

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**SEPTEMBER 9, 2015**  
**REGULAR SESSION**

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

Town Administrator: Shawn E. Cadime

Finance Director: Bruce Alexander

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, anyone taping the meeting must notify the Chairman. The Board of Selectmen is taping audio and video.

Chairman Parker was wearing a T-shirt being sold to support the Veterans Memorial. T-shirts are \$15 and can be purchased in the Town Clerk's office.

**BOARD AND COMMITTEE OPENINGS UPDATE**

Mr. Andrade read from the list that volunteers are needed on the Board of Health (1 Board of Selectmen appointment), Conservation Commission (3 BOS), Cultural Council (1 BOS), Economic Development Committee (1 BOS), Energy Committee (1 BOS), Historical Commission (3 BOS), Property Tax Work-Off Committee (3 BOS), Zoning Board of Appeals (2 BOS), Permanent Building Committee (5 BOS), and Finance Committee (1 Moderator).

Chairman Parker urged resident to come forward. Talent bank forms are on line.

**LICENSE HEARING**

**Place of Public Amusement – Michael Quill for Fear Town Haunted House at the Seekonk Speedway**

Mr. Quill was in attendance. He had done this last year.

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

**VOTED:** To approve the request of Michael Quill to operate Fear Town Haunted House at the Seekonk Speedway.

**Consider and Vote on Mobile Food Carts for the Save-A-Pet Craft Fair (September 12, 2015) Fun on a Bun**

Mr. Cadime advised that other vendors had been approved for the craft fair. It meets all criteria put forth by the Board.

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

**VOTED:** To approve the mobile food cart Fun on a Bun for the Save-A-Pet Craft Fair on September 12, 2015.

**PRIORITY MATTERS**

**Conditional Offer of Employment for Edward Maher for the Position of Firefighter/Paramedic**

Chief Healy recommended the conditional offer of employment for Edward Maher, pending required testing.

Mr. Cadime concurred with the recommendation.

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

**VOTED:** To extend a conditional offer of employment to Edward Maher as Firefighter/Paramedic.

**Appoint and Swear In the Following as Probationary Firefighter/Paramedics Douglas Young and Brittany Goodhart**

Chief Healy advised that testing has been completed. They understand and have signed Attachment A of the collective bargaining agreement regarding the tuition reimbursement.

He recommended the appointment of Douglas Young. Mr. Cadime concurred.

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

**VOTED:** To appoint Douglas Young as probationary firefighter/paramedic.

Town Clerk Janet Parker swore in Firefighter Young. His mother pinned his badge.

Chief Healy recommended the appointment of Brittany Goodhart. Mr. Cadime concurred.

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

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**VOTED:** To appoint Brittany Goodhart as probationary firefighter/paramedic.

Town Clerk Janet Parker swore in Firefighter Goodhart. Her boyfriend pinned her badge.

**Accept a Donation of \$3,500 from the Family of Gilbert Ferreira to be Placed in the Fire Department Gift Account and to be used to Purchase Equipment in Memory of Firefighter Gilbert Ferreira**

Chief Healy advised the family of Gilbert Ferreira, Jr. recently held a motorcycle ride and barbeque and donated a portion of the proceeds to the Fire Department. Equipment purchased will be engraved with Firefighter Ferreira's name.

Mr. Cadime recommended accepting the gift to be placed in the Fire Department Gift Account and to send the family a letter of appreciation.

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

**VOTED:** To accept the \$3,500 donation in memory of Gilbert Ferreira, Jr. and send a letter of appreciation to the family.

**Discussion and Possible Vote on Potential Town Cemetery Locations**

Asst. Supt. of Public Works David Cabral distributed handouts. There are five locations under consideration: Fall River Avenue, Howland Street, Burnside Avenue, Cynthia Road and North Wheaton Avenue. He provided acre size and approximate number of graves.

Fall River Avenue adjacent to the transfer station, lot 496, 2.99 to 3.0 acres, approximately 1,600 graves.

On each location, he has an 8 ft. buffer which could change followed by a 16 ft. access road around the perimeter.

Howland Street – 2.6 acres, 1,324 graves.

He found an e mail dated 9/11/12 and a notation that Fall River Avenue has no restrictions. There may be a deed restriction on Howland Street that land can only be used for recreational purposes or it will revert back to the owner. That needs verification.

Burnside Avenue – No restrictions - ¼ of an acre. He did not know the number of graves, but not too many since it is a small lot.

Cynthia Road – 5.35 acres but substantial wetland impact at the end of the road.

North Wheaton Avenue – 0.85 acres. There is a slight impact of wetland.

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The existing cemetery on Newman Avenue is 3.3 acres with about 2,963 graves. They had put in 64 additional graves by taking out access roads.

Mr. Cadime had no recommendation at this time.

Mr. Viera asked about another issue with regard to access on Howland Street.

Mr. Cabral said it may be landlocked. The Town Planner is looking into that.

Mr. Viera said there is a shortage of ballfields so to take an existing field away would be difficult to do.

Mr. Brady said there aren't many options.

Mr. Cabral noted these are the only town-owned parcels on the books right now.

Chairman Parker noted it is a state law to provide a place of rest for citizens.

Town Clerk Janet Parker said 20 lots are left.

Mr. Almeida asked if there are any properties the Town could acquire. He felt no matter where the cemetery goes it will affect the neighborhood. He asked if house value would be affected.

Chairman Parker said he called three real estate agents. All three said no negative impact on value or selling of houses.

Mr. Almeida suggested land on Town Hall property as another option.

Chairman Parker said Fall River Avenue or Howland Street seems to be the best as far as minimal cost and minimal impact, not in a residential neighborhood.

Mr. Viera suggested land on School Street.

Mr. Brady would like to see the School Street land. He noted it doesn't appear the Town will have a south end fire station down there. He wasn't in favor of a cemetery near a landfill.

Mr. Andrade suggested No. Wheaton Street with Fall River Avenue as a backup.

A work session was scheduled for Wednesday, September 30, 2015. Mr. Cabral and Mr. Cadime will continue to look for available land and check on School Street.

### **Discussion and Vote on Trash Fees and Rates**

Mr. Cadime proposed a reduction of \$4 from \$184 to \$180 in 2016.

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Landfill testing came in at half of the initial cost; a savings of \$20,000. Recycling has increased. Retained earnings used will be \$28,850.

Finance Director Bruce Alexander explained that the number of units has gone up about 60 so that brings down the cost a little also. The \$18.30 debt service is the charge that everyone pays whether they have a dumpster or not. There are no other changes.

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

**VOTED:** To set the annual trash fee for FY'16 at \$180 and all remaining fees stay the same (bulky, stickers, and bags).

Prior to the vote, Mr. Viera asked what it would cost next year.

Mr. Alexander said the collection would go up 2.5%.

Mr. Almeida noted that when the contract with ABC was renewed it was with the understanding that the new ten-year contract was going to be cheaper. The following year it went up from \$179 to \$184. He was told it was to purchase barrels and bins. He will not support an increase because he was told that the cost should go down every year since ABC has a state of the art recycling facility.

Mr. Cadime said expenses will increase every year. Two individuals who are part of the union are charged off to sanitation. The curbside collection and transportation has a 2.5% built in fee. The tipping fee will have an increase. The initial savings was almost \$200,000 in the first year. Retained earnings are used to offset that cost. At some point it will balance out and not have any free cash. There will be additional costs.

Mr. Alexander said this is the last year of the lease payment on machinery. It should go down \$6.07 at the current rate.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Acceptance of Seekonk Veterans Memorial Park Construction Donations**

Mr. Cadime read the list of donations. He noted that services provided must be done by the business owner.

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

**VOTED:** To accept donations to the Seekonk Veterans Memorial Park in the amount of 31,700, as attached.

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Mr. Viera noted that members of the laborers union agreed to volunteer their time.

Mr. John Alves asked if the \$31,700 is part of the \$55,000 that veterans indicated they had at the Town Meeting.

Mr. Cadime said it is in-kind donations.

### **Discussion and Vote on Employee Assistance Program Contract with Southcoast Health**

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

**VOTED:** To approve the Employee Assistance Program contract with Southcoast Health in the amount of \$3,450 and authorize the Town Administrator to sign.

Mr. Viera suggested this be offered to the School Department as well.

### **Consider Approval of Open Session Minutes of August 12, 2015**

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

**VOTED:** To accept Open Session minutes of August 12, 2015.

### **COMMUNITY SPEAKS**

Mr. Cabral had copies of the tree contract to be signed by Board members.

Antonio Goulart of 20 Carters Way said he would be affected by the proposed cemetery at Fall River Avenue. He felt the Town needs to find a location that is not near any houses. He is already affected by the noise coming from Lynch Corp. in the middle of the night.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

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

None.

### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Cadime advised the general contractor bid opening for the senior center took place on September 1. There were five bids. Northern Contracting Group from Canton, MA was low bidder at \$1,787,100. They provided a 24 week schedule to complete the job.

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The senior center building subcommittee met with Brewster Thornton Architects yesterday and tentatively will meet again on Friday to talk about budget constraints and the contractor.

The animal shelter bid is due on September 14. The bid closing might be delayed by a week because an Addendum needs to go out.

Bids on the RFQ for old town hall are due on October 2, 2015. Kopelman & Paige is drafting language on the reverter clause.

Mr. Cadime just received the RFQ for architectural services at the library.

Capital improvement reports were submitted by department heads and reports for the Annual Town Report are due on September 11.

Job postings include Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator, Veterans Service Officer Secretary, Building Inspector and Sealer of Weights and Measures.

Mr. Cadime, Mr. Alexander, Mr. Aubin and Mr. Santos met with Peter Lynch of Lynch Corp., his attorney and engineer. They talked about the noise, the time of their operations and the lights. They were caught off guard because processing is done about a quarter of a mile from Carters Way. That led to discuss that maybe it's another company out there. Lynch does not operate before 6 a.m.

Mr. Andrade asked if there are height restrictions on construction debris or mounds.

Mr. Viera said he hears the noise at his house.

Mr. Cadime said Planning, Building, and Conservation were out there. There are no violations. If they operate out of East Providence, there is nothing we can do.

He said the attorney mentioned that the developer of Carters Way was supposed to sign off that it was an industrial area.

Mr. Andrade suggested asking them not to bang the doors of the truck if they are working in the early morning hours.

Mr. Goulart said he has seen trucks on top of the mound. He has seen lights on at Lynch and also at Consolidated. His neighbors and he have called police.

Mr. Robert McLintock felt there is some kind of guidelines pertaining to noise with strict fines.

Chairman Parker suggested the police need to build up some of documentation.

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Mr. Sam Salvo of 11 Carters Way said Lynch is a Seekonk company and should abide by its hours of operation.

Mr. Cadime said it is 7 a.m. on weekdays and 8 a.m. on weekends.

Mr. Almeida suggested they need proof such as a video.

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

### **Veterans Memorial Committee Liaison Report (Mr. Andrade and Mr. Brady)**

Mr. Andrade reported that Mr. Brady and he attended the Veterans Memorial Committee meeting last week. Everyone seems to be working together and keeping within plans for both projects up there.

Mr. Almeida complained about a yard sale sign that was covering a street sign on Arcade Avenue. He asked if the part time inspector was out on Saturday.

Chairman Parker said he made about 15 stops and sent Board members a report via e-mail.

Mr. Almeida said a repair shop on Fall River Avenue has had 7 or 8 signs all over the building for about six months. He mentioned this because the owner of a gas station that doesn't face the main road was told to take his sign off.

Chairman Parker noted that the Building Department has been shorthanded in the last three or four months. This part time person is the only inspector.

Mr. Viera asked about the generator for this building.

Mr. Cadime said a member of the Energy Committee is interested in talking about this. There is a meeting next week. In the meantime, he has instructed Chief Healy to get a price on the generator he has.

Mr. Viera asked about the Human Resource person.

Mr. Cadime said nothing yet.

Mr. Viera said the Veterans Memorial Committee would like to go out for RFP by October 1 and returned by October 15.

Mr. Cadime felt it could be done. It has to be advertised on the central register.

Mr. Brady advised the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Food for Fuel Pasta Fest is on Thursday, September 24, at Seekonk High School from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 4



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to 12, and free for children three and under.

Chairman Parker announced the Seekonk Save-A-Pet Annual Craft and Vendor Fair will be held on Sept 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Hurley Middle School.

The Annual 911 tribute will be held on Thursday, September 10 at 6 p.m. at the public safety complex.

At 8:58 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Mr. Andrade, to go into Executive Session to conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(3), to conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Director of Public Works per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(3), to discuss litigation with respect to the Banna Fire Station per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(3), and to consider approval of Executive Session minutes of August 12, 2015; to reconvene in Open Session to take any necessary votes.

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

The meeting returned to Open Session at 9:20 p.m.

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

**VOTED:** To accept the Separation Agreement and Release of All Claims between the Town of Seekonk and Anne Rogers.

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

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

**VOTED:** To adjourn at 9:22 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

David Andrade, Clerk

Patricia Gamer, Secretary

