

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
Natick Town Hall
September 8, 2015
6:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Charles M. Hughes, Richard P. Jennett, Jr., Joshua Ostroff, Nicholas S. Mabardy and John Connolly

Also Present: Town Administrator Martha White and Executive Assistant Donna Donovan

Executive Session

Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Hughes, moved to enter into executive session to discuss matters pertaining to collective bargaining. By roll call vote the Board voted to enter into executive session. At 6:10 p.m. the Board entered into executive session after announcing that the meeting would return to open session.

The Chair further announced that discussion of collective bargaining in open session would have a detrimental effect on the Board of Selectmen's negotiating position.

The open session was reconvened at 7:15 p.m.

Citizen's Concerns

1. Firefighter Danny Hartwell expressed his disappointment with how the Insurance Advisory Committee was selected and how the vote to engage in the process to change health insurance benefits under MGL C. 32B, s. 21-23 at the meeting of August 31, 2015 was handled.

Appointments with the Board of Selectmen

1. **Application for a Common Victualer's License – Natick Burrito, LLC d/b/a Moe's Southwest Grill**
Applicant Steven Hickson appeared before the Board stating that he was the new owner of the restaurant. He also stated that there were no other changes with the restaurant. On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to approve the common victualer's license.
2. **Interviews for Appointments to the Open Space Advisory Committee**
The Board interviewed applicant Ben McNally. Mr. McNally stated that he has been a resident of Natick for 3 ½ years and would like to be involved in community affairs. He is interested in this committee because of his interest in green space. The Board deferred voting until they interview other applicants on 9/21/15.
3. **Application for a One Day Alcohol License: - Natick Service Council**
Carol Gloff informed the Board that the Service Council is requesting a one day license for a fundraising event being held on October 17, 2015 at the Natick Mall. The event will run from 7:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m. Guests will be by invitation only and 150-200 attendees are anticipated. On the recommendation of Lt. Lauzon, the Service Council will hire one detailed police officer. On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to approve the one day alcohol license and to waive the \$50 fee.

Discussion and Decision

1. **Acceptance of Donations**

On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to accept a \$100 donation from the Somerville Auxiliary Police to be expended upon the direction of Police Chief James Hicks.

2. **Fall Town Meeting Warrant Articles**

- Article 18 – Amend Prior Town Meeting Vote Regarding MathWorks Mitigation Funds (Route 27 Design) Martha White spoke to Article 18 stating that the prior town meeting vote authorized relocating the Felch House to accommodate a right turn lane from Bacon Street onto Route 27. The need for the right turn lane has diminished and therefore the Felch House no longer needs to be relocated. Ms. White further stated that they are requesting authorization to use the funds for Rt. 27 design work and associated costs. On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted favorable action.
- Article 19 – Amend Prior Town Meeting Vote Regarding MathWorks Mitigation Funds (Affordable Housing) Ms. White spoke to Article 19 stating that at a prior Town Meeting funds were appropriated for affordable housing at the Felch House. A small portion of the funds were expended on survey work and Article 19 would allow the remaining balance to be allocated to affordable housing not location specified. On a motion by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board voted unanimously to recommend favorable action with the money spent under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.
- Article 21 – Home Rule Petition: Authorizing the Town to Assess Fines for Failure to Remove Telephone Poles Mr. Ostroff spoke to this article stating that utility companies would be given a specific number of days to remove wires and/or poles before fines would be assessed. On a motion by Mr. Connolly, seconded by Mr. Mabardy, the Board unanimously voted to recommend favorable action.
- Article 26 – Home Rule Petition: Shade Trees on Unacceptable Roads – Ms. White expressed concern with this article stating that the Town did not have the staff or funds to care for trees on private ways. Board members agreed that although this issue has been a concern there is not a viable solution at this time. On a motion by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to refer this article.
- Article 27 – Appropriate Funds for Route 30/Speen Street Intersection Design – Ms. White stated that \$12,000 was received from the Town of Framingham in agreement for abandoning easements for sewer beds and she recommended that this money be spent to benefit both communities On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted favorable action.
- Article 29 – Appropriate Funds for Comprehensive Master Plan - Mr. Ostroff recommended the following motion: “Move to appropriate the sum of \$200,000 from Free Cash for the procurement of professional services for the first phases of developing a Comprehensive Master Plan consistent with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 41, Section 81D; to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen with the concurrence of the Planning Board, with professional services to be provided subject to the oversight of the Master Planning Steering Committee, or other committee so charged by the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board; and to provide **regular reports back to the Planning Board and** a report on the progress of said Comprehensive Master Plan at each following Spring and Fall Annual Town Meeting until said plan is **completed and** accepted by the Planning Board.” On Mr. Hughes, recommendation, Article 29 was tabled until 9/21 to allow the Planning Board the opportunity to take this motion into consideration.

3. **Appointment of Election Workers**

Town Clerk Diane Packer presented a list of election workers to the Board for their approval. Mr. Ostroff and Mr. Jennett both disclosed that their spouses were being considered for election workers. On a motion by Mr. Mabardy, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to approve the list of election workers.

4. Request to Co-Sponsor Veterans Appreciation Dinner

Mr. Ostroff informed the Board that the dinner is being held at the fire house and is funded mostly through donations. On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Connolly, the Board unanimously voted to co-sponsor this event.

5. Parking RFP Committee Appointments

On a motion by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to appoint the Community and Economic Development Director.

On a motion by Mr. Mabardy, seconded by Mr. Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Steve Brayman as the Natick Center Associates Representative.

On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Connolly, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Andy Meyer as the Planning Board Representative.

On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Hughes, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Town Meeting members Carol Gloff and Tony Lista.

On a motion by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to approve Paul McKinley Chair Pro Tem. Mr. Hughes will contact Mr. McKinley.

Discussion followed regarding the need for this committee to develop an RFP for the potential development sites at the Middlesex Ave and South Ave lots.

6. Acceptance of Resignation from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Committee

On a motion by Mr. Mabardy, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously vote to accept the resignation of Katie Turcot.

7. Acceptance of Resignation from the Economic Development Committee

Paul Joseph submitted his resignation and stated that it was due to him recently being named the President and CEO of the Metrowest Chamber of Commerce. On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to accept Mr. Joseph's resignation. Mr. Jennett thanked Mr. Joseph for his many years of service to the Town.

Requested Action

1. Natick Soccer Club – Request to Hang Banner

On a motion by Mr. Mabardy, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to approve Natick Soccer Club's request to hang the banner from October 6 – October 12, 2015.

2. Charlotte Bourhis - Request to hold a Block Party on Morningside Avenue

On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to grant the block party request.

3. Tasker Smith – Request to Hold a Block Party on Rockland Street

Mr. Smith was present to discuss his request. After some discussion and review of the Police recommendation to deny the block party the Board moved to table this matter until the meeting of 9/21/15.

Selectmen's Concerns

Mr. Ostroff expressed concern with communication and recommended more updates from staff. Mr. Ostroff stated that Natick Days will take place on September 12th.

Mr. Mabardy recently held selectmen's hours at the community/senior center and met with a resident concerned about the condition of East School. Ms. White will address this. Mr. Mabardy asked about a potential override, free cash and state aid. Mr. Hughes advised that this would be discussed at another meeting. Mr. Mabardy inquired about permit parking in the police and fire department parking lot. Mr. Hughes replied that this is scheduled to be discussed at the meeting of September 28th. Mr. Mabardy referred to a recent flood at Lilja School and asked what the expenses were to repair the damage. Ms. White replied that the Facilities Director is handling the matter and that most of it has been remedied and they are in the process of filing a claim with the insurance company

Mr. Jennett commented that the contractor's communication regarding the Lake Street project has improved however he is of the opinion that there should be some retribution to the community. Ms. White replied that it under consideration however, she was not in a position to talk about it this evening.

On a motion by Mr. Connolly, seconded by Mr. Jennett the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.



Nicholas S. Mabardy, Clerk

A list of all documents used at this Board of Selectmen meeting are available at:

<http://naticktown.novusagenda.com/AGENDAPUBLIC/MeetingView.aspx?MeetingID=176&MinutesMeetingID=25&doctype=Agenda>