

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
DECEMBER 28, 2016
REGULAR SESSION

Members Present: David Andrade, Nelson Almeida, David Viera,
Michelle Hines, David Parker

Town Administrator: Shawn E. Cadime

Chairman Andrade 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 20f, anybody recording the meeting must notify the Chairman. The Board of Selectmen is recording via audio and visual.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE OPENINGS UPDA TE

Mr. Viera announced that volunteers are needed on the Board of Health (1 Board of Selectmen appointments), Conservation Commission (3 BOS), Economic Development Committee (1 BOS), Historical Commission (2 BOS), Property Tax Work-Off Committee (2 BOS), Zoning Board of Appeals (1 BOS), Permanent Building Committee (5 BOS), Recreation Committee (1 BOS), Recycling Committee (1 BOS).

COMMUNITY SPEAKS – None.

**2017 LICENSE RENEWALS HEARING (See Attached List of Renewal Applications
Businesses Names and Addresses)**

Alcohol

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

VOTED: To approve alcohol license renewals for Chipotle Mexican Grill of Colorado LLC, d/b/a Chiptole; Plaza Azteca Seekonk, Inc., d/b/a Plaza Azteca; and Ocean Fresh Seafood Corp, d/b/a Captain Jack's Clam Shack.

Class I, II, III Motor Vehicles

Ms. Hines noted that First AG, Inc. for Class I and Class II, Reliable Motors, and The Car Palace were approved at the previous meeting.

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

VOTED: To approve the Class II licenses for Highland Avenue Services, LLC, d/b/a Steven's Service & Car Sales and All Mobile Towing.

Antique and Second Hand

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

VOTED: To approve Antique and Second Hand licenses for Amanda Orefice, d/b/a Amanda Lynn's Antiques; Browser Books; Collector's Castle; Leonard's Antiques, Inc.; Vinny's Antiques Center; and James A Waterman, III, d/b/a Synergy Metals Recycling, LLC.

Ms. Hines expressed disappointment that Ruth Falkinburg's Doll Shop is not renewing the license. The store has been in town for many years.

Mr. Viera noted that these individuals waited until now and could go into the new year without a license. In the case of Class II licenses, they would have to take the cars off the lot. Notification went out in September with a deadline of November 18, 2016. The Executive Assistant made several follow up calls to these individuals as well.

PRIORITY MATTERS

Consider a Conditional Offer of Employment to Mary Madonna to the Position of Kennel Worker

Mr. Cadime recommended the conditional offer of employment. Ms. Madonna was a finalist for the position of Assistant Animal Control officer.

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

VOTED: To extend a conditional offer of employment to Mary Madonna to the position of Kennel Worker.

Consider Seekonk Police Department General Order 3.24

Chief Craig Mace advised that Lt. David Dyson attended training and drafted the General Order. It concerns Treatment of Transgender Individuals. He respectfully suggested that an Administrative Policy might be in order down the road. It should be town-wide education.

Through Mr. Cadime, he respectfully requested Board approval. Mr. Cadime concurred.

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

VOTED: To accept Seekonk Police Department General Order 3.24 Treatment of Transgender Individuals.

Ms. Hines thanked Chief Mace and Lt. Dyson.

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Chief Mace commended Lt. Dyson on the document.

Update on Police Canine Team of Patrolman Steven Fundakowski and K-9 Zuzo

Chief Mace advised he had received a \$25,000 grant to send Patrolman Fundakowski to training. Once he received certification, there will be another grant in the amount of \$14,000 to offset money spent on overtime while he was in training. There will be two K-9 teams.

Patrolman Fundakowski and Zuzo were in attendance. He starts patrol on the day shift on January 2, 2017. In August 2017, he will be eligible to be trained for narcotics detection.

Chief Mace said he is very proud of Officer Fundakowski. It's a big accomplishment for him and the police department.

Patrolman Fundakowski expressed his appreciation for the opportunity. It is something he has always wanted to do. Zuzo is 15 months.

Ms. Hines thanked his family.

He said Zuzo is kept in an outside kennel. He is introducing him to his children.

Chief Mace said his dad is also proud of him. Zuzo cost \$7,000.

Consider Accepting Donations to the Seekonk Animal Shelter

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

VOTED: To accept donations from several individuals to the Seekonk Animal Shelter.

Mr. Almeida expressed his appreciation. He noted majority of the donors are not from Seekonk.

Chairman Andrade added that Board members echo Mr. Almeida's sentiments.

Consider the Appointment of the Town Clerk, Town Administrator, Assistant Town Administrator, Chief of Police, Fire Chief and Department of Public Works Superintendent as Records Access Officers

Mr. Cadime said this is a new public records law that requires that every agency and municipality appoint one or more employees as the records access officer. Typically, it has been the Town Clerk and will continue to be the Town Clerk. He met with Mrs. Parker, and it was decided to have an individual from each building. He would like to include the Superintendent of Schools as well.

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

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VOTED: To appoint the Town Clerk, Town Administrator, Assistant Town Administrator, Chief of Police, Fire Chief, and Department of Public Works Superintendent as Records Access Officers.

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

VOTED: To amend the motion to include the Superintendent of Schools as Records Access Officer.

NEW BUSINESS

Set Date for Special Town Meeting

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

VOTED: To set February 27 as the date for the special town meeting and that the warrant open today and close on January 20, 2017.

Vote to Authorize the Town Administrator to Sign the Cemetery Documents

Mr. Cadime advised the closing was held. He signed one document and needs authorization backdated a week.

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

VOTED: To authorize the Town Administrator to sign cemetery documents, back dated one week.

Mr. Parker asked about the house on the property.

Mr. Cadime said he will look at it with both chiefs and the Superintendent of Public Works to make a decision on what to do. He had thought that fire and police could use it for training.

Consider the Approval of Minutes of November 16, 2016

Ms. Hines corrected paragraph 8 on page 9 to read, "They were back at the station and within a few seconds responded to a call at Applebee's."

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

VOTED: To accept the minutes of November 16, 2016, as amended.

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

Mr. James Waterman III, owner of Synergy Metals Recycling, complained about the amount of paperwork needed for license renewals. It was different from last year and similar to what he had to do when he opened the business. It took 3 ½ weeks to get the signatures he needed. He also complained about the cost of fingerprinting and he had to take time out of work to do that..

Mr. Cadime advised that the by-law is specific as to the fingerprinting. The police chief's interpretation is that fingerprints are required every year. The signoffs from department heads are to minimize any concerns they may have. CORI checks are limited as compared to fingerprinting.

Mr. Parker said he received complaints from various business owners. One made seven trips to town hall. He questioned why department heads can't forward the form to other departments. .

Mr. Cadime explained it would be very time-consuming to do it for all applications. Also, the owners are there to respond to any questions.

Mr. Parker said that 90% of these go through with no problem.

Mr. Cadime said it takes time to check all the information and there are over 100 applications. He felt they could improve on the process in the future by making sure department heads are in the office at a certain time.

Chairman Andrade agreed that would make it easier for the business owners.

Mr. Parker felt they have to be business friendly and also protect the town.

Ms. Hines thanked Mr. Waterman for his input. She has talked to Mr. Cadime about it. She suggested sending out the renewal packages before September.

Mr. Cadime noted the problem is most businesses wait until November to begin the process.

Ms. Hines said you can't have over 100 business owners coming to town hall on the same day.

Mr. Waterman understood both sides. Department heads would not speak to him until he had the signature of Chief Mace or Det. Enos. He made six trips over four different days.

Mr. Cadime recognized that improvements have to be made to streamline the process.

Mr. Almeida thanked Mr. Waterman for coming in. He commended him on the appearance of his business.

Mr. Waterman suggested an ad hoc committee that license holders could provide input.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discuss Other Topics not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chairman 48 Hours Before the Meeting - None.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Cadime reported the Town received notification of a \$20,000 state grant through the Community Compact Act to update the capital improvement plan. They will work with the governor's office to get necessary documentation. He would like to work with the UMass Boston Collins Center to come down and do a walk through of all buildings, including schools, to get an updated capital plan for our facilities.

The Town also applied for and received a \$25,000 grant (\$12,500 from the governor's office through the Community Compact Act and \$12,500 from SRPEDD) to prepare a brochure.

The by-law review committee has gone through all the by-laws and met with various department heads. They made recommended changes. The 190 page document is ready for review. Informal meetings will be held on Wednesdays, January 4 (DPW, Planning, Board of Health, Conservation), January 18 (Public Safety, animal control), and February 1 (other general by-laws). It will be televised on TV 9.

He hoped that everybody had a wonderful Christmas and extended best wishes for a Happy New Year.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Chairman Andrade extended his appreciation to the community for the support he received during the fire at his house shortly before Christmas. He thanked police and fire from Seekonk, Rehoboth, Barrington and Swansea. The fire was contained in the basement. His children had a fantastic Christmas. All stores in town substituted the toys that were ruined. He is looking for a temporary residence. He apologized for not returned some e-mails or text messages. He will get to that. He extended best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Veterans Memorial Committee Liaison Report

Mr. Viera said the weather has cooperated so additional bricks have been placed at the park. There are 12 left to put in. Repairs will be done in the spring.

He noted there have been three fires in the south end recently. Also, Fed Ex and a new assisted living facility are coming to that area. The Board of Selectmen needs to meet with the fire chief about building a fire station in the south end.

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Mr. Parker wished residents a Happy New Year.

Ms. Hines said the winter concert at the middle school was incredible. She praised the students and teacher.

She also wished everybody a Happy New Year.

Mr. Almeida added his best wishes for the new year.

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

VOTED: To dissolve at 8:06 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

David Viera, Clerk

Prepared by:

Patricia Gamer, Secretary