

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JANUARY 9, 2019
REGULAR SESSION

Members Present: David Andrade, Nelson Almeida, David Viera, Michelle Hines, Chris Zorra

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 20(f), any person recording the meeting must notify the Chairman. The Board of Selectmen is recording via audio and visual.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE OPENINGS UPDATE

Mr. Almeida announced that volunteers are needed on the Charter Study Committee (up to 6 Board of Selectmen appointments), Conservation Commission (3 BOS), Cultural Council (2 BOS), Energy Committee (1 BOS), Historical Commission (3 BOS), Property Tax Work-Off Committee (3 BOS), Recycling Committee (up to 4 BOS), Taxation Aid Fund Committee (1 BOS), 540 Arcade Avenue Phase II Building Committee (3 Moderator, 2 BOS), Veterans Council (5 BOS).

COMMUNITY SPEAKS – None.

PRIORITY MATTERS

Appoint and Swear In Lt. Allan Grocott to the Position of Deputy Fire Chief

Chief Michael Healy noted the Board had appointed Lt. Grocott at the last meeting. He is the first full time deputy chief in the history of the Seekonk Fire Department.

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

VOTED: To swear in Allan Grocott as Deputy Fire Chief with the Seekonk Fire Department.

Asst. Town Clerk Loraine Sorel swore him in. His wife, Susan, pinned the badge.

Appoint and Promote Firefighter Adam Dalessio to the Position of Fire Lieutenant

Chief Healy requested the appointment of Firefighter Adam Dalessio as Lieutenant. Mr. Cadime recommended as stated by the Chief.

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

VOTED: To promote Adam Dalessio as Lieutenant with the Seekonk Fire Department, effective January 11, 2019.

Asst. Town Clerk Loraine Sorel swore in Lt. Dalessio. His wife, Jennifer, pinned his badge.

Consider the Conditional Offer of Employment to Jesse Kingman as a Probationary Third Class Firefighter

Chief Healy requested the conditional offer of employment to Jesse Kingman as a Probationary Third Class Firefighter. Mr. Cadime recommended as stated by Chief Healy.

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

VOTED: To extend a conditional offer of employment to Jesse Kingman as a Probationary Third Class Firefighter.

Chief Healy publicly thanked the Board and previous board members. In the 4 1/2 years he has been chief, this Board has supported every request.

Consider the Appointment of James Halpin to the Position of Truck Driver/Laborer for the Department of Public Works

DPW Supt. David Cabral recommended the appointment. Mr. Cadime concurred with the recommendation.

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

VOTED: To appoint James Halpin to the position of Truck Driver/Laborer with the Department of Public Works, effective Sunday, January 13, 2019.

Vote to Continue to Endorse Save-A-Pet Society

Save-A-Pet President Patricia Cloutier requested the Board's continued support.

Mr. Cadime recommended Board approval.

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

VOTED: To endorse the Save-A-Pet Society.

Mr. Viera commended the Save-A-Pet members for their hard work and assistance.

Vote to Allow the Town Administrator to Accept Gifts, Monetary and Tangible, Donated by Save-A-Pet Society to the Seekonk Animal Shelter during the Year 2019

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

VOTED: To authorize the Town Administrator to accept gifts, monetary and tangible, donated by Save-A-Pet Society to the Seekonk Animal Shelter during 2019.

Vote to Accept a \$300,000 Donation from the Save-A-Pet Society to the Town of Seekonk for the New Animal Shelter

Mrs. Cloutier presented the Board of Selectmen with a \$300,000 check for the new animal shelter.

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

VOTED: To absolutely accept the \$300,000 donation from Save-A-Pet Society to the Town of Seekonk for the new animal shelter.

Mrs. Cloutier thanked Mr. Cadime for his help. She also thanked the Save-A-Pet volunteers and staff at the shelter. She noted that some of the volunteers have waited 30 years for this to happen. She also thanked donors and the residents who voted to keep this project going.

Mrs. Cloutier explained the Save-A-Pet Society is a non-profit organization that assists the animal shelter through various fund raisers.

She noted the auction this year will be totally different. It will be on Friday, April 26, 2019, at the Ramada Inn.

Animal Control Officer Sharon Hall thanked Save-A-Pet members who raise money but also help out at the center.

Consider the Approval of the Contract for Architectural Services for Aitken School to include OPM Services

Chairman Andrade stated this was an oversite brought to his attention last night. It falls under the 48 hour rule.

Mr. David Saad, 154 Forsythe Circle, a member of the Aitken School Building Committee felt the RFP should have been sent out by that committee.

Chairman Andrade said it was presented at Town Meeting that the RFP went out and bids had come in. That is what delineated the dollar amount voted at Town Meeting.

Mr. Saad said the warrant article didn't state that. He questioned what the building committee will do.

Mr. Cadime said the building committee will approve the design and also review all invoices.

Chairman Andrade felt the School Committee needed to move forward because students are in temporary trailers.

Ms. Hines said it doesn't negate the building committee because it says design plans and specifications. The building committee has an architect to work with.

School Committee Chairwoman Kim Sluter clarified the process. This has been going on for several years. Multiple options were discussed at the Quad Board meeting on October 3, 2018.

On Mr. Cadime's recommendation, Ms. Hines motioned, seconded by Mr. Viera, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To award the contract to DRA Architects for designer services in the amount of \$498,500.

On Mr. Cadime's recommendation, Mr. Viera motioned, seconded by Ms. Hines, and it was unanimously

VOTED: To award the contract to Compass Management Group for Owners Project Management (OPM) in the amount of \$140,866

Mrs. Sluter thanked Board members. She is pleased to have Mr. Zorra as the Board's representative on the building committee.

PUBLIC HEARING

Consider the Request for a New Annual All Alcohol Liquor License for Won Sports, Inc. to be located at 1314 Fall River Avenue, Seekonk, MA, Brian LaFauci, Manager

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

VOTED: To open the public hearing at 7:36 p.m.

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

Mr. James Atchison and Mr. Brian LaFauci were in attendance.

Mr. Atchison said this property was purchased in October 2018. It is the building behind Fantasy Land on Route 6. It is undergoing extensive renovations for an indoor sports complex. There was an expired liquor license.

Mr. Al Vieira of 51 Mabel Drive had a problem unrelated to the license. He was asked to wait until "Community Speaks."

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

VOTED: To close the public hearing at 7:41 p.m.

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

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

VOTED: To approve the request for an annual all alcohol liquor license for Won Sports, Inc., located at 1314 Fall River Avenue, Seekonk, MA.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of Special Town Meeting for January 28, 2019
Consider Opening the Warrant for Special Town Meeting
Consider Closing the Warrant for Special Town Meeting
Consider Accepting the Warrant for Special Town Meeting

Chairman Andrade said the warrant is submitted by Charles Tapalian.

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

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Nay; To open the warrant for the Special Town Meeting as of today, January 9, 2019.

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

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

VOTED: To close the warrant for the Special Town Meeting as of today, January 9, 2019.

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

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Nay; To accept the warrant for the Special Town Meeting.

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

Prior to the vote, Mr. Almeida asked if legal had reviewed the article.

Mr. Cadime said legal has reviewed it but changes cannot be made. The motion has to be made at town meeting.

Ms. Hines said the motion has to be written and presented to the Town Clerk.

Mr. Almeida wanted to make sure the Special Town Meeting is advertised throughout the town.

Make Recommendations for Special Town Meeting Warrant

Chairman Andrade advised that, following the meeting two weeks ago, a request was received not to have the town meeting because of a scheduling conflict. The Town responded that 200 signatures were obtained and the Town Meeting has to be within 45 days. Mr. Cadime received a letter from Atty. Fair with the same information

Mr. Cadime said Atty. Brainsky approached him. The concern is the time between the public hearing by the Planning Board and the Special Town Meeting.

Mr. Cadime said the petition submitted by Mr. Tapalian has 200 signatures and according to the Atty. General's office, all signatures are considered petitioners.

Ms. Hines felt they signed to allow the petitioner to submit the petition.

Sign Town Meeting Warrant

Signed by Board Members except for Ms. Hines.

Consider the Approval of the Regular Session Minutes of December 12, 2018

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

VOTED: 4 Ayes; 1 Abstention; To accept the Regular Session minutes of December 12, 2019.

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

Consider the Approval of the Regular Session Minutes of December 26, 2018

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

VOTED: To accept the Regular Session minutes of December 26, 2018.

COMMUNITY SPEAKS

Mr. Viera of 51 Mabel Drive said the town cut down some trees and one of them was in his yard.

He said he stopped at Won Sports and observed the kids having a good time

Chairman Andrade said the matter will be brought to the attention of Mr. Cabral at DPW.

Mr. Tom Benoit said he sent e-mails to selectmen and the town moderator but didn't get any responses.

Selectmen indicated they have been getting e-mails.

Mr. Benoit verified that the committee at the Aitken School is a building committee not a design committee.

Mr. Cadime said the warrant article says building committee.

Mr. Benoit raised several concerns regarding the Cable TV contract.

Mr. Cadime said that will be an agenda items in the near future. He will put the contract on the website.

Mr. Almeida's concern is that Comcast doesn't have a local office.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR S REPORT

Mr. Cadime said the first meeting of the building committee was held today. Should break ground in March. He thanked Save-A-Pet. The \$300,000 donation will go a long way and is much needed.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Aitken School Expansion Building Committee Report

Mr. Zorra reported the committee consists of 9 members. There are people that haven't been involved in any other project. They will meet on Wednesday, January 16, at 6:30 p.m. A public

hearing will be held on Thursday, January 24, at 6:30 p.m. at the Aitken School.

Mr. Zorra would like to see more involvement with social media.

Mr. Cadime said the new website has been getting a lot of hits. Will continue to do those kind of things.

Mr. Zorra suggested that department minutes should be updated on the website.

He asked why Verizon is installing wires in the south end.

Ms. Hines announced the Taste of the Town is scheduled for March 5, 2019 at the Clarion Hotel. Tickets are \$30.

Mr. Almeida had residents asked about dogs not being banned in public. That is not happening.

He commended the new Superintendent of Schools and the School Committee on moving Dr. Whalen to the high school and Ms. Boucher to principal of the middle school.

Mr. Viera had a request from a Leonard Street resident to repair potholes.

He talked about assisting residents living in trailers because their homes were damaged by fire.

Chairman Andrade forwarded an e-mail to Mr. Cadime regarding branches, trees and telephone lines on West Avenue.

Mr. Cadime said the next agenda will include the make-up of the 540 Arcade Avenue Building Committee. There will be a meeting with the Planning Board regarding Jacoby Way. Counsel will be in attendance.

Mr. Cadime will schedule discussion on marijuana with the attorney at a future meeting.

In response to Ms. Hines question, Mr. Cadime he will interview applicants for the Veterans Council and made recommendations to the Board.

Mr. Viera noted any residents can apply; it does not have to be a veteran.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:29 p.m., Mr. Viera motioned, seconded by Ms. Hines, to go into Executive Session to conduct strategy sessions with respect to negotiations with the Deputy Fire Chief, per M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a) (2) as having discussion in open session would be detrimental to the litigation or bargaining position of the town and to approve Executive Session minutes of December 12, 2018; to reconvene in Open Session.

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

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

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

VOTED: To approve and sign the contract with Deputy Fire Chief Allan Grocott.

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

VOTED: To adjourn at 8:41 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

David Viera, Clerk

Prepared by:

Patricia Gamer, Secretary

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Items Distributed at the January 9, 2019 Board of Selectmen Meeting

Application from James Halpin for position of Truck Driver/Laborer

Documents for Liquor License for Won Sports, Inc.