

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Edward H .Dlott Meeting Room
August 17, 2015
5:30 PM

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, real property and executive session minutes. By roll call vote the Board voted to enter into executive session. At 5:30 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 property 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 7:00 p.m.

Announcements

Mr. Hughes announced that Ed Salamoff day will take place on September 9th at the Sassamon Trace Golf Course. A memorial dedication will take place at the 1st hole at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Mabardy advised the Selectmen to speak into the microphones because he has received comments from residents stating it is hard to understand them when watching on television.

Mr. Mabardy announced that there is a telephone scam taking place in which the callers are claiming they are from the IRS. Mr. Mabardy advised to not give any information and to notify the police.

Mr. Hughes congratulated Mr. Connolly on the recent marriage of his daughter.

Mr. Ostroff recognized the good work of the Department of Public Works with a warm weather emergency over the weekend.

What's New

Meena Jain, Bacon Free Library: Children's Illustrators Auction

Ms. Jain spoke of a Children's Illustrators Auction Art Gallery showing taking place at the library on November 1st. To date, 85 illustrators have donated over 100 pieces of art and at least 5 illustrators will be attending the showing. An on line auction is currently taking place.

Citizen's Concerns

Bob Awkward asked about the acquisition of 22 Pleasant Street. Mr. Hughes replied that the Board is doing what they can to move forward with the purchase

Appointments with the Board of Selectmen

Steven Lee: Request Waiver of a Five Year Street Opening Moratorium

Mr. and Mrs. Lee were present and stated that they are currently building a house at 33 West Lake Street and they were unaware there was a 5 year street opening moratorium in place. Mr. & Mrs. Lee are requesting a waiver so the utility companies can run underground wires to the dwelling. Mr. Mabardy expressed concern with streets not being repaved correctly. Ms. White will follow up with the engineering division. On a motion by Mr. Connolly, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to approve the waiver.

Procurement Officer Peter Roche: Electronic Voting Service Contract

Peter Roche, Rich Sydney and Hank Szretter and Todd Gillenwater from the Information System Advisory Board (ISAB) were present to discuss the electronic voting service contract. Mr. Roche stated that they are recommending the contract be awarded to Option Technologies not to exceed \$15,000 per year. Mr. Sydney added that the recommendation was suppose o be a joint decision with the ISAB and, on their oversight, it was not. ISAB is meeting on September 23rd and Mr. Sydney suggested approving the award contingent upon ISAB’s support. Mr. Gillenwater stated t\hat as long as they had all the material ahead of time to review, he felt confident they could make a decision on September 23rd. On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board voted 2-3 to approve the contract conditioned upon ISAB approval. Mr. Ostroff and Mr. Jennett voted in favor. Mr. Connolly, Mr. Mabardy and Mr. Hughes opposed. The motion did not pass. It was advised that the parties return to the Selectmen on 9/28/15 pending action at the ISAB meeting of 9/23/15.

Treasurer Stephen Price: Establish Useful Life of Departmental Equipment in Anticipation of Borrowing

On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett the Board unanimously voted that the maximum useful life of the department equipment listed below to be financed with the proceeds of the equipment borrowing authorized by the vote of the Town passed April 30, 2015 (Articles 21 and 22) are hereby determined pursuant to G.L. c. 44, s7(9) as follows:

Article, Motion & Item #	Purpose	Borrowing Amount	Maximum Useful Life
Article 22, Motion B, Item 1	Portable Classrooms	\$1,097,800	10 years
Article 21, Motion B, Item 7	Replace S-31 Trash Packer	280,000	7 years
Article 21, Motion B, Item 8	Recycling Side Arm Packer	275,000	7 years
Article 21, Motion B, Item 10	Replace H-56 Two Loader Mounted Snow Blowers	275,000	7 years
Article 21, Motion B, Item 12	Replace LF-9 Bucket Truck	200,000	10 years
Article 21, Motion B, Item 9	Replace SH-61 Sidewalk Machine	142,000	10 years
Article 22, Motion C, Item 1	Golf Course Greens Aerator	28,000	5 years

Susan Salamoff: Interview for Appointment to the Master Planning Steering Committee

Ms. Salamoff stated she is requesting an appointment as an at-large member. Ms. Salamoff cited her experience as a former selectman, finance committee member, council on aging chairperson

as well as her career in public relations and marketing. On a motion by Mr. Mabardy, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Ms. Salamoff to the Master Planning Steering Committee.

Interviews for Appointments to the Natick Center Parking RFP Advisory Committee

Thomas Iskra – Mr. Iskra stated that he is a professional engineer and has experience designing parking garages. He further stated that he also has experience at the development stage and has pursued RFP's

Paul McKinley – Mr. McKinley stated that he is seeing progress made and commended the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator and Police Chief for their efforts.

On a motion by Mr. Mabardy, seconded by Mr. Connolly the Board unanimously voted to appoint Mr. Iskra and Mr. McKinley to the Natick Center Parking Advisory Committee.

Interviews for Appointment to the Recreation & Parks Commission

Wayne Szretter – Mr. Szretter stated that he has been long standing member and is seeking re-appointment for another three year term.

Garrett Mann – Mr. Mann stated that he is very involved with the recreation and parks programs and that he serves on the Board of Directors for the Natick Soccer Club. Mr. Mann also stated that he launched the first special needs soccer program. Mr. Mann opined that the department should focus on transferring sites that are no longer in use into recreational use and increasing special needs programs.

By paper ballot, the Board voted 3-2 to re-appoint Wayne Szretter for another three-year term. Mr. Hughes and Mr. Ostroff voted for Mr. Mann and Mr. Jennett, Mr. Mabardy and Mr. Connolly voted for Mr. Szretter.

Interviews for Appointments to the Cochituate Rail Trail Committee (Continued from 8/3/16)

David Camacho – Mr. Camacho cited his experience as a current member of the committee.

Eric Jones – Mr. Jones stated he would like to be more engaged in Town and has an interest in outdoor activities. Mr. Jones also stated that he is up to speed with the project and he would be able to contribute right away.

Gerald Barboni, Paul Gorman and Peter Wellman were interviewed on 8/3/2016. Joseph Morello and Paul Lucot did not attend either meeting.

By paper ballot, the Board unanimously voted to re-appoint David Camacho to a three-year term.

By paper ballot, the Board voted 3-2 to appoint Eric Jones to a term expiring 6/30/2016. Mr. Connolly voted for Mr. Wellman and Mr. Mabardy voted for Mr. Gorman.

24 Associates, LLC: Petition for a Change in Manager

Town Counsel, David DeLuca informed the Board that the petition in change of manager was filed to be in compliance with their alcohol license. A hearing was held on August 3rd and July 20th for an alcohol license violation because it was found during some compliance checks that the Manager on record, Mitchell Maxwell, was never a manager on duty. As part of the disciplinary action, they were told to submit the change in manager application immediately. On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to approve the change in manager from Mitchell Maxwell to Luke R. Foley

Public Hearing: Transfer of All Alcohol License from 24 Associates, LLC to Torchona Group, LLC

Mr. Mabardy read the public hearing notice into the record. Attorney John Burke was present with his clients Luke Foley and Eric Zediker, owners of Torchona Group, LLC. Atty. Burke stated that the owners did not hold interest in any other licenses, they were TIPS certified, and they were over the age of 21 with no criminal records.

Discussion followed regarding the current owner's alcohol license violation of not having the proper manager on record. The potential new owners were informed that this violation runs with the establishment so therefore the burden of the violation would be transferred to them.

Discussion also followed regarding an alleged dispute with a former partner and the current owner. Atty. DeLuca advised that this did not involve the Board and no discussion needed to take place.

The public hearing was closed. On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to approve the transfer of the all alcohol license from 24 Associates, LLC to Torchona Group, LLC.

Meeting with the Natick School Committee regarding FY2017 & FY2018 Budget Projections

School Superintendent Peter Sanchioni presented FY2017 and FY2018 recover budgets, level service budgets and baselined budgets. Dr. Sanchioni also presented FY2017 and FY2018 projected new staff positions as well as new curriculum and equipment expenses and an FY2017 operating expense increase explanation. The School Committee is recommending level service budgets with a combined deficit of approximately \$6M. Discussion followed regarding increases in student enrollment, impacts on personnel cuts, and consideration of an override.

School Committee Chair, Amy Mistrot stated that the proposed budgets reflect input from the Financial Planning Committee.

Mr. Hughes expressed frustration with not having material ahead of time for review.

Ms. Mistrot read a statement which, in summary, stated that the School Committee would not be requesting an override.

DISCUSSION AND DECISION

Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles

Article 13 – Reduce Property Tax Deferral Program Interest Rate – Director of Assessor, Jan Dangelo spoke to this Article and recommended a motion to reduce the rate of interest that accrues on property taxes deferred by eligible seniors under MGL c. 59. S 5, clause 41S from 4.5% to 2% with such reduced rate to apply to any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2016.. On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Connolly, the Board unanimously voted to sponsor Article 13.

Article 14 – Increase Gross Receipts for Eligibility For Property Tax Deferral Program - Ms. Dangelo spoke to this Article and recommended a motion to increase the gross receipts that seniors may have in the prior calendar year to be eligible to defer property taxes under MGL c. 59, s. 5, Clause 41A from \$40,000 to \$56,000, with such increase to be effective for deferrals granted for taxes assessed for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2016. On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Connolly, the Board unanimously voted to sponsor Article 14.

Article 18 – Amend Prior Town Meeting Vote Regarding MathWorks Mitigation Funds (Route 27 Design) - Ms. White stated that she will be the sponsor of this Article which would allow previously appropriated funds for signalization and turning lane improvements at Rout 27 and Bacon Street to be used for Route 27 design.

Article 20 - Endorse Board of Health Initiative Regarding Regulations to Reduce the Use of Plastic Bags – Ms. White stated that she will be the sponsor of this article and although Town Meeting approval is not needed it is important to know what the Town interest is.

Article 21 - Home Rule Petition Authorizing the Town to Assess Fines for Failure to Remove Utility Poles – Mr. Ostroff asked for support of this Article. On a motion by Mr. Connolly, seconded by Mr. Mabardy, the unanimously voted to sponsor Article 21.

Article 26 - Home Rule Petition: Shade Trees on unaccepted Roads – Ms. White spoke of concern with this potential article citing potential costs. Mr. Ostroff spoke of safety concerns stating that they get worse every year. On a motion by Mr. Connolly, seconded by Mr. Mabardy, the Board unanimously voted to sponsor this Article with further discussion.

Cochituate Rail Trail Design Contract

Mr. Ostroff stated that the CRT Advisory Committee voted to recommend the Board of Selectmen and Conservation Commission approve a contract with BETA for final design of the Cochituate Rail Trail. On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Connolly, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed contract with BETA subject to procurement and legal review and modification within the intent of the agreement; any substantive changes would need to come back for approval.

Community Compact

Ms. White stated that the Community Compact is a relatively new program established by Governor Baker and his Administration through which the Governor's office has committed to partner with cities and towns to help communities develop "best practices" in areas such as financial management, housing/economic development, education, energy/environment, technology, transportation/citizen safety, regional cooperation, etc. Participating communities identify a fairly specific area that they wish to address.

Ms. White asked for the Board's support in developing a comprehensive approach to the opiate crisis. Ms. White further stated that her hope is that the Town can make a real difference by bringing the right parties together to collaboratively develop and implement inclusive and wide-ranging best practices in areas such as prevention, treatment, enforcement, education and more.

On a motion by Mr. Connolly, seconded by Mr. Mabardy, the Board unanimously voted to support developing a comprehensive approach to the opiate crisis.

REQUESTED ACTION

Natick Visiting Nurses Association: Request to Hang Banner

On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Connolly, the Board unanimously voted to approve the request to hang a banner from August 23 to August 30, 2015 and September 27 – October 3, 2015.

Bessonova-DeCarvalho Family: Request to Hold a Block Party on Travis Road

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

James Duffy: Request to Hold Block Party on Circular Avenue

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

America Needs Fatima: Request Use of the Common

On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to approve the use of the Common on October 10, 2015 and to not charge a fee.

Recreation & Park: Request to Conduct Natick Days & Hang Banner for Natick Days

On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to approve Natick Days on September 12, 2015 (rain date September 13, 2015) and to hang a banner from August 30 – September 13, 2015.

Selectmen's Concerns

Mr. Connolly asked if Eversource had responded to Mr. Hughes regarding utility poles. Mr.

Hughes responded no and that he would contact them again. Ms. White added that their work on Pine and Oak Street is progressing.

Mr. Ostroff suggested holding a public hearing to discuss the utility poles on Pine Street adding that 3 hearings were held but they were not well publicized.

Mr. Mabardy requested a forecast on future revenue growth for the next two years. Mr. Mabardy also commented that Financial Planning meeting minutes would be helpful. Mr. Hughes replied that he would obtain them.

Mr. Jennett referred to a letter in correspondence from a citizen concerned about South Street asking that the concern be looked into.

On a motion by Mr. Connolly, seconded by Mr. Jennett the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 11:15 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=172&MinutesMeetingID=23&doctype=Agenda>