

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – TOWN OF NATICK

MEETING MINUTES

EDWARD H. DLOTT MEETING ROOM – NATICK TOWN HALL

August 6, 2018

6:00 PM

PRESENT: Chair Amy K. Mistrot, Vice Chair Susan G. Salamoff, Clerk Michael J. Hickey, Jr., Jonathan Freedman, and Richard P. Jennett, Jr.

ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator Melissa A. Malone, Deputy Town Administrator/Operations Bill Chenard, and Executive Assistant Trish O’Neil

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m., noting that a quorum (Ms. Mistrot, Ms. Salamoff, and Mr. Jennett) was present and that the meeting had been duly posted, and requested a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property (Sawin House and Mechanic Street) and discussion of strategy under purpose 3 (NPOA v. JLMC and the Town of Natick, 1884 CV 02333 and Massachusetts Opioid Litigation Attorneys [MOLA]), with the Chair announcing that discussion of Executive Session matters in Open Session would have a detrimental effect on the Board of Selectmen’s negotiating and litigation positions and the Town’s interests. Ms. Salamoff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, moved to enter into Executive Session and, by a roll call vote, the Board voted 3-0-0 in favor of the motion. The Board entered into Executive Session at 6:05 p.m., the Chair announcing that the meeting would return to Open Session at approximately 7:00 p.m. All five Board Members were present when Executive Session convened.

Open Session reconvened at 7:16 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed for those protecting our country.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Hickey read an announcement from the Department of Public Works regarding a new option for residents with a valid Recycling Center sticker for disposition of cooking oil at the Recycling Center on West Street during regular hours of operation.

Mr. Hickey also read an announcement regarding the need for volunteers to help plan the ninth consecutive Natick Earth Day festival scheduled for April 29, 2019 and provided appropriate contact information.

Ms. Salamoff announced that there are four vacancies on the Council on Aging.

CITIZEN’S CONCERNS

Paul Griesmer, a Town Meeting Member from Precinct 7, expressed concern that the Zoning Board of Appeals may be operating with six full members when, in fact, the requirement is for five full members, indicating that the person most recently appointed to the Board should have been appointed an associate member but was instead appointed as a full member. He also noted that the Board has had the same member serving as the Chair for seven years, conflicting with the ZBA rule that no member can serve as chair for longer than two years, with the exception that this rule can be explicitly voted on and waived by the ZBA to allow a member to serve as Chair for a third consecutive year. He worried that such inconsistencies would invalidate past decisions made by the ZBA, and believed that no valid permit for the Cloverleaf project was ever filed. The Chair stated this would be reviewed and addressed at the next Selectmen’s Meeting on August 20th.

Bob Awkward, a Town Meeting Member from Precinct 10, presented with members of the South Natick Neighborhood Association to address the acquisition of the 22 Pleasant Street property, Town Meeting having previously taken two votes to direct the Board of Selectmen to acquire the property. He inquired where the Town is with respect to the acquisition. The Chair stated that a response to Mr. Awkward’s inquiry would be provided at the next Selectmen’s Meeting on August 20th.

Joan _____, an abutter to Jennings Pond, stated that the pond is completely clogged with weeds and other debris, noting that she has written to the Town's Conservation Agent, Victoria Parsons, and would be interested in doing whatever she can to keep the watershed flowing. The Chair asked to have this topic included on the August 20th Selectmen's Agenda.

REQUESTED ACTION

1. **Director of Public Health – Accept Donation to the Board of Health from the Family of Dr. and Mrs. Anthony Capobianco:** Jim White introduced Donald Breda, Chairman of the Board of Health, who expressed gratitude to the Capobianco Family for its very generous gift of \$10,000. Moved by Mr. Jennett and seconded by Ms. Salamoff, the Board voted 5-0-0 to approve the Board of Health's request to accept the donation.

2. **Public Hearing – Square Dedication in Honor of Sgt. Lawrence “Vangie” Sticka at Church and East Central Streets:** Mr. Hickey read the Public Hearing Notice aloud. The Board voted 5-0-0 to open the Public Hearing on a motion by Mr. Freedman that was seconded by Ms. Salamoff. Paul Carew, Natick Veterans' Services Officer provided background information regarding Sgt. Vangie, a “Townie” and Natick Firefighter who served honorably in the Marine Corps. The square dedication is planned for August 18th at noon. Upon the Chair's inquiry, no comments or questions were made or asked by the public. Mr. Jennett, seconded by Ms. Salamoff, moved to close the Public Hearing and the motion passed on a vote of 5-0-0. Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Freedman, moved to authorize the square dedication and the Board voted 5-0-0 in favor.

As an aside, Mr. Carew stated he attended an event for the 83rd Infantry Division, eight of whose members are still living and seven of whom attended. Mr. Carew presented each with certificates from Veterans' Services and the Natick Service Council.

To the surprise of Mr. Carew, Ms. Malone announced that a \$25,000 grant has been provided to the Natick Service Council to help with funding for a substance abuse program for veterans in fiscal year 2019.

3. **Public Hearing – Grant of Location at 190 Main Street to Lightower:** Mr. Hickey read the Public Hearing Notice aloud. The Board voted 5-0-0 to open the Public Hearing on a motion by Mr. Jennett that was seconded by Mr. Freedman. Henry Rossetti presented on behalf of Lightower and answered multiple questions asked by the Board regarding logistics and safety. With no comments or questions from the public, Mr. Jennett, seconded by Ms. Salamoff, moved to close the Public Hearing and the Board voted 5-0-0 in favor. Moved by Mr. Jennett and seconded by Mr. Hickey, the Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of approving the grant of location.

4. **Public Hearing – Change of Address from 10 Border Road to 19 Winslow Road:** Mr. Hickey read the Public Hearing Notice aloud. Moved by Mr. Freedman and seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board voted 5-0-0 to open the Public Hearing. Moved by Mr. Jennett and seconded by Mr. Hickey, the Board voted 5-0-0 to continue the Public Hearing to the October 1st Selectmen's Meeting at the request of the applicant.

5. **Public Hearing – Application for an S12 Wine and Malt Beverage Restaurant License – Chipotle Mexican Grille of Colorado, LLC:** The applicant withdrew its application.

6. **Application for a Change in Manager – Dion's:** The proposed new manager of record answered multiple questions posed by the Board regarding his training and background. Mr. Freedman, seconded by Mr. Jennett, voted to approve Joseph Tedesco as the new manager of record.

7. **Director of Public Works – Contracts:**
 - a. **Resident Project Representative Engineering Services Contract / 2018 Roadway Improvements:** Following an explanation of the intended purpose of the contract by Jeremy Marsette, Director of Public Works, and with direction from the Board to closely monitor the mileage allowance delineated in the contract, the Board, on a motion by Mr. Freedman, seconded by Ms. Salamoff, voted 5-0-0 in favor of awarding the contract to Environmental Partners Group, Inc. with a price cap of \$81,475.00.
 - b. **Washington Avenue Engineering Services Contract:** Following further explanation by Mr. Marsette, the Board, on a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Freedman, voted 5-

0-0 in favor of awarding the contract to Environmental Partners Group, Inc. for a sum of \$229,800.00.

8. Conservation Agent/Planner:

- a. **Low Impact Development:** Victoria Parsons, Conservation Agent/Planner, reminding the Board that the Town had previously received a Massachusetts Vulnerability Preparedness Action Grant in the amount of \$39,053 to retain consulting services to assist with the creation of low impact development regulations, presented to request the Board approve award of the contract to Dodson & Flinker, Inc. in accordance with its quote of \$38,499.00. Moved by Mr. Jennett and seconded by Ms. Salamoff, the Board voted 5-0-0 in favor.
- b. **Hazard Mitigation Plan Adoption and Approval of Resolution:** Moved by Mr. Jennett and seconded by Mr. Hickey, the Board voted 5-0-0 to adopt the 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented. Moved by Mr. Jennett and seconded by Mr. Hickey, the Board voted 5-0-0 to endorse the Natick Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution as presented.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN UPDATES

9. **Senior Planner – PlaceMaking:** Present were Ted Fields, Senior Planner; Athena Pandolf, Executive Director of the Natick Center Cultural District; and Jennifer Errickson and Dan Koff of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC). Ms. Errickson and Mr. Koff delivered a presentation describing a strategy for temporary (10-month) art use that would serve to enhance certain spaces in Natick Center, i.e., Moran Park, Adams Street alley, and the Natick Common. Ideas for art projects will be solicited from local artists, with finalists and their art projects chosen by a designated Selection Committee and then by the Natick Center Associates Public Art Committee. The final projects will then be presented for approval to the Board of Selectmen at their September 17th meeting, which projects will ultimately be installed in the aforementioned areas. Finalists will be granted up to \$1,500 from the MAPC towards their work.
10. **Health Resources in Action – Opioid Task Force Update:** Present were Jim White, Director of Public Health; James Hicks, Chief of Police; and Katie Sugarman, Natick’s Prevention and Outreach Program Manager. Noting that the Prevention and Outreach Program Manager and the Opioid Task Force had previously reported to the Town Administrator, Ms. Malone recommended a new governance structure -- that the position now be placed under the direction of the Director of Public Health and the Opioid Task Force under the direction of the Director of Public Health and the Chief of Police, noting that the Town Administrator would serve as a facilitator but that the Task Force would be moved into a proper office where it will receive direction from those with expertise in the area and that it will be important for the points of contact to be the Public Health Office and the Police Department. Ms. Malone stated that going forward she would provide a quarterly report to the Board on what has been done and what benchmarks have been met. Ms. Malone stated that the role of existing staff would be defined to meet the demands of existing priorities, and then other available funding would be considered, possibly for additional staffing, though conceded that this is an epidemic that will not be solved with additional FTEs. Ms. Malone noted that the State has appropriated \$60,000 to the Opioid Task force for fiscal year 2019 and asked that Mr. White propose mechanisms to spend that money in addressing the issue.

Mr. White and Chief Hicks provided statistics and information about what Mr. White described as the most important health issue in the entire nation – “an epidemic” – and described some measures that have been undertaken thus far by the Police Department and the Board of Health in conjunction with the Opioid Task Force, including: an overdose response team at the Police Department; partnership with the Justice Resource Institute with a grant to augment a post overdose program at the Police Department; participation in a regional drug task force; provision of sharps containers and receptacles for unwanted needles and pharmaceuticals; ongoing substance abuse outreach with SMOC and Advocates; provision of Narcan (including training in its administration) at the Board of Health, in every school, and in all first responder vehicles; a monthly addiction resource center; a monthly bereavement support group for loved ones of those lost; collaboration with MetroWest Medical Center; community awareness presentations; an annual vigil; etc. Ms. Sugarman discussed regular collaboration with a community coach added to the high school staff, a high school group working to promote a substance-free lifestyle, the school resource officer, the school social worker for the North Star Program, students on an individual level, and with Cheryl Lucenta to address a school workshop related to substance use. She expressed a need for more outreach to prescribing physicians and local businesses, and mentioned that the first Narcan training session for a local

business (which recently experienced an overdose on the premises) is scheduled for next week. Ms. Mistrot inquired about the next steps, to which Ms. Malone responded that they would return to the Board in the next month or so with specific objectives and deadlines.

- 11. Town Administrator – Camp Arrowhead Update:** Ms. Malone noted that Mr. Chenard has confirmed with the insurance company that approximately \$340,000.00 will be reimbursed. The last bits of construction are underway. The cost estimate for reconstruction was \$450,000.00-\$500,000.00. The Commonwealth has contributed \$75,000.00, though no use has yet been determined for it. Ms. Malone expressed interest in having Recreation & Parks host an Open House at Camp Arrowhead for a sort of “christening” once everything is complete. Ms. Malone mentioned some “interesting initiatives” whereby individuals with disabilities, and individuals without disabilities, could work together on projects, perhaps at the Community-Senior Center, in the schools, and at Camp Arrowhead, that the Town could get behind and that would engender cohesiveness as a community, using the example of compiling ingredients into mason jars and selling the jars at the Farmers’ Market, the proceeds of which would be used to benefit other initiatives.

DISCUSSION AND DECISION

- 12. Installation of Signs to Identify Public Parking Lots:** Chief Hicks indicated that the Police Department is working on a plan with the DPW to identify and direct people to areas with available public parking. The areas would be identified by the standard blue “P” but the areas to be identified need to be looked at more carefully.

13. 2018 Fall Annual Town Meeting Articles – Review & Board/Town Administrator Sponsorship:

- a. Mechanic Street: The Town owns the parcel toward the end of the street and getting to that parcel requires going over Mechanic Street, and the question is whether the Board or the Town Administrator would sponsor an article to acquire an easement. Attorney John Burke, representing the Melchiorri family, asked for further information but was told by the Chair that no comment could be made since the Town is in negotiations with the property owner. Moved by Mr. Hickey and seconded by Ms. Salamoff, the Board voted 5-0-0 to sponsor the article.
- b. Adult Use Marijuana Zoning Amendment: Jamie Errickson, Director of Community & Economic Development, reminded the Board that it will need to refer any zoning articles to the Planning Board for a public hearing, after which the Planning Board will make a recommendation for Town Meeting. However, the Board is not asked to do so this evening, but just to allow Mr. Errickson to initiate the MGL process so that a public hearing can be scheduled. Moved by Mr. Hickey and seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of initiating the process.
- c. Sawin House: Ms. Malone said the question for this evening is that given the recent developments, would the Board be willing to sponsor a Warrant Article that will provide the Town the ability to acquire an easement so that the Sawin House can become Town property. Moved by Mr. Freedman and seconded by Mr. Hickey, the Board voted 5-0-0 to sponsor the article.
- d. Town Counsel Appointment Process: Ms. Malone noted that the question is whether the Board or the Town Administrator will sponsor an article that will provide flexibility in the appointment of Town counsel, delineating the prospect of potentially hiring an on-staff attorney. This would entail a change in the bylaws. Ms. Malone recommended BOS sponsorship. Moved by Mr. Jennett and seconded by Mr. Freedman, the Board voted 5-0-0 to sponsor the article.
- e. West Natick Fire Station: Ms. Malone stated that the West Natick Fire Station is a debt exclusion that will be on the fall ballot. Ms. Malone discussed three ways to fund capital projects: Level Service Payments, Level Principal Payments, and Hybrid Level Service Payments. Ms. Mistrot asked the Board Members to come prepared with questions to the next Selectmen’s Meeting since no action would be taken on this topic this evening.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Chair asked if any members of the public or the Board would like to discuss any item on the Consent Agenda. Ms. Salamoff asked to remove item 23. The Chair asked for a motion to approve the remainder of the Consent Agenda. Moved by Mr. Jennett and seconded by Mr. Hickey, the Board voted unanimously to

approve the remainder of the Consent Agenda, excluding the items removed and conditional upon the fulfillment of all recommendations from Town Agencies and/or Departments. The following items were approved:

- a. Block party on Circular Ave, 9/15/18
- b. Block party on Morningside Ave, 9/15/18 (RD: 9/29/18)
- c. Block party on High Street, 9/22/18 (RD: 9/23/18)
- d. Block party on Millbrook Rd, 9/22/18
- e. Natick Community Organic Farm banner request, 8/13/-8/19/18
- f. River Bend School Open House banner request, 10/22-10/28/18
- g. Keefe Tech Open House banner request, 11/26-12/1/18
- h. Meeting Minutes: 3/12/18, 3/14/18, 4/5/18, 5/29/18, 7/26/18

Ms. Salamoff thanked the Leonard Morse Auxiliary for their donation in the amount of \$500.00 to Recreation and Parks (item 23). Moved by Ms. Salamoff and seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board voted 5-0-0 to authorize acceptance of the donation by the Recreation and Parks Department.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR NOTES

None.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Freedman, the Board voted unanimously on a roll call vote to adjourn the Board of Selectmen's Meeting at 11:57 p.m.



Michael J. Hickey, Jr., Clerk

Submitted by Trish O'Neil

August 6, 2018 Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes Approved by the Board of Selectmen on October 1, 2018

All documents used at this Board of Selectmen meeting are available at:

<https://naticktown.novusagenda.com/agendapublic/MeetingView.aspx?MeetingID=534&MinutesMeetingID=-1&doctype=Agenda>