

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**FEBRUARY 4, 2015**  
**REGULAR SESSION**

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

Absent: David Andrade

Town Administrator: Shawn E. Cadime

Executive Assistant: Anne P. Rogers

Chairman Parker opened the meeting at 6 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed for Karen McHugh, Assistant Town Clerk, who was killed by a hit and run driver on Friday night.

Chief Mace advised the investigation is ongoing. It appears it was a dark grey vehicle that probably has damage to the right side. He expressed his appreciation to Mr. Cadime, Chairman Parker, and the media who attended the press conference.

Mr. Cadime provided details for the wake and funeral.

**BOARD AND COMMITTEE OPENINGS UPDATE**

Mr. Sagar stated that volunteers are needed on the Capital Improvement Committee, Conservation Commission, Cultural Council, Economic Development Committee, Energy Committee, Historical Commission, Property Tax Work-Off Committee, and Zoning Board of Appeals. Snow plow vendors and replacement drivers with CDL are needed.

**PUBLIC HEARING NEW ALL ALCOHOL LICENSE**

**Plaza Azteca Seekonk, Inc., 353 Highland Avenue, Hector Angel, Manager**

Chairman Parker opened the hearing at 6:12 P.M.

Mr. Angel was in attendance.

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

**VOTED:** To close the public hearing at 6:13 p.m.

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

**VOTED:** To approve the all alcohol license for Plaza Azteca Seekonk, Inc. located at 353 Highland Avenue.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Vote to Accept a Gift – Vested Interest in K9s, and Capeway Veterinary Hospital has Donated a \$950 Ballistic Vest to the Town for K9 Kilo**

Chief Mace recognized Lt. Dyson who spearheaded the application process and Patrolman Laprade for working on this.

Mr. Cadime recommended acceptance.

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

**VOTED:** To accept the ballistic vest for K9 Kilo donated by Vested Interest in K9s and Capeway Veterinary Hospital.

Chief Mace noted that Vested Interest in K9s is a website where merchandise can be purchased, donations made and volunteer opportunities.

**Vote to Approve the Following Appointments for the Position of Matron – Kathleen Coyle, Carol-Ann Days and Melissa Grima**

Chief Mace and Mr. Cadime recommended the appointments. Chief Mace advised they will be trained by Lt. Michelle Hines and will attend first aid training.

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

**VOTED:** To approve the appointments of Kathleen Coyle, Carol-Ann Days and Melissa Grima as Matrons.

Chief Mace noted that in the future the position will be changed to Detention Attendant.

**Vote on a Conditional Offer of Employment for Scott M. Flaherty of Plainville for the Position of Patrolman Third Class**

Chief Mace advised this is being done in anticipation of retirements in March.

Chief Mace and Mr. Cadime recommended the conditional offer of employment.

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

**VOTED:** To extend a conditional offer of employment to Scott M. Flaherty as patrolman third class.

**Vote to Promote Patrolman Eric L. Chalifoux to the Rank of Sergeant**

Chief Mace advised this will temporarily fill all supervisor positions. He recommended the promotion.

Mr. Cadime said it is an honor to make the recommendation.

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

**VOTED:** To promote Eric L. Chalifoux to the rank of Sergeant with the Seekonk Police Department.

Sergeant Chalifoux was sworn in by Town Clerk Janet Parker.

**Discussion with SRPEDD – Southeastern Massachusetts Coordinated Human Services Transportation**

Mr. Paul Mission, Transportation Planning Manager at SRPEDD, talked about an update to the Regional Transportation Plan. They are looking at a transportation system that is safe for the environment. Mass. Department of Transportation needs a draft report by spring. He asked for input from the Board and residents.

Mr. Sagar wanted to talk about GATRA – transportation for senior citizens. He also asked how many communities take advantage of group bidding for office supplies.

Mr. Mission said only five or six. It is done as part of the comprehensive planning section.

SRPEDD works with communities for a cooperative effort for a lower electrical rate. About 16 or 17 towns are on board and residents are getting electrical rates at lower than NSTAR and National Grid.

He noted there was a lot of pushback on a Regional 911 system. Several communities were not comfortable with it. It might be confusing because there are streets of the same name in the different towns.

Mr. Mission said there hasn't been much consideration in group bids for EMS supplies. The big push right now is cooperative energy purchases. Mr. Ross Perry is the manager of bidding and purchasing.

Mr. Cadime noted that Mr. Perry is in contact with communities.

Mr. Brady said that Route 44 is not maintained properly. He heard repairs won't happen for at least two to three years. He felt it needs to be expedited.

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Mr. Mission said that SRPEDD works closely with the District Office of Mass. DOT. He will talk about Route 44 in discussions with the District Office and include it as part of the plan.

DPW Superintendent Robert Lamoureux identified some areas of concern - Route 44, Fall River Avenue, Route 6. Luthers Corner is at the 25% design phase. A project need form has been submitted to Mass. DOT for Route 44 at Arcade Avenue. They need to have a public information hearing. Route 44 at Fall River Avenue has been identified as a high crash rate area. He would like to have a traffic study done for a possible traffic signal at Newman and Arcade Avenues.

Town Engineer David Cabral advised Mr. Lamoureux and he meet with SRPEDD monthly and have worked with them on all these projects.

Mr. Mission advised that SRPEDD's website contains a great deal of information as well as the survey on the Regional Transportation Plan. He thanked Louis DeOliveira, Transportation Planning Technician at SRPEDD.

He will talk with staff about GATRA.

#### **Discussion on Public Safety Complex Drainage System**

This was included on the agenda at Mr. Sagar's request. It was redesigned by GPI in 2013. Mr. Lamoureux has reached out to contractors but nobody wants to bid. Mr. Sagar felt the work could probably be done by DPW personnel. It would be a good time to do it since the traffic signal will be going in at the entrance to the public safety complex.

Mr. Lamoureux said he spoke to Mr. Sagar about this. He suggested maybe in the summer they could rent equipment to do the job.

He said there is a high ground water table at that location. If they can extend the limits of the detention basin, there will be more storage capacity and that is what they are looking to improve.

Mr. Cabral said they will put in a sump pump.

#### **Discussion and Update on the Public Safety Complex Traffic Signal Bid Opening**

Mr. Cabral advised the bid opening was on January 8, 2015. There were seven bidders. The low bidder is Electric Light Company at \$92,785. It includes the modification to Route 44 at Arcade Avenue to provide the opticom system.

Jim Noyes of GPI provided a bid summary. He has a complete packet for Mr. Cadime. Mr. Noyes has recommended the firm. He is working on a notice of award to be signed by the Board chairman. The anticipated completion date is July 31, 2015.

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Mr. Cabral advised that he needs to get the permit for the work on Route 44.

Mr. Sagar asked the cost of the permit. He noted that the Town is putting in the light for the State and has to pay a permit fee.

Mr. Cabral noted that \$110,000 was appropriated at Town Meeting for the project.

It will be on the next agenda for approval.

### **Discussion and Update on Luther's Corner Project**

Mr. Cabral advised the project is at the 25% design stage. The next step is to have a design public hearing. He has prepared a draft copy of a letter of endorsement to be signed by the Board. It will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

### **Discussion and Update on the Improvements to Route 114A at Arcade Avenue and Mill Road (Grist Mill)**

Mr. Cabral noted the bid opening scheduled for January did not happen. The new advertising date is February 24. It takes 30 to 45 days after the bid opening to issue a notice to the low bidder. The preconstruction conference is two to three weeks after that. Construction should start in late spring.

Mr. Almeida said he attended the public hearing that Mass. DOT had two years ago. He is happy to see that something will be done there but he totally disagrees on what is being done. He is still in favor of a rotary. There is so much traffic in that area right now. A lighted intersection would make it safer but would increase traffic. Traffic is continuous with a rotary.

Mr. Brady noted that a fire engine would never get through that area at 5 p.m. with a rotary.

Chairman Parker said that Mass. DOT came before the Board to ask for directions on traffic signal or roundabout.

Mr. Sagar said that GPI has recommended the light.

Mr. Almeida said it would be safe but he is concerned about the traffic.

### **Discussion and Update on Old Town Hall**

Mr. Lamoureux advised the issue with the flat roof on the back has been taken care of. There is a new flat roof and a new gutter.

Mr. Sagar noted that Mr. Andrade had suggested disposal of the building but retain the ownership of the land.

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Mr. Cadime said he talked to Atty. Mark Reich about a month ago. He felt it can be accomplished through a deed restriction as opposed to going through selling the building and maintaining the property itself. He is waiting to hear if a municipality can do that.

Mr. Brady felt it would be the same situation as the senior center.

Mr. Cadime said the question is who would be in charge of maintaining the property.

Mr. Brady noted that the RFP has to be specific to Native American use.

Mr. Lamoureux advised that the antenna from the building was removed and sold as surplus material.

Further discussion with Atty. Reich scheduled for the next meeting.

### **Approval of Regular Session Minutes of December 17, 2014 and January 7, 2015**

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

**VOTED:** To accept the regular session minutes of December 17, 2014 and January 7, 2015.

### **COMMUNITY SPEAKS**

Mr. John Alves wanted to make sure the RFP for the old town hall meets the motion made and approved at Town Meeting to restore the building to National Register specifications.

Mr. Cadime stated that the Historical Commission had submitted the qualifications. He will give people an opportunity to comment on the RFP.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

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

Mr. Cadime advised there were three bids for relocation specialist with regard to the senior center. The lowest bid from Auxilium, Inc. came in at \$6,000 per business. There are four businesses.

Initially, Chairman Parker said it was not an emergency and not included on the agenda.

Mr. Cadime noted that two weeks would impact the scheduling for going out for bonding to get additional funding for renovations.

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Mr. Sagar suggested a consensus on the low bidder and a formal vote at the next meeting.

Mr. Brady suggested the Board could meet next week for this item and others that were tabled at this meeting.

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

**VOTED:** To award the bid for relocation specialist with regard to the senior center to the low bidder, Auxilium, Inc. at \$6,000 per business for a total of \$24,000.

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

Mr. Sagar asked for an update on 36 Maple Avenue.

Mr. Cadime requested authorization to sign off on the submittal of the application for a grant from Mass. Development to clean up the old Attleboro Dye Works. The Board would have to vote to formally accept the grant.

Mr. Almeida wanted to make sure the Town would not be liable.

Mr. Sagar suggested that agenda items should read “discussion and action relative to.”

Chairman Parker indicated it has to say possible vote.

Mr. Sagar advised that the Banna Fire Station Building Committee would meet at 9 a.m. on Friday hopefully to accept substantial completion of the fire station.

Mr. Brady requested that a joint meeting be scheduled with the Board of Selectmen, Library Board of Trustees, and Veterans Memorial Committee.

Mr. Cadime said he has asked Ms. Rogers to set that up as well as the tri-board meeting.

Mr. Brady said he drove by the accident scene on Friday night. He wishes he had gotten there sooner. He urged anyone with information to contact the Seekonk Police Department. He also urged the person responsible to be an honorable and good person and contact police.

Mr. Almeida commended all those involved in the clean up during the recent snowstorms.

He asked if the Board could enforce hotels/motels to have a security officer at those establishments.

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Mr. Brady said the Board could impact those businesses by not granting a license. They could be put on notice with a letter from the Board or Town Administrator.

Mr. Sagar asked if there are any other streets besides School Street that are state roads.

Mr. Lamoureux replied Mink Street.

Mr. Sagar asked about breakdown of equipment.

Mr. Lamoureux said there were minor breakdowns. All large equipment is up and running.

Mr. Cadime commended the team for doing an excellent job – from Chief Mace, Chief Healy, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Lamoureux and Mr. Cabral. They have done a tremendous job working around the clock to ensure safety -56 hours straight.

Mr. Lamoureux thanked Mr. Cadime who authorized the hiring of heavy equipment which was critical.

Mr. Almeida thanked Mr. Cadime for keeping the Board informed.

At 7:35 p.m., Mr. Sagar motioned, seconded by Mr. Brady, to go into Executive Session to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property with respect to the senior center as per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(6), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Steelworkers for supervisors and clerical, AFSCME for dispatch and DPW, AFT for library as per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(3), and for approval of Executive Session minutes of October 8, 2014, November 17, 2014, December 17, 2014; and January 7, 2015; not to return to Open Session.

The vote: Mr. Sagar – Aye; Mr. Brady – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Chairman Parker – Abstained. He would not take part in Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

David Andrade, Clerk

Patricia Gamer, Secretary