

**Board of Selectmen  
Open Meeting of February 1, 2023  
Seekonk Town Hall, 100 Peck Street  
BOS Meeting Room**

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Members Present: Justin Sullivan, Chris Zorra, Adam Petronio, David Andrade, Michael Healy  
Town Administrator: Shawn E. Cadime

Chairman Sullivan opened the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Board of Health Members Present: Stephanie Sousa, Victoria Kinniburgh, Scott Smith  
Health Agent: Brian Darling

Chairperson Stephanie Sousa opened the Board of Health meeting at 6:03 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: 3-0 all in favor  
Stephanie Sousa-Aye; Victoria Kinniburgh-Aye; Scott Smith-Aye

**D. Andrade made a motion enter into Executive Session for a Joint Meeting with the Board of Health; The Board will reconvene in open session; A. Petronio seconded, and unanimously approved.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0 all in favor**  
Michael Healy-Aye; Adam Petronio-Aye; Chris Zorra-Aye; David Andrade-Aye; Justin Sullivan-Aye

**V. Kinniburgh made a motion for the Board of Health to enter into Executive Session for a Joint Meeting with the Board of Selectmen; The Board of Health will not reconvene in open session; S. Sousa seconded, and unanimously approved.**

**Roll Call Vote: 3-0 all in favor**  
Stephanie Sousa-Aye; Victoria Kinniburgh-Aye; Scott Smith-Aye

*Chair Sullivan reconvened open session at 6:30 p.m.*

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0 all in favor**  
Michael Healy-Aye; Adam Petronio-Aye; Chris Zorra-Aye; David Andrade-Aye; Justin Sullivan-Aye

**Board and Committee Openings**

D. Andrade read the Board and Committee vacancies into the record.

**Community Speaks** – N/A

**A. Consider the appointment of Deputy Chief David Enos to the position of Chief of Police**

Mr. Cadime stated he recommended Deputy Chief David Enos be appointed to the position of Police Chief.

**M. Healy made a motion to appoint David Enos to the position of Police Chief; C. Zorra seconded, and unanimously approved.**

Chair Sullivan said the Board wanted to recognize the integrity and professionalism the Seekonk Police Department has shown in the past several weeks as the department transitions.

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

Michael Healy-Aye; Adam Petronio-Aye; Chris Zorra-Aye; David Andrade-Aye; Justin Sullivan-Aye

Chief David Enos was sworn in by Town Clerk, Florice Craig.

**B. Public Hearing: Consider the request for a transfer of an All-Alcohol On-Premise Liquor License to Indoor Sports Management, Inc., d/b/a Overtime, Matthew Rodrigues manager, located at 1314 Fall River Avenue**

**D. Andrade made a motion to open the public hearing at 6:38 p.m. it was seconded by A. Petronio, and it was unanimously approved.**

Roll Call Vote: 5-0 all in favor

Michael Healy-Aye; Adam Petronio-Aye; Chris Zorra-Aye; David Andrade-Aye; Justin Sullivan-Aye

Applicant(s) Matthew Rodrigues, Manager and Biz Hoogerzeil were present to summarize the application. The request to transfer the alcohol license from Won Sports to Teamworks.

Gary Sagar, President of the Seekonk Lions Club, spoke in favor of the transfer of license. The Taste of the Town on April 17<sup>th</sup> will be held at the facility and the license is important to the event.

No one was present to speak against the application.

**A. Petronio made a motion to close the public hearing at 6:40 p.m.; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

Roll Call Vote: 5-0 all in favor

Michael Healy-Aye; Adam Petronio-Aye; Chris Zorra-Aye; David Andrade-Aye; Justin Sullivan-Aye

**D. Andrade made a motion to approve the license as submitted; it was seconded by M. Healy, and it was unanimously approved.**

Vote: 5-0 all in favor

**C. License Hearing: Consider the request for a Class II Motor Vehicle License for Gerard DiSanto, Jr., MassRI Auto Sales, LLC, 87 Taunton Avenue**

**D. Andrade made a motion to open the licensing hearing at 6:41 p.m. it was seconded by A. Petronio, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

Michael Healy-Aye; Adam Petronio-Aye; Chris Zorra-Aye; David Andrade-Aye; Justin Sullivan-Aye

Gerard DiSanto, Jr., applicant and owner of MassRI Auto Sales, LLC, summarized the request for a Class II Motor Vehicle License.

No one was present to speak in favor or against the application.

**A. Petronio made a motion to close the licensing hearing at 6:42 it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

Michael Healy-Aye; Adam Petronio-Aye; Chris Zorra-Aye; David Andrade-Aye; Justin Sullivan-Aye

**A. Petronio made a motion to approve the request for a Class II Motor Vehicle License for MassRI with the stipulation that there will be no more than 25 vehicles parked in the lot at any time at 87 Taunton Avenue; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**D. Consider the request to rezone 1636 Fall River Avenue, rear, from R-4 to R-2 and forward to the Planning Board for a public hearing**

D. Andrade stated he was concerned making a lot smaller and the Board agreed.

C. Zorra said if the Planning Board does approve the rezone, it will move to a Town Meeting vote.

**D. Andrade made a motion to forward the rezone request to the Planning Board for a public hearing. The Board of Selectmen informs the Planning Board that the Board of Selectmen as a whole are not in favor of changing an R-4 Zone to an R-2 Zone; it was seconded by A. Petronio, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**E. Consider the appointment of Nelson Almeida as full member to the ZBA**

Mr. Cadime made the recommendation to appoint Nelson Almeida as a full member to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

**A. Petronio made a motion to appoint Nelson Almeida as a full member of the ZBA; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**F. Consider the appointment of Shane Halajko as alternate member to the ZBA**

Mr. Cadime made the recommendation to appoint Shane Halajko as an alternate member to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

**A. Petronio made a motion to appoint Shane Halajko as an alternate member for the ZBA; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**G. Consider the appointment of Joann LaFleur to the Tri County School Committee**

Mr. Cadime made the recommendation to appoint Joann LaFleur to the Tri County School Committee.

**D. Andrade made a motion to appoint Joann LaFleur to the Tri County School Committee; it was seconded by A. Petronio, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

**H. Read into the record the Moderator's appointment of Steven Rutter to the Municipal Capital Improvement Committee**

Chairman Sullivan read the Town Moderator's appointment into the record.

**I. Second Quarter Budget Review for FY 2023**

Mr. Cadime provided the second quarter FY23 budget update.

In summary:

-FY 23: DLS certified \$2,771,585 in free cash on October 4, 2022; 15% (\$1,662,951) to stabilization funds; marijuana excise \$114,412 to building stabilization; CBAs/miscellaneous appropriations \$317,806; 10% (\$277,159) reserve per financial policy; \$399,258 balance available for capital items.

-Assessor's Office: DLS approve recap and certified tax rate on November 25, 2022; Average Residential Market Growth 12% value increase (\$441,168); DLS certified new growth of \$685,836.

-FY23 Revenue Summary: Real Estate-slightly below target; Personal Property-above target; Motor vehicle excise-slightly below target; Meals and Hotel Tax-above target.

-Tax Title: 46 parcels in real estate tax title; 6 active payment plans; 13 parcels in town's possession; Auction Day was June 8<sup>th</sup> – 21 parcels back on tax roll while collection \$761,500; 24 cases moving through Land Court.

-FY23 Budget vs Actual Expenditures.

**J. Consider the approval of a Grant of Easement at 69 School Street for National Grid**

S. Cadime said an approval for an easement is required to get the electric to the building at 69 School Street.

**A. Petronio made a motion to approve the easement at 69 School Street; it was seconded by D. Andrade, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all approved**

**K. Discussion to consider a non-binding vote for a change of the form of Town Government**

Gary Sagar proposed asking a non-binding public opinion advisory question on the 2023 ballot. Town Meeting could either vote, or not vote, to move forward or replace the Town Meeting form of government. Out of 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts (50 cities and 301 towns), 263 of the 301 towns operate with an Open Town Meeting. The four forms of local government are: 1) Mayor/Council; 2) Town Council/Manager; 3) Open Town Meeting/Selectmen/Town Manager or Administrator; 4) Representative Town Meeting/Selectmen/Town Manager or Administrator.

J. Sullivan said the language for the ballot question would need to be approved by the February 15, 2023 Board of Selectmen meeting.

The Board was in favor with moving forward with the non-binding question on the ballot.

Michelle Hines, Ricard Street, suggested someone explain the options/differences, along with what they mean, to the residents. They will need more information before answering the ballot question.

M. Healy suggested the Town Administrator explain the options on a TV9 program.

Doreen Taylor, 175 Bradley Street, asked if the “binding” question would ultimately come from the Charter Commission/Committee.

Chair Sullivan answered yes.

**L. Consider opening the Warrant for Spring Town Meeting scheduled for May 8, 2023**

**M. Healy made a motion to open the Spring Town Meeting Warrant for May 8, 2023; it was seconded by A. Petronio, and it was unanimously approved.**

S. Cadime suggested leaving the Warrant open for 4 weeks.

**Vote: 5-0 all approved**

**M. Consider the approval of the January 4, 2023 Board of Selectmen minutes**

**A. Petronio made a motion to approve the Open Session minutes of January 4, 2023; it was seconded by C. Zorra, and it was unanimously approved.**

**Vote: 5-0 all approved**

**COMMUNITY SPEAKS:** N/A

**OTHER BUSINESS - N/A**

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

- A. South End Fire Station Building Committee – the Committee continues to work with architect.
- B. Department of Public Works Building Committee – N/A

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

- A. Accounts Payable Warrant
  - B. Bristol County Advisory Board (M. Healy) – N/A
  - C. Aitken School Expansion Building Committee Report (C. Zorra) – N/A
  - D. 540 Arcade Avenue Building Committee Report – (S. Cadime) More information will be provided at the next meeting. A construction meeting is scheduled for tomorrow. Michelle Hines said the HVAC system came in 4 months early. Walls, electrical work is going up. They have had issues but the project is moving forward.
- J. Sullivan said the town has been informed a new 40b application has been proposed for the Firefly property. A walkthrough has been scheduled for February 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.
- D. Andrade asked if a warming center has been set up for the resident for the upcoming freezing temperatures.

**Adjournment**

**A. Petronio made a motion to enter into executive session to reconvene in open session for contract approval for item A) to conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Fraternal Order of Police MASSCOP Local 215 per MGL 30A § 21(a) (3) as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town; B) to conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Police Chief, per MGL c 30A § 21(a) (2) as having the discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town; C) to act under authority of the Open Meeting Law, General Laws Chapter 30A, §22(f) and §22(g), and review and approve the executive session minutes of January 4, 2023 and January 18, 2023 pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(7) at 7:42 p.m.; it was seconded by D. Andrade, and unanimously approved.**

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0 all in favor**

Michael Healy-Aye; Adam Petronio-Aye; Chris Zorra-Aye; David Andrade-Aye; Justin Sullivan-Aye

Respectfully submitted,  
Adam Petronio, Clerk

Prepared by:  
Kristen L'Heureux

**Items Distributed at the February 1, 2023 Board of Selectmen Meeting**

- Transfer Of All-Alcohol On-Premise Liquor License Application for Indoor Sports Management, Inc., D/B/A Overtime.
- Class II Motor Vehicle License Application for Massri Auto Sales, 87 Taunton Avenue.
- Request For Rezone 1636 Fall River Avenue.
- Appointment Of Shane Halajko as Alternate Member Of ZBA.
- Appointment Of Joann LaFleur to Tri County School Committee.
- Town Moderator's Appointment of Steven Rutter to Capital Improvement Committee.
- Grant Of Easement Request for National Grid At 69 School Street.
- FY23 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Budget Review Presentation.
- Change Of Government Document provided by Mr. Sagar.
- Draft Meeting Minutes of January 4, 2023