

MINUTES
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BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2006
REGULAR SESSION
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM, TOWN HALL
7:00 PM

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 PM in open session. All members were present. Town Administrator Tom Younger and Assistant Town Administrator Jeff Conti were also present.

Questions from Town Residents

There were no questions.

Action by Appointment

Liquor License Renewals: Andros Diner

Andros Diner has reapplied for a liquor license after missing its renewal deadline. Mr. Younger stated that after the Board approves the license, the state Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission will also have to approve it before Andros can begin serving liquor. This could take a week or two or more.

The Board moved: to approve the new Beer and Wine license for Andros Diner.

The motion was carried unanimously (3-0).

Action by Writing

Letter from Resident re: Use of High School Track for American Cancer Society Event

Resident Kristin Pizzi and another American Cancer Society (ACS) representative appeared before the Board to discuss the request. This is a volunteer event to benefit the American Cancer Society. It is an overnight event that runs for 18 hours Friday evening through Saturday. This event is held in a number of towns throughout the spring.

The Board asked how many people might attend. It was estimated that one to two hundred people may attend at the beginning, but this would taper off as the event continues. ACS will pay for the police details.

The Board moved: to approve the request contingent upon consultation with all relevant town departments under the guidance of the Town Administrator.

The motion was carried unanimously (3-0).

Action by Appointment

Fire Department Recognition

Fire Chief David Frizzell appeared before the Selectmen to recognize new firefighters, firefighters who have given long service to the Town, and the recipient of the Barron award.

New firefighters recognized were Tracy Mullen, Shaun Campana, Jason Corsino, Gerard Benoit, Robert Wolner, John MacDonald, and William Kaufman. Firefighters recognized for long service were Captain John Pizzi (20 years), Captain Michael McCabe (30 years), Lt. Edward Corsino (20 years), Lt. Joseph Crine (25 years), Lt. John Forte (20 years), Lt. Stephen Wilcinski (20 years), Michael Coates (20 years), Joseph Holleran (25 years), and Anthony Lynch (20 years).

The Barron award recognizes a firefighter nominated by his or her peers for exceptional or distinguished service. Mr. Carl Barron and Chief Frizzell presented the award, which consists of a uniform ribbon and a plaque, to Lt. Stephen Hodgdon.

Mr. Barron stated he wanted to show his appreciation for the service the department had provided to himself and his wife. He has lived here for 64 years. Chief Frizzell presented Mr. Barron with an identical plaque.

Request to Join the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI)

Chairman Solomon explained that this request arose from a meeting of Sustainable Belmont. Several members of that group were in attendance. Sustainable Belmont will be working with Tufts graduate students to gather data on greenhouse gases and emissions in Belmont. By joining ICLEI, we can receive software to help manage this data. A number of Belmont's neighboring towns are members and have been pleased with the software. The yearly cost of the membership will be about \$600 and the Municipal Light Department will fund this.

The Town would appoint an elected liaison and a staff liaison. Chairman Solomon indicated he would be the elected liaison and that he and Mr. Younger would recommend a staff liaison. In joining ICLEI, the Town would have to pursue five milestones regarding greenhouse gas monitoring and emissions reductions. These are things we will be doing anyway.

The Board moved: to approve the resolution to join the group.

The motion was carried unanimously (3-0).

The Board recessed at 7:39 PM and returned at 7:40 PM.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Younger reported that he has received an updated term sheet on the Woodfall Road land exchange and is optimistic it will be ready for the Board's approval next week. The land exchange agreement will then be drafted for the Board's approval. That would then be followed by the RFP for development of the parcels, which would hopefully go out in early spring. There are no real issues or surprises remaining to be resolved, these are just legal details that must be observed.

Mr. Younger has printed new updated calendars for the Board including the opening and closing dates for the April Town Meeting warrant in February and March, respectively. Also, the Town's Open Space Plan will be updated this spring with timetables for items.

Other

The Board of Selectmen discussed a letter Town Counsel has prepared to send to O'Neill Properties asking for their fulfillment of the 2002 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) including a substantial payment to the Town.

The Board moved: to direct the Town Administrator to move forward to enforce the provisions of the MOA.

The motion was carried unanimously (3-0).

The Board discussed a letter from a resident regarding parking and traffic issues on Sherman Street. Mr. Conti will call the resident and try to set up a meeting.

The Selectmen discussed a letter from a resident asking for regular notification of Pleasant Street construction progress. Mr. Younger does not recommend sending out letters but perhaps a monthly posting on the web site and in the Citizen-Herald. He will ask Glenn Clancy to arrange this and the Board will be updated at its next meeting on this.

The Board discussed a letter from the Disability Access Commission. Mr. Younger has been in touch with Town Counsel about what is required to assure ADA compliance and will update the Board.

The Board discussed the proposed financial software upgrade. Mr. Younger is meeting tomorrow with the committee that is working on this. The Board asked to be updated going forward on progress in this area as part of the Town Administrator's report.

The Board discussed a notification from the state Department of Environmental Protection about the recycling program. There was some question as to whether the Town will now accept corrugated cardboard and Mr. Younger agreed to check on this. The Board also noted it has not yet heard back from the Recycling Committee on the question of a new mandate for that Committee.

Mr. Younger reported he and Health Director Donna Moultrup are working on the oil tank review project.

The Board discussed a status report on upcoming building projects from Permanent Building Committee Chair Pat Bruschi. Selectman Firenze asked when the Board will have the opportunity to give guidance as to the Town's needs on the Highway Building feasibility study. The Board agreed to invite the relevant building committee to meet with the Board to discuss this. The Board also noted that these issues will come up on March 6 when the Board meets with other capital-related committees constituting what was formerly known as the Mega Group (new name still to be determined).

There was discussion of having the Town Administrator write brief comments on the Weekly Update the Board received and also indicate clearly which department is going to follow up on an issue.

The Board briefly discussed which upcoming meetings would address other ongoing issues (Purecoat, health insurance bargaining).

Action by Appointment

Discussion of VFW Lease

Belmont Veterans of Foreign Wars Post Commander Robert Manning appeared before the Board of Selectmen. The Board noted that the VFW's lease was signed in 1959 and ran through 1984, but no renewal of this lease could be found. Mr. Manning stated it had been his understanding based on oral conversations that a 99-year lease had been signed when the 1959 lease ran out. However, the VFW does not have any written record of this. It is now the VFW's belief that no such lease actually exists. Mr. Manning confirmed that the VFW would like to stay in its current location and renew the lease. He explained that he had ascertained from the Town in recent years that the VFW did not owe any financial debt to the Town. However, the VFW's financial records are incomplete and he believes that the VFW has not paid its annual \$1 lease fee for several years. The Board agreed to assume that all such monies have been paid.

The Board expressed its intention to renew the lease for five years, which is the longest term for which the Board has the authority without requiring Town Meeting approval. Mr. Manning expressed the VFW's appreciation for the Board's decision. The VFW will pay one dollar per year to the Town as per the original lease.

Mr. Younger said there is a need to check the liability provisions with Town Counsel. It is also important to clarify whether the building has actually reverted to the Town when the lease expired even though the Town does not wish to take possession.

The Board moved: to have the Town Administrator draw up a five-year lease for the VFW and to execute such lease when it is ready.

The motion was carried unanimously (3-0). The Board concurred also with the need to clarify who has the liability on the property.

Action by Consent

A. Application for Licenses and Permit – Renewals

Class I License

Cityside Subaru, Inc., 790 Pleasant Street

Class II License

Basile, Frank d/b/a Waverley Auto Exchange, 134 Waverley Street

Belmont C & G, Inc. d/b/a Prospect Auto Body, 259 Belmont Street

Brothers Auto Service, Inc., 337 Mill Street

Grigorian Brothers Corporation, 500 Common Street

Webb, Robert J. d/b/a Belmont Seat Cover, Co., 347 Pleasant Street

Livery License

Grigorian Brothers Corp. d/b/a Boston Executive Coach, 129 Longmeadow Road

Mikaelian, Harry B. d/b/a Advantage Limo, 294 Fitzmaurice Circle

Motion Picture Exhibition License

Bramante, James L., Star Theatres, Inc d/b/a Belmont Studio Cinema, 376 Trapelo Road

Victualler License

Angelato Foods, LLC d/b/a Angelato, 374 Trapelo Road

Aram's Coffee Café, 85 Trapelo Road

Belmont Country Club, 181 Winter Street

Belmont Hill Club, Inc, 825 Concord Avenue

Belmont Pizza, 388-390 Trapelo Road

Brigham's of Belmont, 2 Trapelo Road

Brothers Pizza and Grille, 121 Trapelo Road

Bruegger's Enterprises, Inc., 41 Leonard Street

Café D'Or, 442 Common Street

Café Fiorella, Inc., 263 Belmont Street

Cushing Donuts, Inc. d/b/a Dunkin Donuts / Baskin Robbins, 44-54 Church Street

G.T. Food Services, Inc. d/b/a Gregory's House of Pizza, 27-29 Leonard Street

JDJ, Inc. d/b/a Asai Restaurant, 30 Leonard Street

Ladas, Athanasios d/b/a Thyago's Pizza, 368 Trapelo Road

Ling Garden Restaurant, Inc., 63 White Street

Little Lotus Co., Inc. d/b/a Patou Thai Restaurant, 69 Leonard Street

Paloukos, John d/b/a Linda's Donuts, 247 Belmont Street

Paleo, Inc. d/b/a Michael's Pizza, 191 Belmont Street

Rancatore's Ice Cream, Inc, 283 Belmont Street

Select Café, 289 Belmont Street
Shangri-La, Inc., 149 Belmont Street
Starbucks Coffee #7538, 112 Trapelo Road
Starbucks Coffee #871, 47 Leonard Street
Summer Palace Restaurant, 63 Concord Avenue
Teddys Kitchen, 462 Common Street
Trapelo Donuts, Inc. d/b/a Dunkin Donuts, 384 Trapelo Road

The Board moved: to approve all the licenses except for Angelato Foods and the Belmont Hill Club.

The motion was carried unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: to approve the remaining licenses.

Selectman Firenze recused himself from discussion and voting on the motion.

The motion was carried unanimously (2-0).

B. Approval of BOS Meeting Minutes (12/12/05, 12/20/05)

The Board moved: to approve the Board of Selectmen's meeting minutes for 12/12/05 and 12/20/05.

The motion was carried unanimously (3-0).

Action by Writing

A. Letter from High School Class of 2006 All Night Graduation Party re: Financial Support

The Board moved: to approve the request for the Town to support costs related to police protection for the 2006 All Night Graduation Party.

The motion was carried unanimously (3-0).

The Board adjourned its regular session at 8:27 PM.

Thomas G. Younger
Town Administrator

