

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
MAY 14, 2019**

The meeting took place in the Selectmen's Meeting Room located in the upper level of Town Hall. In attendance were Chairman Carl F. Kowalski; Vice Chairman Daniel L. Salvucci; Clerk Brian J. Bezanson; Member Randolph G. LaMattina; Member Scott J. Lambiase; and Town Administrator Francis J. Lynam. Chairman Kowalski opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Kowalski asked everyone in attendance to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by a moment of silence.

Chairman Kowalski announced the meeting is being recorded and televised by WHCA.

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve bill and payroll warrants. **Second Mr. Bezanson, so voted 5-0.**

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to accept correspondence in the Read File. **Second Mr. Bezanson, so voted 5-0.**

Chairman Kowalski opened public forum and Chief Grenno came forward to address the Board. Chief Grenno announced that Deputy Chief Joe Feeney will be retiring after 32 years with the department. Deputy Chief Feeney joined the department in 1987, and was appointed to the position of Deputy Chief in 1999. Chief Grenno noted that Deputy Chief Feeney's retirement, which is effective July 7, 2019, will leave a huge void within the department, adding that Feeney has been an outstanding firefighter and deputy chief. A retirement part will be held at the VFW pavilion on June 22.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

In a review of the budget process that took place over the past year, Chairman Kowalski began by saying that one year ago, Mr. Lynam announced that we would need an override this year. Help was received from Bridgewater State University to compile an assessment survey in order to develop a strategic plan. The next step will be to put into writing the results of the survey. Chairman Kowalski noted the reason for the survey was not to figure out how to pay for what we would like to be, it was to give a foundation for what we would like to be. In addition, we have also contracted with the Collins Center with respect to a budget document and a capital plan. Chairman Kowalski reminded everyone that at the April 9, 2019, Selectmen's meeting, the Board had to decide whether to place a debt exclusion, an override or both on the annual Town Election ballot. When Chairman Kowalski called for a motion on the issue, Mr. LaMattina made a motion to place both a debt exclusion and a Proposition 2 ½ override question on the ballot. After some discussion, Mr. LaMattina amended his original motion and moved to place only a debt exclusion on the ballot. Chairman Kowalski went on to say that while this was not what he had originally envisioned, it made sense to go that way because it would allow for more planning and discussion related to an override and, by delaying an override until the fall, it gives everyone the opportunity to participate in the construction of it.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Lynam advised everyone that if the debt exclusion passes, it will result in a tax increase of \$129.15 on a median home valued at \$307,500. It will allow us to address capital needs that were not dealt with at Town Meeting last week. Going forward, that money will be available for capital or for reserves. The money will be available each year on a declining basis; and an override will do more to correct it. Mr. Lynam encouraged everyone to come out and vote.

BUDGET REVIEW

See above.

Chairman Kowalski announced the Board will be taking the agenda out of order for the next few items.

NEW BUSINESS

Town Clerk: Parking Restrictions during May 18th Annual Town Election

Town Clerk Dawn Varley asked the Board to restrict parking in front of Town Hall to 30 minutes during elections. She also asked that a policy be established on this issue. After a brief discussion, Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to adopt a policy that restricts parking in front of Town Hall to 30 minutes during elections. **Second** Mr. Bezanson, **so voted 5-0.**

OLD BUSINESS

Execute State House Notes (BANS) for Streetlight Project

Treasurer-Collector Mary Beth Carter advised the Board that Mr. Lynam has the documents that need to be signed; and a vote of the Board is required to approve the renewal note for \$180,000. Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to authorize the issuance of State House Loan BANS in the amount of \$180,000 for 1 year, in connection with the Streetlight Project. **Second** Mr. Bezanson, **so voted 5-0.**

LED Streetlight Update

Assistant Town Administrator Lisa Green advised the Board that the installation of streetlights was completed at the end of February, with the exception of the floodlights. She then invited George Woodbury to join her at the podium where they advised the Board of a wiring issue that was found in the streetlights after the Town purchased them from National Grid. The wiring is not rated for outdoor use and was found to be brittle. It is not known when the lights were wired but, because the lights were owned and maintained by National Grid until the Town purchased them, it is safe to assume that National Grid knew of the issue. The LED lights were installed but because of the wiring issue, the fuses could not be installed. The purchase agreement with National Grid requires the Town to install a fuse (disconnect device) that serves as a demarcation between the Town's equipment and National Grid's equipment. It was noted that the wiring must be replaced with outdoor rated wiring and, as of now National Grid will not take responsibility and is maintaining that the Town purchased the lights "as is". Mr. Woodbury stated that the Town is currently paying approximately \$143,000 per year. Purchasing the lights is expected to save about \$50,000 per year and, savings should increase to over \$100,000 per year with the switch to LED lighting. Mr. Woodbury advised the Board the Town could take the case to the Public Utility Control Commission but it would likely take two years. He feels it is best to address the issue now, and explained how the Town can get 30 percent of the replacement

cost from the MAPC now. He has also negotiated a lower cost for the installation of the wiring; and feels an additional \$27,000 can be saved with respect to the timing of the purchase of the lights. Mr. Woodbury is also speaking with National Grid about a dimmer control that they could receive state funding for in the amount of \$8,000. All of this together will result in most of the cost to replace the wiring being covered. Mr. Woodbury advised the Board that he is working with another community that encountered the same issue; and that he will continue to pursue National Grid. Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to accept the recommendation of Mr. Woodbury to support moving forward with rewiring 837 streetlights, including the flood lights. **Second** Mr. Bezanson, so voted 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

Public Hearing: 1 on 1 Strong, dba Wicked Smoothie Espresso Bar

Chairman Kowalski opened a public hearing in connection with the application of 1 on 1 Strong, Inc., dba Wicked Smoothie and Espresso Bar (Robert L. Peterson), for a General On-Premises All Alcohol Liquor License on the premises located at 7 Marble Street, B1. Mr. Peterson addressed the Board, explaining that he is seeking to expand his business. Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve the application of 1 on 1 Strong, Inc., dba Wicked Smoothie Espresso Bar for a General On-Premises All Alcohol Liquor License on the premises located at 7 Marble Street, B1 subject to proof of liquor liability coverage; proof of a successfully completed alcohol beverage server training program; a written description of a training program attended by employees and a written policy outlining measures taken for violating said policy; a certificate of inspection; the license, mailing and advertising fees; and approval of the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission. **Second** Mr. Bezanson, so voted 5-0. The Board also determined that the premises are not detrimental to the educational activities of Self Help, Inc. Head Start, located at 168 Whitman Avenue.

Common Victualler's License: New England Authentic Eats LLC, dba Papa Gino's

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve the application of New England Authentic Eats LLC, dba Papa Gino's, for a Common Victualler's License on the premises located at 674 Bedford Street. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Mr. Lynam noted that this is a change in ownership. If approved, the license currently held at this location will have to be rescinded. Chairman Kowalski called for a vote in connection with the motion on the floor. **So voted 5-0.**

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to rescind the Common Victualler's License for Papa Gino's on the premises located at 674 Bedford Street. **Second** Mr. Bezanson, so voted 5-0.

Nomination to Old Colony Elder Services Board of Directors

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to approve the recommendation of the Council on Aging and nominate Barbara Garvey to serve as representative to the Old Colony Elder Services Board of Directors for the period July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020. **Second** Mr. Bezanson, so voted 5-0.

Meeting Schedule

The Board rescheduled their May 21, 2019, meeting to May 28, 2019.

OLD BUSINESS (cont'd)

Performance Evaluation Form

Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to accept the Performance Evaluation form and to add said form to the Personnel Policies. **Second** Mr. Bezanson, **so voted 5-0.**

At 7:40 p.m. Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** in accordance with the M.G.L., Chapter 30A, Section 21a, (2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel. **Second** Mr. Bezanson. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Lambiase – yes; Mr. Salvucci – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 5-0.** The meeting will reconvene in Open Session for the purpose of adjourning the meeting.

At 7:59 p.m. Mr. Salvucci **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. **Second** Mr. Bezanson, **so voted 5-0.**

Brian J. Bezanson, Clerk