to sign.

Mr. Sagar felt it should be redone to get a clean document. However, he withdrew his objection based on the fact it is copywrited.

Discussion on Expansion of Emergency Generator System at Public Safety Complex to Town Hall, Animal Shelter and new Senior Center

Mr. Brady felt they could get commercial generators for each building at about \$25,000 to \$30,000 each and save \$261,000.

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

VOTED: To indefinitely postpone discussion on the generator system at the Public Safety complex.

Consider to Support or not the Request from the Town of Dudley in Allowing the Conversation about the Unsustainable Chapter 70 Formula to Begin on Beacon Hill

Mr. McLintock felt that there should be more information and he would like hear from the School Committee. Chapter 70 is the main source of state funding for the schools. Last year the Town started to get paid the \$1.2M going back to 2001.

Mr. Parker motioned, seconded by Mr. McLintock, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To indefinitely postpone the request from the Town of Dudley re: Chapter 70 formula and forward to the School Committee for more information.

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Discussion to Approve and Sign or not the Contract with Briggs Mechanical, Inc. for Town Hall HVAC Maintenance

Chairman Almeida said that other companies give a break on hourly rates and Briggs does not.

DPW Superintendent Robert Lamoureux explained that Briggs currently works for the Town taking care of the HVAC system at the library. This is not for call back; it is just for maintenance.

Board members talked about the possibility of consolidating the services for all buildings.

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

VOTED: To approve the contract with Briggs Mechanical, Inc. for Town Hall HVAC maintenance and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Discussion with DPW Superintendent on the Need for Temporary Help at DPW and Vote to Approve or not

Mr. Lamoureux noted this is a critical time for DPW. An employee is out on workers compensation and it could be up to a year.

Mr. Brady asked if the Town is reimbursed when an employee is out on long term workers compensation.

Mrs. Nolan would check with Mr. Alexander.

Mr. Lamoureux said the Town is not paying the employee.

Mrs. Nolan suggested two 19 hour seasonal employees. She suggested they review the applications recently submitted when the full time worker was hired.

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

VOTED: To authorize the Town Administrator and DPW Superintendent to hire two part time employees.

Consider Approval and Sign or not Contract for IT Scheduled Services with MX Consultant Services, Inc.

Mrs. Nolan recommended the Board approve this. It would take the Finance Director out of the computer business.

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The Police Department is included. A person from MX will work two days a week from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

This contract is until June 30, 2013; however, it is budgeted for the next fiscal year.

Chief Mace said that officers have done it. It takes away from police duties.

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

VOTED: To approve the contract with MX for IT services and authorize the Town Administrator to sign.

Mr. Brady felt this could also be consolidated with other departments to get a better price.

Consider Approval of Regular Session Minutes for February 27, 2013 and April 10, 2013

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

VOTED: To accept the regular session minutes of February 27, 2013 and April 10, 2013.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

None.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Nolan advised that per Mr. Brady's request she checked with the School Department about possible space for the Recreation Director. The Superintendent of Schools replied that there is little room in school buildings. She invited the Board to tour the schools.

Mrs. Nolan said that she is pursuing another town building right now

She reported the outcome of the promotional exam for fire lieutenant.

1. William George, Jr.
2. Shaun Whalen
3. Joseph Gibbons
4. Amy Berube
5. Robert Doar

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She noted that it is very encouraging to see and hear the kind of talent coming up through the ranks.

She had a press release from Columbia Gas re: rate increase. There will be a public hearing.

Mr. Sagar requested that Mrs. Nolan send a letter to Mr. Bryant regarding the status of the computerized program.

Mr. McLintock said there are a lot of road openings for gas being installed. It looks like they are only putting a 1¼" in. when they are sealing it.

Mrs. Nolan will talk to Mr. Lamoureux.

She has financial balance sheets from Comcast for review in her office.

Board members requested copies.

Mr. McLintock asked how Cable 9 was allowed to create a 501C without Board approval.

Mr. Parker said their purchases would be tax exempt. He noted that 5% of cable bills goes to Cable 9. There is a Board that supervises.

Mr. Sager noted that Cable 9 is in the process of buying a building.

Mrs. Nolan read a letter of appreciation from Mr. Victor Szala, 30 Sherwood Drive, for Mr. Lamoureux's prompt attention to a problem on that street. Also, a gentleman called her office to commend Mr. Lamoureux on another situation.

Chairman Almeida inquired about Chief Jack's condition.

Mrs. Nolan said he has been coming to work on a part time basis. He will be back full time on May 13th.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. McClintock suggested that the Board make sure the 152 project is totally complete before signing off.

Mr. Brady expressed his appreciation for the cards, flowers, condolences on the passing of his mother.

Mr. Sagar asked Mrs. Nolan to contact Verizon about the poles.

Mrs. Nolan said that Mr. Lamoureux and Mr. Cabral are preparing a list.

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Mr. Sagar said he attended a meeting with the architect for the Banna Fire Station. They will do additional drawings with the sprinkler system. Hopefully, there will be a groundbreaking soon.

Mr. Parker requested an update on vacant town buildings.

Mrs. Nolan said she has a report from RI Analytical.

Mr. Parker said the Town Hall sign is at the DPW garage. He would be willing to talk to the people at Leonard's Antiques or the dentist on the other corner to put the sign back at the entrance to Peck Street. Board members agreed.

Mrs. Nolan suggested that he talk to the Building Commissioner.

Mr. Parker expressed concern about the over \$420,000 that could be lost due to the closing of certain restaurants in town. He suggested the Finance Director take another look at estimated revenue.

Mrs. Nolan said other restaurants are interested in coming into Seekonk.

Mr. Sagar asked for an update on the traffic light for the entrance to the Public Safety Complex.

Mrs. Nolan said that \$50,000 was allocated. Mr. Cavaco was working with local representatives.

Chairman Almeida talked about allowing residents to advertise a yard sale. If the sign is not removed following the sale, a fine would be imposed.

Mr. Parker said that residents who get a yard sale permit are allowed to put a sign up on their own property for 30 days. They are not allowed to put signs off site.

He said the Planning Board has to rewrite the zoning bylaw.

Mr. Sagar said the Planning Board hired a consultant to rewrite the bylaws.

COMMUNITY SPEAKS (Second Session)

Mr. Al Silva welcomed Mr. Parker back. He extended condolences to Mr. Brady.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:23 p.m. Mr. Parker motioned, seconded by Mr. Sagar, to go into Executive Session for collective bargaining strategy with respect to Fire Union, consider approval of executive session minutes of February 27, 2013 and April 10, 2013 and approval of corrected copy of executive session minutes of February 6, 2013.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Brady, Clerk

Patricia Gamer, Secretary