

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JUNE 3, 2015
REGULAR SESSION

Members Present: David Parker, Nelson Almeida, David Andrade,
Michael Brady, David Viera

Town Administrator: Shawn E. Cadime

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

He announced that, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30, Section 20, anybody taping the meeting must notify the Chair. The Board of Selectmen is recording audio and video.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE OPENINGS UPDATE

Mr. Andrade announced that volunteers are needed on the Board of Health, By-Law Study Committee, Capital Improvement Committee, Conservation Commission, Cultural Council, Economic Development Committee, Energy Committee, Historical Commission, Planning Board (1 joint appointment with Planning Board), Property Tax Work-Off Committee, Zoning Board of Appeals (2 Alternates in June).

PRIORITY MATTERS

Discussion and Vote on Annual Reappointments for Constables, Special Police, and Detention Attendants

Chief Craig Mace and Mr. Cadime recommended the appointments.

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

VOTED: To appoint Constables for 2015-2016, as follows:

Chief Craig Mace	Lt. Matthew Jardin	Sgt. David Enos
Capt. Frank John	Sgt. David Ciszkowski	Sgt. Christopher Kelly
Lt. David Dyson	Sgt. Gerard LaFleur	Sgt. Eric Chalifoux

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

VOTED: To appoint Special Police Officers for 2015-2016, as follows:

Anthony Azulay	Michelle Hines	Ronald Rickey
David Bourque	Edward McDonald	James Roy
Ronald Charron	Gary McNally	Arthur St. Hilaire
William Dallaire	David Miller	Nancy Sheldon

June 3, 2015

-2-

Scott Dumond

Jason O'Hara
Thomas Piquette

Dennis Smiley
Joseph Sousa

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

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Abstention; To appoint Detention Attendants for 2015-2016, as follows:

Myra Cavallaro
Lisa Parker
Melissa Zasowski

Sandra Phillips
Carol-Ann Days

Katelyn Butterworth
Kathleen Coyle

The vote: Mr. Viera – Aye; Mr. Brady – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Parker – Abstained.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and Vote on the Acceptance of a Gift – POW-MIA Flag Donated to the Town by Ann Hardy in Honor of Ralph G. King

A motion was made by Mr. Andrade, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the POW-MIA Flag donated by Ann Hardy in honor of her brother, Ralph G. King.

Consider Approval of Regular Session Minutes of May 6, 2015

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

VOTED: To accept the Regular Session minutes of May 6, 2015.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion and Vote on Old Town Hall Request for Proposals and Lease Agreement

Atty. Mark Reich of Kopelman & Paige and representatives of the Wampanoag Tribe and Historical Commission were in attendance.

Mr. Cadime had minimum qualifications to be included in the RFP, as follows:

1. The Old Town Hall shall be restored in conformance with specifications for listing the building on the National Historic Register,
2. Must be a State recognized Native American Tribe,

3. For the purpose of Native American History, learning, recreation, and assembly,
4. Provide and authorize the usage for a town meeting space for the Town of Seekonk, its citizens and its organizations.

Mr. Viera asked if it would be in the Town's best interest to let the tribe or any potential bidder see this.

Atty. Reich advised that the process under which the Town would dispose of the property is by Chapter 30B, Section 16, which requires a public bidding process.

Mr. Cadime noted the RFP becomes a public document once it goes out.

Mr. Andrade said that prior discussions had been about the sale of the building and leasing the land.

Mr. Michael Markley said the important part of the grants is having ownership of the building.

Atty. Reich said the deed would have enforceable conditions. Also, the Town could petition for special legislation that would allow a transfer directly with specific restrictions on the property.

Mr. Brady said they could call a special town meeting.

Atty. Reich said Category 16 is a slightly different process and does not require awarding to the highest bidder. Bids can be rejected at any time. Given the restrictions in place, he suggested there would be a limited pool of bidders.

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

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Nay; To authorize the Town Administrator and legal counsel to move forward with the RFP for the Old Town Hall located at 624 Taunton Avenue, with the following conditions: (1) that the Old Town Hall shall be restored in conformance with specifications for listing the building on the National Historic Register, (2) that it is subject to an existing lease between the Town of Seekonk and the Wampanoag Tribe, (3) that the purposes will be for a Native American history learning, recreation and assembly and (4) that it would provide and authorize the usage for a town meeting space for the Town of Seekonk, its citizens and its organizations.

The vote: Mr. Brady – Aye; Mr. Viera – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Nay.

Prior to the vote, Mr. Almeida expressed disappointment that counsel did not pick up on the transfer.

June 3, 2015

-4-

He said the lease was signed on December 18, 2013 and the tenants haven't done anything inside the building.

The Town has done its part. Now the tenants are saying there has been a change and they want to take ownership. He felt that both parties should mutually break the lease and go out with the RFP to eliminate all these loopholes and special meetings.

Mr. Viera felt that would create animosity.

Dr. Lincoln said the roof leaked so they could not do work inside the building. The ceiling has been taken down and removed. It is easier to obtain grants if the property is in the name of the tribe.

Mr. Cadime noted the Town met the requirement under 6.1 on page 4 of the lease.

Mr. Andrade said the tribe secured a lease for 30 years for \$1 a year. It wouldn't make sense to do what Mr. Almeida suggested.

It was the consensus of the Board that Mr. Cadime reach out to legislators.

Mr. Cadime will work with Atty. Reich on the language for the RFP. Hopefully, bids will come in within a month.

Discussion and Vote on Town Cemetery Sites

Mr. Cadime advised that he followed up on the discussion of two weeks ago. He looked at available property and he reached out to Kopelman & Paige regarding what steps should be taken.

There are approximately three acres in the area behind the Legion. A rough estimate would be from \$20,000 to \$30,000. A tree company would have to come in to take down the trees and stump grind. Other work can be done by DPW. There are eight sites that can be used for a cemetery. It would generate 1,608 grave sites. It is laid out similar to Newman cemetery. It can be done in two different phases. Phase 1 would generate 704 grave sites. The other would remain open or wooded until needed. They would do the access roads.

Under M.G.L. Chapter 114, Section 34, the use of land for cemetery would require the Board of Health to hold a public hearing. The Board of Health would have to approve the location in writing and including description of the land. The Board of Health would also have to grant permission for use as a cemetery and it would require that local and state environmental requirements are met. The property would have to be rezoned to residential zone.

Mr. Andrade recalled that the Town Clerk talked about a buffer which would reduce the number of graves.

June 3, 2015

-5-

Chairman Parker agreed. He thought there would be a row of trees to separate from the houses and guarantee that people in those houses could not see the cemetery.

Mr. Brady questioned whether the town has to provide a cemetery.

Chairman Parker felt the town has to provide a place for burial but not necessarily within the town.

Mr. Cadime was asked to put together all options.

A Carters Way resident asked if Maple Avenue had been looked at.

Chairman Parker said that is not town-owned land.

He assured that a public hearing would be scheduled before any decision is made.

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

None.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Cadime announced the Town Meeting scheduled for Monday, June 15, 2015 and the Tri-Board meeting on Monday, June 8, 2015.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mr. Brady asked for an update on the senior center.

Mr. Cadime advised that it should go out for construction bid at the end of July. The parking plan has been submitted to Zoning and will be heard on Tuesday of next week. Completion should be the end of November with close out on December 12.

Mr. Almeida assured residents who called that this meeting was properly posted with the Town Clerk.

June 3, 2015

-6-

He thanked Mr. Viera, the committees, all who participated, and those who watched the Memorial Day parade. It was a great success.

Mr. Andrade congratulated the police officers involved in the afternoon robbery.

He extended sympathy to School Committee member Bill Woods and Officer Bill Azulay on recent deaths in their families.

Mr. Viera asked about town planner and secretary positions.

Mr. Cadime advised the new town planner is going for a pre-employment physical on Friday and will start next week. The part time secretary will be hired once the planner starts work.

He noted there has been significant interest in the Veterans' Agent position. Mr. Alexander has gone through the resumes and he will do the same. They will be setting up interviews.

Three people have expressed an interest in the Building Inspector position. He is waiting to see if there will be any more.

At 8:23 p.m. Mr. Viera motioned, seconded by Mr. Brady, to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to litigation per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining units per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(3) with Steelworkers for supervisors and clerical, AFSCME for dispatch, and AFT for library, and to consider approval of Executive Session minutes of May 6, 2015; to reconvene to Open Session.

The vote: Mr. Viera – Aye; Mr. Brady – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Chairman Parker – Abstained. He would not participate in Executive Session.

The meeting reconvened at 9:50 p.m.

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

VOTED: To ratify and sign the contract with AFSCME Council 93, Local 1703 - Dispatch.

Respectfully submitted,

David Andrade, Clerk

Patricia Gamer, Secretary

