

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Proctor School Library
Minutes of March 23, 2015

Chairman Dick Gandt called the meeting to order at 7:30PM. Board members present, in addition to Chairman Gandt, were Martha Morrison, Laura Powers, Eldon Goodhue and Steve Lais. Of the Selectmen's staff, Town Administrator Kellie Hebert and Board Secretary Donna Rich were in attendance. Other persons present during all or part of the meeting were Topsfield Cable operators Baxter & Ben Demers, Tri-Town Transcript reporter Edith Leavengood, The Commons LLC owner Frank Martino and his attorney Al Grenier, Police Chief Evan Haglund, candidates for Auxiliary Police Officers Matthew Shedden and Alexandra Bentas, Troop 81 Life Scouts Ryan Breuer and Matthew Cunniff.

The Board stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Gandt announced that the Board would go into Executive Session at the end of regular session to discuss litigation related to the Regional Emergency Communication Center v. Beverly and will not return to Open Session.

Selectman Morrison reminded residents of The Tree Planning Committee workshop to be held on Saturday, March 28th, 9-11:30AM at the Proctor School Library. Registration is strongly suggested through the Conservation Commission office.

Chairman Gandt reviewed that the Board met in a Working Session on March 16th, in which the 2015 Annual Town Meeting Warrant was discussed. Also noted was that there would be a Joint meeting with the Finance Committee on March 25th at 7PM to discuss the Warrant.

APPOINTMENTS:

7:35PM – Police Chief Evan Haglund introduced Matthew Shedden and Alexandra Bentas as candidates for the position of Auxiliary Officer. Selectman Morrison made a motion to appoint Matthew Shedden and Alexandra Bentas as auxiliary police officers and prisoner watch personnel effective March 24th through June 30, 2015, seconded by Selectman Powers; so voted: 5-0. Candidates briefly introduced themselves.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Old Business

2015 Town Warrants: Chairman Gandt provided a brief review on the status of the 2015 Warrant. Selectman Morrison requested that the Citizen Petitions be relocated to be after the Zoning articles, as traditionally they have been positioned.

APPOINTMENTS: *continued*

7:50PM-Eagle Project-Ryan Breuer presented his Eagle Project at Hood Pond, which is to construct a booth-type structure to be used to check-in member and other activities. Mr. Breuer explained he had been before the Conservation Commission and spoken with the Building Inspector. The Board congratulated Mr. Breuer on his project.

8:00PM-Eagle Project-Matthew Cunniff presented his Eagle Project, which is to clear a large amount of brush and dead vegetation at the corner of Salem Road and Boston Street on the area known as Wheatland's Hill. In addition, two benches would be removed and reconstructed at this location. Mr. Cunniff has consulted with Park & Cemetery Superintendent Steve Shepard. The Board suggested that Mr. Cunniff consult with the Tree Warden regarding the removal of dead trees and congratulated him on his project.

CITIZENS QUESTIONS & COMMENTS *none heard*

New Business

Issuance of a Pouring License for The Commons: The Commons LLC owner Frank Martino and his attorney Al Grenier came forward. Mr. Grenier described to the Board the hours of operation represented in the Zoning Board of Appeals Decision dated 9/28/2008. There was discussion relative to the pouring of alcohol within the outside courtyard and about police detail concerns expressed by a resident during the public hearing on this license. A police detail for events of over 100 people was discussed. Selectman Lais made a motion to approve the issuance of a pouring license with hours for indoor events Monday-Thursday 10AM-9:30PM, Friday-Sunday 10AM-11:00PM, Outdoor Courtyard events Monday –Sunday 10AM-7:30PM, exception would be the evening of December 31st and up to five additional Friday or Saturday evenings in the year when alcohol may be served until 1:30AM of that evening and where for each such occurrence the Chief of Police shall be notified in writing at least thirty days in advance. In addition the outdoor courtyard area is to be enclosed by fencing at least 6 feet high that is external to the west and north sides of the primary structure. Special Police detail is required for gathering or events with 100 or more people, except for events contracted prior to April 1, 2015 in which case a Special Police Detail is required for events with 120 or more people, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 5-0.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Old Business (continued)

2015 Town Warrants: Chairman Gandt expressed his uncomfortableness with the borrowing of funds for Articles numbered 28-34, mostly Elementary School repairs. Selectman Morrison reported that conversation should be with the Finance Committee and that the projects requested were within the Facilities Report noted as critical and have been ignored for several years and needed to be moved forward.

Town Administrator's Report:

- Finance Team review of the 2015 Annual Warrant for funding sources provided.
- Update on Health Insurance rates for FY16, representative of the new tiered plan.
- Update on achievement toward FY 15 Goals: Facilities, 5 year capital outlook, Reserve Police Contract negotiations, Fire Chief Contract, Liability compliance training with employees to be in May, Reverse 911 capabilities through the RECC.

Correspondence & Reports

Reports & Invitations

Board of Assessors submitted minutes of February 13, 2015.

Invitation to the Massachusetts Open Space Conference-May 9th was received.

Invitation to the ILCNSCA Legislative Breakfast-May was received.

At 9:11PM, Selectmen Powers made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation related to the Regional Emergency Communication Center v. Beverly; seconded by Selectman Lais. In a roll call vote, a yes vote was recorded for Chairman Gandt, Selectman Morrison, Selectman Lais, Selectman Powers and Selectman Goodhue. The Board would not return to open session.

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Respectfully submitted,

Donna Rich, Executive Assistant
Board of Selectmen

Approved as written at the April 27, 2015 Board of Selectmen's meeting.

Per the Open Meeting Law, the documents that were either distributed to the BOS before the meeting in a packet, or at the meeting were:

1. Agenda
2. Ryan Breuer's Eagle Project documents
3. Matthew Cunniff's Eagle Project documents
4. Draft of 2015 Annual and Special Town Warrants
5. Pouring Liquor License approval from ABCC for The Commons
6. Board of Assessors minutes of February 13, 2015
7. Massachusetts Open Space Conference-May 9th
8. ILCNSCA Legislative Breakfast-May 1

<p>Pursuant to the 'Open Meeting Law,' G.L. 39, § 23B, the approval of these minutes by the Board constitutes a certification of the date, time and place of the meeting, the members present and absent, and the actions taken at the meeting. Any other description of statements made by any person, or the summary of the discussion of any matter, is included for the purpose of context only, and no certification, express or implied, is made by the Board as to the completeness or accuracy of such statements.</p>
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