

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**OCTOBER 21, 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 announced that volunteers are needed on the Board of Health (1 Board of Selectmen appointment), 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**

**All Alcohol Restaurant Liquor License, Transfer of Stock, Issuance of Stock, New Stockholders – TGI Fridays, Inc. 1105 Fall River Avenue  
Hearing Postponed from October 7, 2015**

Chairman Parker opened the Public Hearing at 7:04 p.m.

Atty. Albert D’Napoli, representing TGI Fridays, advised this action is being done nationwide and has been approved by the ABCC. It is a corporate change and does not affect the TGI Friday’s in Seekonk.

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

**VOTED:** To close the public hearing at 7:05 p.m.

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

**VOTED:** To approve the transfer of stock, issuance of stock, and new stockholders for TGI Friday’s, Inc. located at 1105 Fall River Avenue.

**PRIORITY MATTERS**

**Consider the Appointment of Marilyn Carlson to the Historical Commission**

Mr. Cadime advised that Mr. Alexander had interviewed Mrs. Carlson. She was notified to attend the meeting.

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

**VOTED:** To postpone Mrs. Carlson's appointment until the next meeting.

**Consider the Appointment of Michael Knox to the Position of Full-time Police Officer – Patrolman 3<sup>rd</sup> Class**

Lt. Matthew Jardine represented Chief Mace. He recommended the appointment. In order for Patrolman Knox to begin field training as soon as possible, he will be sworn in by the Town Clerk and a ceremony will be held later on.

Mr. Cadime concurred with the appointment.

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

**VOTED:** To approve the appointment of Michael Knox as full-time police officer, Patrolman 3<sup>rd</sup> class, effective November 2, 2015.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Accept the Letter of Resignation from Robert Lamoureux, Effective September 25, 2015**

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

**VOTED:** To accept the resignation of Robert Lamoureux as DPW Superintendent, effective September 25, 2015.

**Accept the Letter of Resignation from Brian Rainey, Effective October 17, 2015**

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

**VOTED:** To accept the resignation of Brian Rainey as firefighter, effective October 17, 2015.

**Consider the Appointment of Christina Pacheco Testa to the Position of Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen**

Mr. Cadime recommended the appointment of Mrs. Testa. He advised that a screening committee consisting of Chief Mace, Chief Healy, Mr. Alexander, and Mr. Cadime interviewed ten candidates; 2 internal and 8 external. The committee felt that Mrs. Testa's qualifications exceeded all the others and that she will be an asset to the office and to the Town.

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

**VOTED:** To appoint Christine Pacheco Testa to the position of Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen, effective October 22, 2015.

**Consider the Bonding Authorization of \$2,759,645 for the Senior Center**

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

**VOTED:** To accept the authorization of Bond and Anticipation note for the senior center in the amount of \$2,759,645 from Eastern Bank at a rate of .65% interest.

Mr. Cadime noted this includes the original \$800,000.

He advised a construction meeting was held today. Groundbreaking should be the second week in November.

**Discussion and Possible Vote on Warrant Articles for Fall Town Meeting**

Mr. Cadime distributed an updated warrant.

Board members reviewed the articles.

On Article 3 regarding the Town Charter, Mr. Brady questioned the 46%. He said majority of the people that voted on April 6<sup>th</sup> voted in favor.

Mr. Cadime said it would be 55%.

Mr. Brady said all people should be treated the same. If this doesn't pass, he will push hard for a summer town meeting. He doesn't think it is fair that some people are appointed for life and others are capped at three years.

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Article 5 is the relocation costs for the senior center in the amount of \$118,133.60 for the five tenants. There are some additional monies set aside for unanticipated costs. The appropriation would be made to that account. If not used, it would go to free cash. The original cost came out of the funding.

Mr. Brady requested a specific breakdown of exactly what was paid to each tenant individually.

Mr. Viera had a real problem with this.

Mr. Brady said if it had gone the proper route it would not have been an issue. The Purchase and Sales Agreement would have clear language that the building would have to be vacant.

Chairman Parker said that counsel informed the Town there could be substantial relocation costs.

Article 6 – Community Preservation Act funds. Mr. Cadime pointed out this would have an impact on the property. There is a lifetime fee restriction based on conservation.

Mr. Andrade felt it should not be on the warrant based on the plan for a possible cemetery.

Article 7 is a \$500,000 transfer to the Municipal Stabilization Fund.

Article 8 is \$5,000 to support the Memorial Day Parade.

Article 9 is a language change to see if the Town will vote to reclassify Human Services to the Council on Aging.

Article 10 – Zoning By-Laws. Mr. Almeida felt it should include signage.

Mr. Cadime will check.

The warrant will be forwarded to legal and back to the Board at the November 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **COMMUNITY SPEAKS**

Mr. Robert Blanchard was confused about the relocation costs. He understood the law about relocation. He felt there was never a legal opinion.

Chairman Parker said the Town was cautioned by town counsel. At that time, there was an interim town administrator and neither the Board nor the building committee was notified.

Mr. Brady said the property owner classified the tenants as “tenants at will.” The Town was responsible for relocation costs when it took possession of the building.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

**Discuss Other Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chairman 48 Hours Before the Meeting** – None.

## **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Cadime advised there will be bi-weekly construction meetings at the senior center site. Groundbreaking ceremonies should be the second week in November. Invitations will be sent out.

The RFQ for the old town hall will be on the agenda for November 4<sup>th</sup>. There was one bid and members of the group will be in attendance.

The tree company will be working on a priority list submitted by DPW. It includes the stump on Olney Street and the trees in the Martin School area.

With regard to the light signal for Public Safety, a gas line is off which is impacting where the base for the signal can go. Rep. Howitt is trying to work with Mass. DOT to go to a 4 ½ ft. diameter base that fits the arm and go deeper into the ground. If that doesn't happen, the gas company would be willing to move the gas main at no cost but that won't be until April 2016. Another option would be to relocate the signal closer to the roadway on Rte. 44.

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

### **School and Town Consolidation Committee Report**

Mr. Brady asked Mr. Cadime to find out who is the liaison from the School Department so they can schedule a meeting.

### **Veterans Memorial Committee Liaison Report**

Mr. Andrade noted they haven't met in awhile.

Mr. Cadime noted that Mr. DeFontes had taken great pictures of the work being done. It is a great project.

Chairman Parker commended all the volunteers.

Mr. Viera noted that all the work has been done by volunteers and all supplies have been donated thus far.

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Mr. Almeida asked about plans to commemorate Veterans Day.

Mr. Cadime said he will talk to the Mr. LaFlame, Veterans' Agent.

Mr. Almeida asked for an update on compensation from the gas company for County Street.

Mr. Cadime noted that's already been accepted.

Mr. Viera asked about the removal of a diseased tree at the Veterans Memorial Park site.

Mr. Cadime said it is on the priority list.

Chairman Parker noted the cost for that is not budgeted.

Mr. Viera requested a list of all Seekonk veterans and when they served in the military.

Mr. Cadime will ask Mr. LaFlame to do that.

Mr. Viera asked for an update on the town counsel search.

Mr. Cadime said he is looking at about five different companies. It will be an agenda item for November 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Brady inquired about the DPW Superintendent position.

Mr. Cadime said he has been working on job descriptions with Mr. Cabral. He plans to meet with Mr. Cabral at the beginning of November.

Mr. Brady felt that Mr. Cabral should be appointed as interim and be compensated retroactive to September 25, 2015.

He asked about the building inspector position.

Mr. Cadime advised the part time inspector, David Betts, has been looking around. There is also the possibility of an applicant who is relocating to this area.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 8:06 p.m., Mr. Viera motioned, seconded by Mr. Andrade, to go into Executive Session with respect to negotiations with the clerical unit (Steelworkers) M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(3) and 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 return to Open Session.

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

The meeting returned to Open Session at 8:47 p.m.

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

**VOTED:** 4 Ayes; To accept the contract between the Town of Seekonk and Christina P. Testa as Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator/ Board of Selectmen.

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

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

**VOTED:** 4 Ayes; To adjourn at 8:49 p.m.

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

Mr. Parker was not in attendance during the above votes.

Respectfully submitted,

David Andrade, Clerk

Patricia Gamer, Secretary