

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Edward H. Dlott Meeting Room  
AGENDA  
August 31, 2015  
6:00 PM

**Present:** Chairman Charles M. Hughes, J 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. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, moved to enter into executive session to discuss matters pertaining to collective bargaining, real estate negotiations and executive session minutes. By roll call vote the Board voted to enter into executive session. Mr. Ostroff, Mr. Mabardy, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Connolly and Mr. Jennett all voted in favor of the motion. At 6:00 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, real estate negotiations and executive session minutes 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**

Resident Kathy Coughlin announced that a meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Community Center. The meeting is open to the public and is an opportunity for residents to brain storm and share ideas in an open forum.

**Appointments with the Board of Selectmen**

**1. Request to Reserve Parking Spaces on the Common**

Sustainability Coordinator Jillian Wilson-Martin appeared before the Board to request to reserve 4-6 spaces on Park Street by the Common for an electric car showcase. Ms. Wilson-Martin stated that the local chapter of the Sierra Club is collaborating with the Natick Farmers' Market to celebrate "National Drive Electric Week" by hosting an electric car showcase during market hours on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. The event will showcase 4-6 electric and hybrid/electric cars from local dealers and help educate Natick residents and farmer market attendees on the electric car options that are available to them. The head of the farmers' market, Deb Sayre, is helping to coordinate the event and has indicated the spaces will not be needed for market vendors. On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to approve Ms. Wilson-Martin's request.

**2. Natick House Restaurant Application for a Common Victualler's License**

Christos Efthimaiois appeared before the Board to request approval for a common victualler's license. Mr. Efthimaiois stated that he is purchasing what was formerly named the "Grillin Greek" at 1 Union Street and would be changing the name to Natick House Family Restaurant. A copy of the lease, floor plan, business certificate, workers compensation insurance affidavit and tax attestation form were submitted. On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Common Victualler's license.

## **2. Public Hearing: Consider Changes to Natick Center Parking Rates, Times and zones**

The public hearing was opened and Mr. Mabardy read the hearing notice into the record. Chairman Paul McKinley presented the recommended meter rates.

The following persons spoke in concern for the new parking regulations:

- Assistant Library Director Jane Findley
- Resident Amy Keefe
- Resident Julian Munnich
- Resident Amy Maverick
- Resident Zachary Gates
- Resident Karen Oakley
- Resident Steve Brandt
- Children's Librarian Susan Marie Barnicle

Mr. McKinley explained that the Committee was only asking the Selectmen to vote on meter rates this evening and all concerns raised would be addressed going forward. On a motion by Mr. Connolly, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to close the public hearing and to support the meter rate increase as proposed.

## **3. Joint Interviews with the School Committee to Fill a Vacancy on the School Committee**

The following candidates submitted letters of interest for the school committee vacancy:

- Jeffrey Alderson
- Walter Andrews
- Julie McDonough
- Donna McKenzie
- Hayley Sonneborn

Each candidate was asked to speak for 5 minutes on why they were interested in serving on the School Committee and what they thought they could contribute. All candidates were asked to wait outside the meeting room until it was their turn to speak.

The School Committee and the Board of Selectmen jointly voted 9-2 to appoint Julie McDonough to fill the vacancy until the March, 2016 election. John Connolly voted for Walter Andrews and Nick Mabardy voted for Donna McKenzie.

## **4. Mill Creek Realty Trust: Update on Lake Street Drainage Project**

Jim Lambert and Mark Powers from Mill Creek Realty Trust were presented. Both stated that residents have been receiving weekly email updates and Mark Powers is on site full time. They also stated that the project has not gone exactly as planned and the anticipated completion date is November 10, 2015. Delays were contributed to rain, re-doing a sewer line, discovery of more ledge and the need to dig a wider trench. Mr. Connolly suggested not releasing the performance bond until residents are satisfied. Mr. Jennett recommended not releasing the bond until Spring of 2016 to make certain trees, shrubbery and other landscaping is acceptable. When asked what they planned on doing for residents, Mr. Lambert replied that he was looking into mitigation however he was not in a position to discuss it this evening. Laurie Hall of 8 Lake Street commented that communication still needed to improve.

## **5. Community Services Director: Community Senior Center Building Use Policy & Fees**

Community Service Director Jemma Lambert presented the following proposed fee increases:

Natick Non-Profits/Residents Rates per Hour

	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Great Room Weekday	\$40.00	\$50.00
Great Room Weekend	\$50.00	\$50.00
Gym Weekday	\$10.00	\$42.00
Gym Weekend	\$35.00	\$42.00
Classroom Weekday	\$10.00	\$25.00
Classroom Weekend	\$25.00	\$25.00
CSC Sponsored Groups	\$0	\$10.00 Flat Charge

On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board voted 4-1 to approve the proposed fee increases. Mr. Connolly opposed.

Ms. Lambert presented the following rental policy changes:

- Streamlining of cancellation policy to 5 days regardless of space rented
- Requirement that minors be supervised by responsible adult when in premises
- Clarification that rooms not rented are off-limits
- Addition of language barring the charging of admission fees and/or the selling of goods by those renting the facility
- New language stating that damage and/or requirement of excessive cleaning of CSC space(s) may result in denial of future use
- Requirement of \$100.00 security deposit for events involving more than 40 persons

On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board voted 4-1 to approve the proposed rental policy changes. Mr. Connolly opposed.

## **6. Community and Economic Development Director: Update on Master Planning Steering Committee**

Jamie Erickson was present to update the Board on the Comprehensive Master Plan (Natick 360). Mr. Erickson presented a draft scope of work which provides the basis for which a funding request is being made at the 2015 Fall Town Meeting. Mr. Erickson further stated that this a multi-year effort and topics will include everything from housing and economic development, to transportation and mobility, to natural and historic resources, among others. Mr. Erickson also stated that the master planning process is extensive and includes public outreach and education. The final document will include an implementation program that provides a clear outline of short and long range action steps towards the Natick 360 vision. Mr. Erickson informed the Board that a specific motion, including a recommendation appropriation will be available for the Selectmen's meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Ostroff recommended taking action on this Article on September 8<sup>th</sup> and to not issue an RFP until action has been taken.

## **DISCUSSION AND DECISION**

### **1. Acceptance of Donations**

On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to accept a donation to the Natick Police Department from the Somerville Auxiliary Police in the amount of \$100.00 to be expended upon the direction of the Police Chief.

On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to accept a \$650.00 grant from Bay Path Elder Services to the Natick Council on Aging.

On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to accept a \$4000.00 grant from New England Grassroots Environment Fund to Natick Goes Green.

## **2. Vote to Engage in the Process to Change Health Insurance Benefits under M.G.L. c 32B, s 21-23**

Consultant Sue Shillue of Cooke & Company stated that adopting this law would allow the Town to enter into the process with unions and retirees to make changes in health insurance benefits. Ms. Shillue further presented a time line and explained the negotiating process with the public employee committee (PEC). Health Insurance would no longer be part of collective bargaining negotiations. Ms. Shillue also stated that if the Town and the PEC cannot come to an agreement then they appear before a 3 person panel for arbitration. She has only seen one community go before the panel; all the other communities have come to an agreement.

Mr. Connolly stated that he would not support this and that there should have been an Insurance Advisory Committee

Mr. Hughes reiterated that adopting the MA General Law does not mean that the Town will move to the MA Group Insurance Commission (GIC) however, it allows the Town to consider the GIC

The following employees spoke of concern with the process:

- Carol Bartlett – Morse Library
- Kevin Delehanty – Police Department
- Beth Hefler – Police Department
- Jim Aroujo – School Department
- Rose Hueling – Morse Library

Addressing concerns, Ms. Shillue stated that no changes in health insurance would take place prior to July 1, 2016.

Mr. Ostroff motioned to adopt M.G.L. c 32B, s 21-23. Mr. Jennett seconded.

Mr. Connolly motioned to postpone a vote until March 30<sup>th</sup> to allow unions to meet. Mr. Hughes's seconded.

The motion to adopt M.G.L. c 32B, s 21-23 passed by a 3 – 1 – 1 vote. Mr. Connolly opposed and Mr. Mabardy abstained.

## **3. Fall Town Meeting Warrant Articles**

Mr. Hughes stated that no discussion would take place regarding warrant articles this evening, however, if people have recommendations on any articles they should be submitted to either him or Mr. Chenard prior to any upcoming meetings for consideration.

## **4. Fiscal 2017 Budget Discussion**

Deputy Town Administrator and Director of Finance Jeff Towne gave a brief overview of the three-year projection, local option room and meals tax revenue, financial management principles, stabilization funds, and valuation results for the contributory retirement system.

## **5. Reconsideration of Invoice for Appraisal Services for 22 Pleasant Street**

This item was tabled until 9/28/15.

## **REQUESTED ACTION**

On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of August 3, 2015, August 25, 2015

On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Connolly, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Paynter & Reyes Family request to hold a block party on Grove Road

On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Connolly, the Board unanimously voted to approve Natick Community Organic Farm's request to hang a banner

On a motion by Mr. Connolly, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Riverbend School's request to hang a banner.

On a motion by Mr. Connolly, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Boston Athletic Association's parade permit for April 18, 2016.

### **SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS**

Mr. Mabardy stated that he has requested budget materials from the School Department and has not received anything yet. Mr. Hughes will follow up..

On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board adjourned at 12:00 a.m.

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

<http://naticktown.novusagenda.com/AGENDAPUBLIC/MeetingView.aspx?MeetingID=174&MinutesMeetingID=24&doctype=Agenda>