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MINUTES
TOWN OF BELMONT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
Monday, December 14, 2015
7:00 PM

APPROVED
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
DATE: 1-25-16

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board was called to order in open session at 7:03 p.m. by Chair Sami Baghdady in the Selectmen's Meeting Room. Selectmen Mark Paolillo and Jim Williams were present. Town Administrator David Kale and Assistant Town Administrator Phyllis Marshall were also present.

Chair Baghdady reviewed the agenda.

QUESTIONS FROM TOWN RESIDENTS

There were none.

ACTION BY APPOINTMENT

Update: MBTA Waverley Square Station

Chair Baghdady provided a brief update concerning the MBTA and the Waverley Square station issue. He noted that a letter has been sent to the MBTA. He read the letter, which strongly supported keeping the Waverley station open and making it handicapped accessible. Selectman Williams added some information about the notion of adding a mini-platform to the Waverley station. Selectman Paolillo reiterated that the Board is unanimous in its support for keeping Waverley Station open in the current location

Update: Recreation Commission

Mr. Jay Marcotte, DPW Chair, Mr. David Kane, Chair of Recreation-(Rec) Commission, and Ms. Anne Helgen and Mr. Anthony Ferrante, Recreation Commission members, appeared before the Board to discuss the Underwood Pool membership fees. Mr. Kane said the Rec Commission received a lot of feedback concerning the membership fees. He noted that the fees are reviewed yearly and can be adjusted.

He summarized the Underwood Pool Summer Fees, first resident fees, then non-resident fees:

Resident Fees: If the membership is purchased by June 30, the fee is \$225 for a family membership for the season; after June 30, the fee will be \$250. An individual adult resident membership is \$150, while a resident child membership is \$110. Day passes are \$10 for a resident adult, \$5 for a resident child.

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He then reviewed other discounts, e.g., military, senior citizens. Seniors will pay a nominal fee.

Non-Resident Fees: Family membership is priced at \$375. There will be a cap at 125 non-resident family memberships per season. Non-resident day passes are \$20 per day.

Ms. Helgen stated that these fees are aligned with other communities. Also, this will be the first full season with the new pool.

Chair Baghdady asked about verifying residency. Mr. Kane replied that the staff will be checking licenses or IDs. Chair Baghdady stated that residents should be given priority on the one-day passes. Ms. Helgen agreed, but added that staff will need more sophisticated ways to manage the membership data.

Selectman Paolillo asked why non-residents are allowed to attend. Ms. Helgen replied that the pool would like to generate fees to cover the costs of running the pool. However, the rate for non-residents should be higher, and it has been made higher. Selectman Paolillo said that some residents feel that the pool should be used by residents only, given that residents pay for the pool via taxes. He asked about limiting the non-resident memberships. Ms. Helgen said that the memberships will be monitored. Selectman Williams said that he appreciates flexibility concerning the non-residents. He asked about mechanisms for turning a surplus with the pool.

The Board discussed issues relating to the membership fees.

They then took audience comments.

Mr. Don Mercier, Precinct 8 TMM, recommended a "checks only" policy for day passes as there is a lot of cash coming in. Mr. Kale responded that there is a reconciliation process that occurs.

Mr. Tomi Olsen, Precinct 5 TMM, stated that the fees seem shockingly high. She said she would like to know what the expenses are.

Mr. Paul Roberts, TMM, asked about swim club options. Mr. Kane said that a Master's swim program is being explored.

Ms. Terrance Shipoulski (?? she did not say her name clearly and did not sign in), Precinct 1, stated that the pool felt overcrowded last summer; it was not comfortable for Belmont residents. She noted that Lexington only gives family memberships, and no non-resident day passes. She stated that there are other issues as well, e.g., the picnic area was messy, there are not enough benches, and the swimming lane area seemed under-utilized.

Mr. Kane stated that there was a strong desire that this be a *community* pool. Last summer there was no pool programming, but next summer there will be programming, which will bring more structure to the pool area. He added that last year was a short season and a trial basis year for getting the new pool up and running.

The Board thanked the Recreation Commission for its hard work.

BOARD OF SURVEY

The Board moved: To convene as the Board of Survey at 7:44 p.m.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

905 Concord Avenue

Mr. Glenn Clancy, Director of Community Development, and Mr. Terry Morris, the applicant's attorney (Mr. Duffy is the applicant), appeared before the Board of Survey to discuss a proposed new road at 905 Concord Avenue. A prior application included a request for five waivers: length of roadway, width of pavement, no sidewalks, no curbing, and no street trees. The new proposal submitted this evening would not require waivers; Mr. Morris explained the differences between each submittal and the impacts of building a road with no waivers versus one with waivers.

Mr. Morris also referenced a letter of support for the original subdivision from Ms. Helga Cosman, of 872 Concord Avenue.

Mr. Kosmo, the engineer, provided an overview of the non-waiver plan.

Chair Baghdady stated that the non-waiver plan would be easier for the Board to approve, however, he realizes that the applicant would like the Board to assess which plan better reflects the character of Belmont.

The Board discussed the non-waiver plan and compared it to the original five-waiver plan. Chair Baghdady noted that the new plan does allow for much snow storage. Mr. Morris stated that snow removal was also a concern that he looked into. Various issues concerning the plans were explored, e.g., open space, width of road, amount of pavement, water run-off, and emergency access.

Chair Baghdady stated that open space should be preserved. He made several suggestions to the plan, expressing a desire to have any open space gained from a smaller road stay open space and not be developed in the future with larger homes.

The Board expressed willingness to grant two waivers – one concerning the road width and the other concerning length. The applicant was directed to resubmit drawings showing the two waivers and also indicating how open space would be preserved.

The Board moved: To continue the public hearing concerning 905 Concord Avenue to January 11 at 7:00 p.m.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Oakmont Lane

Mr. Clancy remained before the Board to discuss the new roadway related to the Woodfall Road subdivision. The developers would like to name the front roadway "Oakmont Lane".

The Board expressed its support for this change .

The Board moved: To approve the naming of the front roadway to "Oakmont Lane".
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Resumption as Board of Selectmen

The Board moved: To exit as Board of Survey and Resume as Board of Selectmen at 8:20 p.m.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Application for Malt and Wine License by Sam Pogosov, Phinix Belmont LLC dba Phinix Grill, 628 Trapelo Road

Mr. Sam Pogosov and Mr. David Alexander, owners of the Phinix Grill, appeared before the Board to discuss their new business. Mr. Pogosov said that business is building, but that they are now requesting the alcohol license.

Chair Baghdady confirmed that all the licensing steps are in place.

The Board expressed its support for the license.

The Board moved: To approve the malt and wine license, details noted above.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Approval of an application for a One Day Liquor License from Sam Pogosov, Phinix Belmont LLC dba Phinix Grill, to serve Wine and Beer at a New Years' Evening event on December 31, 2015 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Phinix Grill, 628 Trapelo Road

Approval of an application for a One Day Liquor License from Sam Pogosov, Phinix Belmont LLC dba Phinix Grill, to serve Wine and Beer at an Orthodox Christmas Day event on January 6, 2016 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Phinix Grill, 628 Trapelo Road

Approval of an application for a One Day Liquor License from Sam Pogosov, Phinix Belmont LLC dba Phinix Grill, to serve Wine and Beer at a Julian New Year event on January 13, 2016 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Phinix Grill, 628 Trapelo Road

Mr. Pogosov and Mr. Alexander remained before the Board to discuss the three one-day licenses, the dates and times of which are noted above.

Chair Baghdady confirmed that all the paper work is in order.

The Board moved: To approve the three one-day liquor license applications for the above three dates, details noted above.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Update: Community Path Implementation Committee (CPIC)

Mr. Russell Leino, Chair of the CPIC, and members of the CPIC (Mr. Mike Cicalese, Ms. Heather Ivestor, Mr. Brian Burke, and Mr. Vincent Stanton) appeared before the Board to provide an update on the work of the CPIC.

Mr. Leino provided an overview of the committee's work to date, noting that the group has been meeting for one full year. He stated that one goal was to build on the work of the Community Path Advisory Committee (CPAC), which did years of groundwork on the bike path.

CPIC has delved deeply into CPAC's recommendations and has also reached out to many stakeholders in town. He noted that there is a Feasibility Study (using \$100K funded via Town Meeting) that will occur and the RFP is nearly complete. There is another potential \$100K from the state that can be applied to the study.

Mr. Leino then discussed the potential bike path sites. He identified that next steps include finalizing and issuing the RFP. The Board of Selectmen will need to provide guidance on the scope of the feasibility study, and will need to help identify the bike path route. Following this, funding will need to be sought for the design phase.

The funding mechanics and prospects were then discussed. State and federal funding will be explored – via TIP funds, which are federal funds administered by the state. Mr. Leino stated that prospects for receiving TIP funding are good. He explained the process for the TIP evaluation criteria.

Concerning the recommended bike routes, Mr. Leino referred the Board back to the CPAC Recommendation Report. Selectman Paolillo expressed support for the "1S" route (first segment).

The Board discussed the pros and cons of various route segments, Segment 1, 2, 3, etc. Each option has challenges and strengths. Segment 3 poses special challenges as it broaches Belmont Center where the MBTA station and the underpass are. Segment 4 involves Channing Road and continues behind the high school. Mr. Leino noted that the committee is fully aware of the Channing Road residents' concerns. Also, there are School Department concerns with regard to the section behind the high school, as it could impede land needed for the proposed new building.

Selectman Paolillo spoke to the need to work with both the School Committee and the Channing Road residents.

Chair Baghdady asked about the Concord Avenue option, which CPAC did not recommend. Mr. Leino explained why CPAC did not support the Concord Avenue option: there are numerous driveways and numerous roads intersecting the route.

The Board then took in audience comments.

Ms. Mary Watters, 105 Channing Road, expressed concern that the Concord Avenue option is not being explored thoroughly. She said this is turning into more of a bike path, and less a multi-use path. She spoke supportively of the Concord Ave option, given the disruption to the Channing Road residents' yards.

Ms. Maura Mullooney, Clark Lane, noted concerns of the Clark Lane route. She said there is a residential type home for disabled persons on Clark Lane and this will negatively impact them. She asked that Clark Lane be excluded from consideration, as it will take away private property from the residents who live there. Chair Baghdady stated that the feasibility (engineering) study will address this issue, as this is a clear challenge that will need to be directly attended to.

Mr. Phil Lawrence, Agassiz Ave., asked about a section of the path near Morraine Ave. He noted that his present bike commute to Alewife is currently both dangerous and scary. A conversation ensued about a commuter (i.e., bikes only) path versus a community (multi-use) path.

Mr. Paul Roberts, Cross Street, thanked the committee for its efforts and stated that it is indeed a community path. He spoke to the benefits of the path, in both directions. He stated that the community can come together to address resident concerns.

Ms. Anne Mahon, Alma Ave., stated that, in her experience as a real estate agent, the bike path will increase home values. She added that the Arlington community path is a walkable path.

Mr. David Chase, Waverley St., stated that he is an avid biker and as such the path should be shorter, more direct, and developed away from traffic. Traffic poses danger for bikers. All of these paths are community paths. He encouraged the Board to move forward with this.

Ms. Anna Sheenan, Clark Lane, stated that she does not want people to bike through her back yard. She said the road is narrow, the backyard floods, and there is a lot of traffic.

Mr. Charlie Conroy, Channing Road, thanked the committee and the Board. He expressed support for the path and stated it is definitely multi-use. He requested that the abutter concerns be addressed in the feasibility study.

Mr. Roger Fussa, 153 Channing Road, expressed his mixed feelings for the bike path.

A Waverley Square resident, Mr. Dmitry Kleinbeck, said that his neighborhood needs this as a way to commute across town.

Mr. Monte Allen, TMM Precinct 8, expressed support for the path as a wonderful community asset. This path will be enjoyed if it is off-road.

Mr. Paul Caboozi, 125 Channing Road, stated that the MBTA has been out of integrity with the resident concerns, which does not make them very trustworthy, going forward.

Ms. Cindy Taylor, Channing Road, spoke to support the Concord Ave option.

Ms. Annette Goodro, Clark Lane, spoke to concerns with the path going through this area.

Chair Baghdady stated that the Board will continue to discuss issues relating to the bike path. He stated that the feasibility study should not exclude any options, e.g., Concord Avenue. The engineers should be able to explore *all* the path options. Selectman Paolillo expressed underpass concerns. Selectman Williams noted that some of the segment options can be eliminated, as it doesn't make sense to investigate them. Mr. Cicalese noted that the connecting points are going to pose great challenges.

The Board continued to discuss how best to move forward with the RFP. Chair Baghdady spoke to including the Concord Avenue option in the study, as well as alternatives to Clark Lane. The Board will meet with the School Committee concerning the south side of the track.

Committee Liaison Reports: Minuteman

Mr. Jack Weis, Mr. Robert McLaughlin, and Ms. Pat Bruschi appeared before the Board to provide a Minuteman update. Selectman Paolillo provided a basic summary, noting that the regional agreement is now being addressed and potentially revised. He stated that the revised agreement is one that Belmont may want to support. He explained that the revisions provide for proportional voting and withdrawal provisions.

Non-member towns are now sending more students than ever before. They pay a lower operating fee per student and they do not pay capital fees. The new amended agreement provides a mechanism to ensure that they pay part of the capital costs.

Selectman Paolillo stated that revising the agreement may be the only way to entice the non-member towns to consider joining the district. However, the towns that withdraw from the district may want to then send their children back to Minuteman, now as *non-member towns*. He suggested including a capital fee for non-member towns and he added that Belmont should strongly consider not leaving the district and perhaps supporting the amended agreement.

Mr. Weis stated that the Minuteman SC is going to be asked to vote on the amended agreement as well as formally requesting that the member towns authorize the issuance of \$145M of debt for the school building project. It's not clear that a smaller school would cost the member towns less after factoring in a lower MSBA reimbursement rate and the increased costs that result from the passage of time if Minuteman starts the process all over again. He noted that most of the communities who are considering leaving the district send a very small number of students, so that shouldn't materially impact Belmont's costs.

Mr. McLaughlin spoke to the amended agreement, which will impact how towns get in and get out of the district. Mr. Weis explained the fee assessments under the new agreement. Belmont's fees do not rise considerably, and it is no worse off under this new agreement. In fact, the proportional voting (wherein those who send more kids have more say) will help Belmont slightly.

The Board discussed issues relating to Minuteman. Questions raised include:

- Should Belmont leave the district now?
- Should Belmont support the amended agreement?
- Should TM support the \$145M for the new building?
- How do non-member towns get enticed to join the district?
- Will DESE support the amended agreement?
- Will Minuteman further amend the amended agreement?

Selectman Paolillo outlined next steps:

- seek input from the Warrant Committee
- seek input from the School Committee
- after which, the Board will make its decision
- a Special TM will likely need to be called to vote on both the amended agreement and the bond authorization

Committee Appointments: Planning Board

Chair Baghdady stated that this agenda item will be addressed at another meeting.

Additional License Approval: Livery

An additional license request, not covered in the morning meeting, was presented:

1. Advantage Limousine (Harry Mikaelian) - 294 Fitzmaurice Circle

The Board moved: To approve the livery license request, details noted above.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Kale postponed his report.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

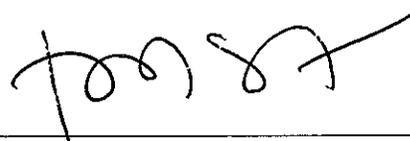
November 9, 2015

The Board moved: To approve the meeting minutes of 11/9/15, as amended.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

NEXT MEETINGS

Monday, December 21, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Selectmen's Meeting Room Town Hall

The Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end, positioned above a horizontal line.

Mr. David Kale, Town Administrator