

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SEPTEMBER 23, 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 30A Section 20, anybody recording the meeting must notify the Chairman. The Board of Selectmen is recording audio and video.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE OPENINGS UPDATE

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

PUBLIC HEARING

New All Alcohol Restaurant Liquor License – Thee Food Group Enterprises, LLC, d/b/a Eleven Forty Nine Catering & Events

Chairman Parker opened the hearing at 7:01 p.m.

Mr. Robinson, Director of Operations, was in attendance. He advised the 1149, located at 965 Fall River Avenue, is reopening as a function and catering facility.

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

VOTED: To close the public hearing at 7:02 p.m.

Mr. Cadime recommended approval.

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

VOTED: To approve the all alcohol restaurant liquor license for Thee Food Group Enterprises, LLC, d/b/a Eleven Forty Nine Catering & Events, located at 965 Fall River Avenue, as presented.

Mr. Almeida said he was pleased to see the building re-open.

PRIORITY MATTERS

Appointment and Swearing in of Edward Maher as Probationary Firefighter/Paramedic

Chief Michael Healy requested and Mr. Cadime concurred with the appointment of Mr. Maher. He is aware and signed Attachment A of the collective bargaining agreement regarding the tuition reimbursement.

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

VOTED: To appoint Edward Maher as Probationary Firefighter/Paramedic with the Seekonk Fire Department.

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

Consider the Appointment of Michael Dressler to the Historical Commission

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

VOTED: To table the appointment of Michael Dressler to the Historical Commission.

Consider the Appointment of Agnes Martin to the Taxation Aid Fund Committee

Mrs. Martin was in attendance.

Mr. Cadime recommended, Mr. Brady motioned, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Mrs. Agnes Martin to the Taxation Aid Fund Committee.

Consider the Appointment of Stuart Montgomery to the Art/Cultural Council

Mr. Montgomery was in attendance.

Mr. Cadime recommended, Mr. Viera motioned, seconded by Mr. Almeida, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Stuart Montgomery to the Art/Cultural Council.

Consider the Appointment of David Betts to the Position of per-diem Local Building Inspector

Mr. Betts was in attendance.

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Mr. Cadime recommended, Mr. Brady motioned, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To appoint David Betts as per-diem Local Building Inspector.

Mr. Brady thanked Mr. Betts for coming forward to help the Town.

Consider the Appointment of Anthony Araujo the Position of Sealer of Weights and Measures

Mr. Araujo was in attendance.

Mr. Cadime recommended the appointment. He said there are requirements in order to get certified. Det. Enos does this in Taunton and offered to work with Mr. Araujo.

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

VOTED: To appoint Anthony Araujo as Sealer of Weights & Measures.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and Consideration of the Police Department's Uniform Policy

Chief Mace advised the last time uniforms changed was October 15, 1989. They will be going to navy shirts and navy pants, name bar and black ties. This will allow them to use a product that facilitates the wearing of body armor that matches the base uniform. Pants will have a black braid on the outside. They will eliminate the option of wearing a sweater out on the road. Everybody will look much the same. It provides more consistent appearance amongst all police officers. The armor system allows more comfortable wear of body armor. The dark color conceals the protection equipment worn by officers. There is an option of wearing a low bearing suspender system to support the weight of the belt.

Mr. Cadime recommended as the Chief pointed out.

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

VOTED: To approve the change in the Police Department's Uniform Policy.

Chief Mace noted police officers have a clothing allowance.

Consider the Gift of Land to Seekonk Land Conservation Trust and the Required Conservation Restriction on the 2.2 Acres on Bradley Street

Mr. Cadime advised that the Seekonk Land Conservation Trust obtained this land. The Bradley family donated the land under the land conservation tax credit program. Part of this donation requires the land trust to take the land and Mass. law requires the Board of Selectmen to sign off and acknowledge there are requirements. It has been approved by the State. The Seekonk Land Conservation Trust has approved this.

A member of the Land Trust was in attendance.

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

VOTED: To accept the gift of land to the Seekonk Land Conservation Trust and the required Conservation Restriction on the 2.2 acres on Bradley Street, subject to signatures in front of a notary.

Board members thanked the family.

Consider the Approval of Executive Assistant Job Description

Mr. Cadime said the position has been advertised. He got job descriptions from other communities and wrote this one for Seekonk.

Mr. Almeida asked about eliminating three-year contracts.

Mr. Viera felt there would be less interest if it was an at-will employee.

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

VOTED: To approve the job description for Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen.

Consider the Approval and Award of a Contract for General Contracting Services to Northern Contracting Corp. for the Renovation of the Seekonk Senior Center

Chairman of the Senior Center Building Committee David Bowden was in attendance.

Mr. Cadime advised they are still in discussions with Northern Contracting Corp. They are waiting for solid numbers on storefront glazing. The pricing for the roofing was higher than anticipated. The contract is now at \$1,804,100. They have the allowance for storefront glazing at \$19,500. He requested that the Board authorize him to sign the contract at \$1,804,100 and allow him to negotiate the storefront pricing as long as in the budget appropriated. There is

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concern that a two-week delay could push the project to a new construction season and prices might go up. They met with the architects.

Mr. Almeida asked if DPW had been involved. However, Mr. Cadime said there wasn't much DPW could do. Tri County students will do some work.

Mr. Andrade said he didn't see anything in the contract about penalties if completion wasn't done by the 168 days.

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

VOTED: To award the contract for general contracting services to Northern Contracting Corp. for the renovation of the Seekonk Senior Center, subject to the addition of the liquidated damages provision.

Mr. Viera wanted clarification on why the roofing price fluctuated.

Mr. Cadime said it was an allowance.

He noted that all references for Northern Contracting Corp. were contacted and there was nothing that would disqualify the bid.

Consider Approval of Open Session Minutes of August 26, 2015

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

VOTED: To accept the Open Session minutes of August 26, 2015.

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

Mr. David Bowden, Chairman of the Senior Center Building Committee, thanked the Board of Selectmen for having faith in Mr. Cadime and the building committee. He noted this committee has worked for five years. It has been 15 years since discussions began for a new senior center. It appears they have reached a milestone and by the spring of 2016 there should be a new senior center in town.

Board members thanked Mr. Bowden for his work.

Mr. Charles Beauchamp of 127 Allen Avenue felt this Board is doing an excellent job compared to previous boards.

He noted that audience members should use the microphone to speak. It is difficult to hear them. He liked the new recycling system and he is pleased the trash removal price is down \$4.

Mr. Beauchamp commended Diana Faria in the Building Department. He said she is doing a supreme job under the circumstances. She is handling it efficiently, effectively, graciously, and with a good sense of humor.

He felt it should be a priority to hire a building inspector.

He advised that the Energy Committee had its first meeting. He was elected chairman. They will look into a generator for Town Hall and review the energy audit. He asked board members to submit any items they might have.

Chairman Parker noted that Mr. Cadime has done everything possible to get a building inspector. There are 17 communities advertising for a building inspector. Seekonk is in the middle range as far as salary. The previous inspector wanted a four day work week. He left to go to a community that would allow him to work four days.

Mr. Cadime said he has heard there are some individuals who are interested in applying. He noted that the Board just authorized a part time inspector and John Santos will come back and do some work.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

Mr. Andrade inquired about a bike fundraiser scheduled for October 3 and whether they had completed the paperwork.

Mr. Cadime said he would check with Mr. Alexander.

Chairman Parker noted he would not allow that because it is not an emergency.

He advised there is a new sound system in the room. He would like to hear from residents if it is better.

He added that he would make sure speakers use the microphone.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Cadime said hopefully the general contractor for the senior center will mobilize at that site. Bids for the animal shelter are due on Friday and the old town hall on October 2. The library facilities committee submitted a RFQ for architectural services. He reviewed it and sent it back to Mr. Fuller.

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He is working on the capital improvement plan and annual report.

The Executive Assistant and Building Commissioner jobs are advertised.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMITTEES

School and Town Consolidation Committee Report – Nothing to report.

Veterans Memorial Committee Liaison Report

Mr. Viera advised they had groundbreaking. The forms were put in. Fittings were poured and backfilled. It is ready for the pouring of the concrete. He thanked Mr. Velardo and other committee members.

Mr. Viera inquired about his request for documentation from the gas company as to a plan of action with respect to gas leaks.

Mr. Cadime said that Mr. Cabral has requested it. He will follow up on that.

Mr. Viera asked about the generator.

Mr. Cadime said he intends to submit it as part of the capital plan for this year.

Chairman Parker said this Board never voted on putting a generator in this building. It needs to be an agenda item.

Mr. Cadime said he intended to get an estimate to repair the surplus one compared to the cost of a new generator. He could probably have the price for a new generator in two weeks.

Chairman Parker said it will be on the next agenda.

Mr. Brady asked about repairs on County Street for damages caused by the gas company.

Mr. Cadime advised the gas company paid the Town \$50,000 to fix that portion of the street. It was an agreement between the gas company and Mr. Lamoureux. The Town will use \$30,000 to do the entire street from the East Providence line to the trench.

Mr. Brady felt it should have been brought to the Board.

Mr. Cadime said there was discussion about it.

He noted that Mr. DelRosso brought it to his attention that the bylaws are very specific as to what is supposed to be done when opening a road.

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Mr. Almeida announced the 5K and 1.5 Walk sponsored by the Seekonk Kiwanis on September 27, 2015, starting at the Martin School.

He requested a report from DPW about the status of equipment, vendors, etc. for the winter months.

Chairman Parker announced the 8th Annual Food for Fuel Pasta Fest on Thursday, September 24, at Seekonk High School from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door. All proceeds go to the fuel assistance program for the needy.

He congratulated Mr. Cadime who was the #1 vote getter in the Fall River City Council race.

At 8:21 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Viera, seconded by Mr. Almeida, to go into Executive Session to conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Library Unit (AFT MA) 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), and to consider approval of Executive Session minutes of August 26, 2015.

The vote: Mr. Viera – Aye; Mr. Almeida – Aye; Mr. Andrade – Aye; Mr. Brady – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye. He would not participate in union negotiations.

Respectfully submitted,

David Andrade, Clerk

Patricia Gamer, Secretary

