

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Date of Meeting: November 5, 2020
Date of Transcription: November 10, 2020
Transcribed by: Cassandra Slaney

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN

This meeting was held remotely due to COVID-19.

2. ROLL CALL

Selectmen Present: Peter W. Teitelbaum, Esq., Chairman
Judith Whiteside, Clerk
Alan H. Slavin
Patrick G. Tropeano
James M. Munise

Also Present: Derek Sullivan, Town Administrator
Richard Bowen, Town Counsel

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Veterans Day Celebration may not include the static displays due to the Governor's recent order. The Chief of Police and Board of Health will be discussing this further.

5. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Present Before the Board: Sandy Slavin

Mrs. Slavin stated that the Community Preservation Committee will be accepting grant requests until the fourth Monday in December.

Present Before the Board: Don Jepson

Mr. Jepson stated that his neighbor has created emergency preparedness kits that includes guides. There are seven left to donate to the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator.

Present Before the Board: Holly Harootunian

Ms. Harootunian stated that she does not support the Notos Group presenting the casino project at the Special Town Meeting potentially taking place in December, 2020. With COVID-19 and the possibility of limited citizens, she feels that the limited number of people is not enough to make that decision. She asked for the presentation to be moved to Spring Town Meeting in 2021.

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES-11/5/2020 (CONT'D)

Present Before the Board: Diane Kelly

Ms. Kelly was before the Board inquiring if a Special Town Meeting will be called specifically for the Notos Group presentation. Selectman Teitelbaum stated that this will be discussed at the Selectmen's Meeting on November 17th.

6. BOARD'S COMMENTS

The Electrical Aggregation program will involve a slight increase going into next year. Citizens who have opted into the program can opt out at any time.

Selectman Teitelbaum addressed the turnout for the elections and stated that 13,000 citizens showed up to vote out of 17,000. He also stated how proud he was that it was handled in an orderly fashion by the Clerk's office.

7. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/INTERVIEWS

- a. Certified Weigh Masters
 - i. Daniel Walecka
 - ii. Brett Walecka
 - iii. David St. Germain
 - iv. Toby Gonsalves
 - v. Leonard Bessette
 - vi. Lauren Lefevre
 - vii. Eileen Morris

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to appoint Daniel Walecka, Brett Walecka, David St. Germain, Toby Gonsalves, Leonard Bessette, Lauren Lefevre, and Eileen Morris as Certified Weigh Masters for a term to expire no later than June 30, 2021. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

Selectman Munise stated that without credentials, certifications, or any other documentation, these appointments should not be voted on. He also stated that there is no information regarding why the Board of Selectmen approved these appointments. Attorney Bowen stated he would look into this and have a report at the next meeting.

Selectman Whiteside withdrew her motion. Selectman Tropeano seconded.

8. LICENSES AND PERMITS

- a. Application from Pepper Dining Inc., d/b/a Chili's Grill & Bar, 2885 Cranberry Hwy, E. Wareham, MA. for a Change of Manager.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to approve the application from Pepper Dining Inc., d/b/a Chili's Grill & Bar, 2885 Cranberry Hwy, E. Wareham, MA. for a Change of Manager. Selectman Slavin seconded. Roll Call: Selectman Slavin-yes, Selectman Tropeano-yes, Selectman Munise-yes, Selectman Whiteside-yes, Selectman Teitelbaum-yes.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

- b. Application from Project Halfshell Inc. d/b/a Quahog Republic, 197 Onset Ave., Onset, MA. for a Seasonal Liquor License Extension.

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES-11/5/2020 (CONT'D)

This application was incomplete, must have the full legal name of business on the application before approval.

9. TOWN BUSINESS

- a. COVID-19 Update.

No update to report.

- b. Refuse Update.

There will be a CMW meeting November 9th. Discussion will include going over the Route 28 Transfer Station.

- c. Hospitality Recreation and Entertainment district zoning proposal and presentation by the Notos Group.

Present Before the Board: Jeffrey Tocchio, Counsel for Notos Group

Mr. Tocchio stated that the Notos Group is seeking approval from the Board of Selectmen to call a Special Town Meeting to present a proposed zoning amendment to hospitality recreation and entertainment district which would be an overlay that would go in North of Rte 25 in the R130 zone. This would promote economic sustainable development putting vacant land into better productive use for the Town with a more modern zoning scenario. The drafted proposed zoning amendment features a minimum of 100 acres. He explained that by modernizing the zoning, it gives the Town an opportunity for future development.

Selectman Tropeano supports this request. He stated that this is a great project and it is a very good spot for a zoning change to promote potential future development. Selectman Munise stated he was concerned about the impact of traffic increase and would prefer to see the comparison between commercial traffic increase and residential traffic. He also stated that the area could be utilized for other things that are low impact. He is not in favor of this request and would like to review this further and the adverse effects it would have on the residents.

Selectman Whiteside questioned the sewer and the potential issues. Mr. Tocchio explained that an interested developer can be given certain criteria to adhere to which could include updated sewer requirements. Selectman Whiteside stated that with COVID-19 and all of its restrictions, why couldn't this proposal wait until Spring Town meeting to give the residents the opportunity to vote providing the restrictions are less. Mr. Tocchio explained that there is money invested, a purchase and sale agreement, there are internal issues, and costs that are extremely difficult to carry as well as time limitations. He also reiterated that there is no particular plan for development, this is strictly a zoning change request. *(See Attachment)*

Selectman Teitelbaum stated that the timeline for the Special Town Meeting will be discussed and voted on at next week's meeting.

- d. Continued discussion and votes to recommend warrant articles.

No articles were discussed at this meeting.

- h. Any other Town business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the posting of this meeting.

10. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

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None.

11. LIAISON REPORTS/INITIATIVE REPORTS

MMA voted to go ahead with three hundred million dollars for Chapter 90 funding for FY2021 as well as a shared program type of legislation for the following year where cities can get a 1-1 or 2-1 match to bring up the Chapter 90 funding to four hundred million.

There are no additional restrictions.

Masks must be worn.

Municipalities can set fines.

Private gathering restrictions are ten inside, twenty-five outside.

Public gathering restrictions are twenty-five inside, one hundred outside.

Non-risk gatherings are twenty-five inside, fifty outside.

Restaurants and businesses must close at 9:30 pm.

Selectman Whiteside attended a Board of Health meeting and mentioned how extremely helpful the BOH has been with coping with COVID and appreciates all they have done.

12. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Executive Session meeting minutes: July 21, 2020; October 20, 2020.

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to approve and hold the executive session minutes for July 21, 2020. Selectman Slavin seconded. Roll Call: Selectman Slavin-yes, Selectman Tropeano-yes, Selectman Munise-yes, Selectman Whiteside-yes, Selectman Teitelbaum-yes.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

MOTION: Selectman Whiteside moved to approve and hold the executive session minutes for October 20, 2020. Selectman Slavin seconded. Roll Call: Selectman Slavin-yes, Selectman Tropeano-yes, Selectman Munise-yes, Selectman Whiteside-yes, Selectman Teitelbaum-yes.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

- b. Authorization to sign bills and documents, etc.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Selectman Slavin moved to adjourn at 8:35 pm. Selectman Whiteside seconded.

VOTE: 5-0-0 (Unanimous)

14. SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES-11/5/2020 (CONT'D)

Respectfully submitted
Cassandra Slaney
Department Assistant

The foregoing minutes were submitted to the Board of Selectmen on:

Attest: 
Judith Whiteside, Clerk

Date Signed: 11-30-20

Date sent to the Town Clerk: 12-1-20