

Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833
Ph. (978) 352-5755 □ Fax (978) 352-5727
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
Memorial Town Hall
11/13/17
7:00PM-General Meeting~3rd floor meeting room, Town Hall

Selectmen Present: Joseph Bonavita, Chairman; Steven Sadler, Clerk; Douglas W. Dawes, Gary C. Fowler, and C. David Surface

Others Present: Michael Farrell, Town Administrator; Janet Pantano, Administrative Assistant

Absent:

7:00PM Call to order

Invocation-Douglas W. Dawes
Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC HEARING

Classification Hearing-Thom Berube, Assistant Assessor to be present
Mr. Bonavita opened the Classification Public Hearing.
Mr. Berube explained the different classifications and the board voted on each.

1. Open Space Discount

Mr. Surface moved to set an Open Space Assessment.

Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was not approved by a unanimous vote.

2. Residential Exemption

Mr. Surface moved to establish a Residential Exemption.

Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was not approved by a unanimous vote.

3. Small Commercial Exemption

Mr. Surface moved to accept the Small Commercial Exemption.

Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was not approved by a unanimous vote.

4. Classification

Mr. Surface moved to recommend a Tax Classification factor of one.

Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Surface moved to close the Public Tax Classification Hearing.

Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Board Business

Request from the Police Chief for the appointment of two full time officers, Heather Lefebvre & Taylor Ford effective 1/1/2018

Police Chief Cudmore explained he had three appointments this evening one for a vacancy and retirements. He stated that we take our officers from the reserve staff. He stated that these officers still have the requirement to attend the Police Academy and have signed a three year retention letter.

Mr. Bonavita asked for some background information. Ms. Lefebvre gave background information and stated has been a full time dispatcher here and been here for 5 years. Mr. Fowler stated that this has the department at 25% female. Chief Cudmore stated correct and they also go through a very thorough assessment.

Mr. Surface moved to approve the appointment of Heather Lefebvre as a full time officer effective January 1, 2018 to expire June 30, 2018. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Chief Cudmore stated that Ms. Ford is also a reserve and a dispatcher and went through the same assessment as Ms. Lefebvre.

Mr. Surface moved to approve the appointment of Taylor Ford as a full time officer effective January 2, 2018 to expire June 30, 2018. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Request from the Police Chief to appoint Matthew Carapellucci to rank of Detective term to expire 6/30/2020

Chief Cudmore stated that this is a lateral position change and Officer Carapellucci went to assessment to the position of Detective.

Mr. Surface moved to approve the appointment of Matthew Carapellucci as a Detective to expire June 30, 2020. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Request for a Class II Used Car Sales License-Route 133 Fuel, Inc.

Mr. Davenport came forward and gave his background information. He stated that his company has 9 stations. He explained some renovations they did inside.

Mr. Bonavita asked if the station will stay the same. Mr. Davenport stated that it would.

Mr. Surface stated that he has an issue with signage and asked him to discuss with the building inspector.

Mr. Sadler asked about the pumps and if they would need upgrade. Mr. Davenport stated that they are newer and do not need an upgrade.

Mr. Dawes asked if weights and measures will need to come out. Mr. Davenport stated that it depends on if they have tags and he would contact them to see when tested.

Mr. Fowler asked about the vehicles being 15 allowed to be sold.

Mr. Surface moved to approve the Class II-Used Car Sales License for Route 133 Fuel, Inc. at 71 East Main Street to expire December 31, 2017.

Mr. Bonavita asked about hazardous material study has been done on the site. Mr. Davenport explained the checks that they do.

Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

ADA Tour de Cure request for Sunday, May 20, 2018

Mr. Bonavita asked if anyone was present. No one was present.

Mr. Sadler asked to move to next agenda as no one is present. Mr. Farrell stated that they used part of the rail trail last year and have used the roads in the past.

Mr. Bonavita asked the Police Chief if he has been contacted. Chief Cudmore explained that they ride the routes and make sure there will be no traffic issues.

Mr. Dawes moved to approve the ADA Tour de Cure to pass through Georgetown on Sunday, May 20, 2018 that they present the insurance certificate and route inspection before the event. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 2-1-2 vote.

Mr. Bonavita welcomed the Boy Scouts attending to earn a badge.

LED Street Lights-Rob Hoover to be present

Rob Hoover, Chair Planning Board and Bob Watts, Planning Board member were present.

Mr. Hoover stated that they were here tonight representing the Planning Board. He stated that they are here to discuss the LED Street lights and that the town's people should have a say in how the town is lit. He gave a brief history on the lighting and his and the board trying to discuss lighting with the Light Department. He stated the AMA report states that LED lights may be a danger to people. He discussed mitigation that could be used.

Mr. Bonavita stated that the Light Department could not attend tonight and will attend a meeting in December. He stated that the Light Department has stopped at the 25% until we meet.

Mr. Hoover stated that he wanted to mention that departments work in a silo. He stated that maybe a bylaw that one group oversees all and another is a town charter.

Mr. Fowler stated that they already have a policy to meet with all departments.

Mr. Fowler stated that this started in 2016 and how did this start. Mr. Hoover stated that this is what he does for a living and in many communities. He asked if the Light Department sets the lighting in developments. Mr. Hoover stated that they do. Mr. Fowler stated that he or the Planning Board could have asked to be on a light department agenda.

Mr. Sadler stated that he is not a fan of LED lights.

Mr. Farrell stated that key staff and department heads meet on a monthly basis and all discuss what is happening in their departments.

Mr. Surface stated he is disappointed that we are in this situation and did not have all the information.

Mr. Dawes stated that he is sure the Light Department follows their guidelines. Mr. Hoover stated that there are no regulations.

West Street Fields discussion-ConCom, Park & Rec, and Water Dept.

Jim DiMento, Dave Schauer, and Al Kitchen, Park & Rec, were present

Mr. Bonavita stated that he wanted to start the discussion on the West Street Fields and there have been a few injuries with the condition of the fields. He stated that the fields have been overused waiting for the Penn Brook Fields. He stated that he had invited boards here tonight to discuss the fields. He stated that they also have the fields on East Main Street to go online. He stated that there are members of the Park & Rec present tonight to discuss.

Mr. Schauer stated that West Street went from 1 field to 3 fields he gave history of the fields and main problem is no fertilizer. He stated that we have the field on East Main Street that we should be used.

Mr. Bonavita stated East Main Street needs to be opened up.

Mr. Schauer stated that they have invited GAA to meetings and they do not attend.

Mr. DiMento stated that the Town Planner has the as-builts of East Main Street and the board has to give the Planning Board a final list of what is left to do.

Discussion on what can be put on the West Street fields because of the well fields.

Mr. Schauer stated that he gave information to the ConCom Agent on brewery material that other towns are using on fields and they have not heard anything back.

Mr. Surface stated that the board needs to talk to the board.

Mr. Fowler stated that he walked the fields today and they are better than they were 25 years ago. He stated that the parking is better.

Mr. Bonavita stated that we have to have the discussions and we need to communicate to get things done and come up with a plan.

Mr. Surface asked about East Main Street Park and when it would open. Mr. DiMento explained what needs to be finished and will open in the spring. Mr. Surface stated that the West Street fields were not meant to be used as fields as Mr. Comiskey states in his email. He asked if the new fields can now handle the sports events and leave the West Street land as open space.

Mr. Schauer stated they want to move lacrosse to West Street. Mr. DiMento stated to abandon West Street you would need to renovate the fields up above the High School. Mr. Surface stated that the town should look into this and leave West Street. Discussion

Mr. Comiskey explained that we have to preserve our well fields and DEP may not be aware of what is happening on fields. He stated that the fields are needed for water quality.

Mr. Sadler stated that he agrees with Mr. Surface and make do with we have now and plan new fields as West Street is not meant to be used long term.

Jeff Moore stated that he was involved in a study to use the area behind the High School and it went to CPC and was denied as was not allowed to use the funds for this. He stated that the laws have been changed and would now be allowed.

Mr. Bonavita asked about basketball courts at the East Main Street Park. Mr. DiMento stated that they had planned a 100 car park, the Skateboard Park, and ConCom area. He stated that they may only do a 40 car park and add in the basketball courts. He stated that they would have to go back to the Planning Board.

Mr. Bonavita thanked the Park & Rec for coming in and asked the board to keep the Selectmen informed on the East Main Street fields.

Mello Disposal/Transfer Station Update

Mr. Farrell stated that the board asked for an update on Mello Disposal/Transfer Station and Jeff Moore, Chairman of the ZBA is present and can update the board. He stated that Mr. Moore is looking for some feedback from the Selectmen.

Mr. Moore explained that Mello Disposal is in front of the ZBA for 4 different permits, 2 having to do with Water. He stated that the biggest issue is the expansion of the pre-existing non-conforming use. He stated that they opened the hearing last week and had a well-attended meeting. He stated it was discussed why the town would want to do this with the major issue being traffic. He stated that they are coming back with some resolutions. He stated that the

board would like some input from the Selectmen and other boards. He stated this is a large expansion from 50tons to 300tons a day. He stated that this is commercial expansion.

Mr. Bonavita stated that the new building will be enclosed and would this keep the noise and odor down. Mr. Moore stated that most of the noise is from backup alarms and concern of opening the doors and a large order coming out.

Mr. Dawes stated that he went to the BoH meeting and odor was discussed and Mello stated that they will have proper ventilation so this would not happen.

Mr. Moore stated that the traffic is a large issue.

Mr. Sadler stated the Mr. Mello came before the board it was more to give them a heads up of the project. He stated that Mr. Mello has to improve the building either way for their DEP permit.

Mr. Bonavita stated that he has suggested a 9AM to 3PM operating hours Monday to Thursday for commercial traffic.

Mr. Surface stated that there is a lot of commercial building materials from out of town being dropped off and if this is going to be part of the expansion the town should be getting market value.

Mr. Fowler stated he has been in town for 65 years and this was the dump and have always taken our trash to this area. He thinks this will be an improvement to what is there now.

Housing Production Plan Update-Affordable Housing Trustee Paul Nelson

Mr. Nelson gave a handout to the board and stated that he wanted to give the board an idea of the Housing Production Plan. He explained the plan to the board and gave highlights. He stated that the Trust and Planning Board have approved the plan and now need a signoff from the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Surface stated he has been a Trust member since its creation and this plan is a road map for the Trust and Task Force to move initiatives forward. He stated that they have some funds and are purchasing properties and helping residents with rental assistance.

Mr. Fowler stated that we need reasonable housing.

Mr. Fowler moved to adopt the Housing Production Plan and to allow the Chairman to sign the letter to DHCD. Mr. Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote. Mr. Surface abstained.

Rock Pond Committee formation update-Police Chief Cudmore

Chief Cudmore stated that we have 10 residents who have applied to be on the committee. He stated that we need to create a committee to create the rules and regulations. He stated that he would serve as an ex-officio to help the committee.

Mr. Dawes stated that he has talked to all members and does he have any reservations about anyone. Chief Cudmore stated he does not.

Mr. Bonavita asked Mr. Fried for synopsis on his opinion on what is happening on the pond. Mr. Fried stated that he moved here a few years ago and this summer the speed boats are speeding around the perimeter of the pond and 15ft off his dock swamping it. He stated that there has been 3ft of erosion to his property. He stated that the pond is filling in and has asked folks to take it easy and it has gotten crazy. He stated that the Chief has put in a No Wake buoy that has helped.

Mr. Bonavita stated 7 people on the board would be best. Mr. Dawes stated that anyone can attend the meeting. Mr. Farrell stated that the board should be an uneven number and he stated there are 2 people on the list from the same household which would be 2 votes from that home. Mr. Fried stated he hope that this would be a cross section of pond residents.

Mr. Fowler asked the charge of the committee.

Chief Cudmore stated that we need some type of regulations and to identify the problems and to address these issues. He stated that the boats are too big for this pond.

Mr. Bonavita stated that they need to have some regulations and post those so everyone is aware.

Chief Cudmore stated that we should have the building inspector looking at the docks and in some communities you have to pay to have a dock. He stated that the ConCom would be involved on where the dock connects to the land.

Mr. Bonavita stated that this is a good time to start with the winter months. Chief Cudmore stated that once appointed that committee will have to elect a chair.

Mr. Bonavita stated that the committee will have to come up with regulations and what are other communities are doing.

Mr. Surface asked how this is for a charge: To develop the rules and regulations for the safe operation of Rock Pond for the Selectmen to consider. Mr. Fowler asked if this should include Pentucket Pond.

Mr. Surface moved to make the charge of the Rock Pond Committee “To develop the rules and regulations for the safe operation of the town’s ponds and waterways for the Selectmen to consider”. Mr. Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Discussion on how many members 7 or 9.

Mr. Bonavita stated 9 members and the one dual family that only one member per family. Mr. Surface stated how about the Chief goes back to them with the charge and inform them of the responsibilities of a committee give them the Committee Handbook, let them know they have to do the Ethics online training, etc. He stated then see how many are still interested.

Park Regulations

Mr. Surface asked how the bylaws for the parks are coming. Chief Cudmore stated that Ms. Rec is working on them with town counsel and he has a few changes but otherwise they are on track.

Request from James Ogden to be appointed to the Park & Rec Committee term to expire 6/30/2018

Mr. Surface moved to approve the appointment of James Ogden to the Park & Recreation Committee term to expire June 30, 2018. Mr. Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Water Department request to waive building permit fees for the Water Tank Project

Mr. Bonavita stated that we have a request from the Water Department to waive the building permit fees for the Water Tank Project.

Mr. Farrell stated that they are getting ready to start building and we did this for the Penn Brook School.

Mr. Surface stated that we would be just be passing the fees to the rate payers.

Mr. Bonavita stated that if we have done this for one department we should do for all.

Mr. Surface moved to approve the Building Inspector to waive building permit fees for the Water Tank Project. Mr. Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 3-2 vote.

Bussing/Hampshire Lane Deed Acceptance

Mr. Farrell explained that this has already been accepted by ConCom and the BoS must approve there acceptance.

Mr. Fowler moved to approve the Bussing/Hampshire Lane Deed Acceptance. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

Thank you letter from Rev. Edwards-Fire Department

Mr. Bonavita stated that Reverend Edwards sent a letter thanking the Fire Department for their service at a recent event at the Church.

WARRANT and MINUTES

Minutes October 16, and October 30, 2017

Mr. Fowler moved to approve the minutes of October 16, 2017 with an amendment to page 5. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Fowler moved to approve the minutes of October 30, 2017. Mr. Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Executive Session Minutes October 16, 2017

Mr. Fowler moved to approve the Executive Session minutes of October 16, 2017. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Thanksgiving Road Race to benefit Steve Nazzaro request

Mr. Bonavita stated that this could not be pulled together before Thanksgiving and they are looking to do something in the spring and will come back then.

Mr. Bonavita and the board wished all residents a Happy Thanksgiving.

NEXT MEETING

November 27, 2017, at 7PM, 3rd floor meeting room

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Surface moved to adjourn. Mr. Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

BoS Minutes
November 13, 2017

Meeting adjourned at 10:18PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano.

Minutes approved December 18, 2017.

Documents used in this meeting:

- Classification Hearing-Thom Berube, Assistant Assessor to be present
- Minutes October 16, and October 30, 2017
- Executive Session Minutes October 16, 2017
- Thank you letter from Rev. Edwards-Fire Department
- ADA Tour de Cure request for Sunday, May 20, 2018
- Water Department request to waive building permit fees for the Water Tank Project
- Request for a Class II Used Car Sales License-Route 133 Fuel, Inc.
- LED Street Lights-Rob Hoover to be present
- Housing Production Plan Update-Affordable Housing Trustee Paul Nelson
- Bussing/Hampshire Lane Deed Acceptance
- SAAP Reorg letter-D. Dawes
- Rock Pond Committee formation update-Police Chief
- Request from James Ogden to be appointed to the Park & Rec Committee term to expire 6/30/2018
- Request from the Police Chief for the appointment of two full time officers, Heather Lefebvre & Taylor Ford effective 1/1/2018
- Request from the Police Chief to appoint Matthew Carapellucci to rank of Detective term to expire 6/30/2020