

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
1/13/20
7:00PM-General Meeting~3rd floor meeting room, Town Hall

Selectmen Present: Charles Durney, Clerk & Acting Chair; Gary C. Fowler, Douglas W. Dawes, and David J. Twiss

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

Absent: Joseph Bonavita, Chairman;

7:00PM Call to order

Invocation-Douglas W. Dawes
Pledge of Allegiance

ADA North Shore Tour de Cure Cycling Event for approval May 17, 2020

Tim Wilson was present

Mr. Wilson explained what ADA do and the event. He stated he gave a flyer on a test that the town can run for staff or residents, and that no personnel information is collected. He gave a map of one route that was left out of the packet. He stated that this is not just a one-day event but about getting out and doing something active.

Mr. Dawes moved to approve the ADA North Shore Tour de Cure Cycling Event to travel through town on Sunday, May 17, 2020. Mr. Twiss seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Rowley Landing-Jim DiMento, Park & Rec to discuss

Jim DiMento, 12 School Street, Park & Recreation Chair present

Mr. DiMento stated that he would like to have a group go over to Rowley and come to an agreement on the use of the landing. He stated we may be able to share resources. He stated that the town owns the right to use the landing and did until 1989.

Mr. Durney asked for a synopsis.

Mr. DiMento stated that Rowley came to the town to help to make improvements to the landing and Georgetown did not as not on town land. He stated that two residents had an argument and Georgetown was banned from use of the landing and has been since.

Mr. Twiss asked if the Rowley or Georgetown were supposed do anything.

Mr. DiMento stated that Rowley was supposed to send a letter to Georgetown on the improvements and they never did.

Mr. Twiss stated that if we go to Rowley and they do not want to discuss we would have to go to land court. He stated that it would be good to mend fences. He asked Mr. Fowler if he used the landing.

Mr. Fowler stated he had his boat at Perley's Marina and used the landing a few times. He stated that this has come before the CPC again for funding. Mr. Fowler stated that we should have a group go over and discuss with Rowley.

Mr. Twiss asked who is in charge of the landing. Mr. DiMento stated William DiMento is Harbormaster and his cousin, but the selectmen are in charge of the landing. Discussion on the cost at Perley's and if you could use Rowley Landing.

Mr. DiMento stated that this would allow a tax on boats which we do not have now. Mr. Twiss stated that if the town goes over with \$10K it may help to make a decision.

Discussion on the use of CPC funds.

Mr. Fowler stated that CPC funds could be used out of town for the Rowley Landing.

Mr. Farrell stated that we could check with our Town Counsel. Mr. DiMento stated that they have the same counsel as us.

Mr. Fowler stated he pays taxes for his boat to Rowley. He stated if you want to use over the week it would probably be okay, but it is busy on weekends. He stated that the issue of not being able to use the landing has not ever been pushed with Rowley.

Mr. DiMento stated it is hard to get out to the water.

Mr. Twiss differed to Mr. Farrell on counsel. Mr. Farrell stated, it would be a conflict.

Mr. Fowler stated that we should see why Georgetown does not tax boats in town.

Mr. Twiss stated two members could go over and talk with Mr. DiMento and a Selectmen and see what the cost would be to buy back into use of the landing.

Mr. Durney asked when this started.

Mr. DiMento stated that this happened 30 years ago. Mr. DiMento stated that the clamming is another issue.

Mr. Farrell stated how about he talks with the Town Administrator and see where it goes.

Mr. Durney and the board agreed this would be a good start.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire Chief Mitchell to discuss Ambulance rates for 2020 and Erie 4 contract renewal

Rick Dower and Matt McKay of Erie 4 were present

Chief Mitchell stated they have come in to renew the 10-year contract between the town and Erie 4. He explained what Erie 4 offers to the town, which he feels is a lot.

Mr. Durney asked for a brief description of the two.

Chief Mitchell stated it is one department with Erie 4 a civic organization.

Mr. McKay stated that the Chief has been a great supporter of Erie 4. He stated that Erie 4 is the oldest volunteer fire department in the nation. He stated that they are just looking to extend the contract for the next 10 years and are not asking for any increases.

Mr. Dower stated that what they get from the town only covers half their insurance and they raise the rest themselves. He stated they are a private fire company. He stated that we work together with the Fire Department and we maintain our own vehicle.

Mr. Durney thanked them for their service.

Mr. Dawes stated that the contract expired in June. Chief Mitchell stated this just fell through the cracks.

Mr. Dawes asked if the figures will stay the same.

Mr. Dower stated just asking for the same as last contract.

Mr. Farrell stated that the contract does allow for 2 10-year extensions.

Mr. Fowler moved to extend the Erie 4 contract/lease for 10 years. Mr. Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Discussion on recruitment and training and having an agreement new trainee will stay for 3 years or reimburse the town.

Ambulance rates

Chief Mitchell explained the rates and what the rates are in the surrounding area. He stated that he would like to adopt the average bundle and no change to mileage. He explained the rates and ALS and EMS. Mr. Dawes asked if the fees cover the ambulances. Chief Mitchell stated that they do and that there are no big purchases right now and that there is over \$200K in the account. He stated the next ambulance he would lease to buy. He stated when they do get a new ambulance, he would like to put an ambulance at Erie 4. He stated that the department is looking to grow.

Mr. Twiss moved to approve the Ambulance rate increase as listed on the 2019 Rate Change Form, for 2020: BLS Emergency Base Rate \$1456.00, ALS1 Emergency Base Rate \$2287.00, ALS2 Emergency Base Rate \$3420.00 and Mileage to stay the same at \$38.00. Mr. Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Chief Mitchell stated that the new fire truck will be 30 days behind schedule.

APPOINTMENTS and APPROVALS

2020 License Approvals

Mr. Twiss moved to approve the Common Victualler license for Mystra LLC dba Dunkin Donuts, Pomodori Pizzeria, and Village Sub & Pizza to expire December 31, 2020. Mr. Durney seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Twiss moved to approve the Second Hand Shop license for Bent Emporium to expire December 31, 2020. Mr. Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Library Request to Surplus Property by Sarah Cognata

Mr. Twiss moved to approve the Library request to surplus property, misc. computer equipment as presented. Mr. Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

WARRANT and MINUTES

Minutes of December 16, 2019

Mr. Twiss moved to approve the minutes of December 16, 2019 with revision to the vote on page 5. Mr. Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

ATM/STM & Election Calendar Spring 2020 from Town Clerk

Mr. Twiss read the ATM/STM & Election Calendar for the Spring 2020.

Open the ATM & STM Warrants for May 4, 2020

Mr. Twiss moved to OPEN the Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting Warrants for Monday May 4, 2010 and to CLOSE the warrant for petition articles on February 24, 2020. Mr. Dawes seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Review BoS License and Permit Fees

Mr. Durney asked members to look at fees and discuss and vote at another meeting. Board reviewed fees.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

SPED Reserve Fund-Discussion on committee set up

Mr. Farrell stated that we have to decide how much to fund this fund.

Mr. Twiss stated that he met with the Superintendent and discussed making some changes to transportation for Special Ed and move saved funds to the Sped Reserve. He stated that the number of special ed students can change very quickly.

Mr. Durney stated that tonight we are looking for two members of the board to be on the committee now and address the dollars later.

Mr. Farrell stated he would recommend, 2 Selectmen, 2 School Committee, 1 School Finance, and 1 Town Finance member. He stated the committee would set up the procedure of how to spend from this fund. He stated that we can see what other towns are doing and revise from there.

Mr. Fowler moved to established The SPED Reserve Fund Committee with Mr. Twiss and Mr. Dawes from the Selectmen and 2 members from the School Committee and 2 Finance members not to exceed 6 members. Mr. Durney seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Farrell stated that the FinCom may want to be on the committee.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Farrell stated that he has been working on the budget and working on shared services. He stated working with departments on a shared maintenance and custodian services. He stated working to do all in house. He stated that they are also looking at fuel storage tanks.

Mr. Fowler asked if this could be regional. Mr. Farrell stated that they have not looked into regional.

Discussion on savings.

Mr. Dawes stated custodians will work for School and will still work for the School. Mr. Farrell stated that they still would and would hire one more custodian. He stated that we spend \$33K for services now and would be double that for a new custodian. He stated that they would be looking for a plumber for HVAC.

Review BoS Procedures, Policies, and Regulations

Hold for next meeting.

Mr. Durney asked that everyone read through and review for next meeting.

Mr. Fowler stated that we never review the board and see how we are doing. He stated that he sees this as more of a workshop.

Mr. Durney asked if anyone had something they wanted to review.

Mr. Fowler stated that there are somethings that the board is not following and should be reviewed.

Mr. Twiss asked if there are certain items Mr. Fowler wants to be reviewed.

Mr. Durney stated that he sees some items that are vague and could be reviewed.

Mr. Fowler stated that elections could be improved. He stated that elections to office we could look at 5-year term, with one Selectmen elected each year he stated that this would eliminate bullet votes.

Mr. Twiss stated that our town does not value our election or town meeting.

Mr. Fowler stated he could see a selectman from each precinct and two at large.

Mr. Farrell stated this is a bylaw change and would have to go to the State House.

Mr. Twiss stated that he has never heard of bullet vote.

Review for next meeting.

ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING

Letter from Tom Stewart regarding Autism Awareness month in April

Mr. Dawes read a letter from Tom Stewart regarding Autism Awareness Month in April, asking the town to participate in some way.

Mr. Dawes stated that the board should invite Mr. Stewart to a meeting to discuss.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, January 27, 2020 at 7:00PM, 3rd floor meeting room

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:26 PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano

Minutes approved February 10, 2020.

Documents used in this meeting:

- Minutes of December 16, 2019
- ATM/STM & Election Calendar Spring 2020 from Town Clerk
- Fire Chief Mitchell to discuss Ambulance rates for 2020 and Erie 4 contract renewal
- Open the ATM & STM Warrants for May 4, 2020
- Rowley Landing-Jim DiMento, Park & Rec to discuss
- Review BoS Procedures, Policies, and Regulations

BoS Minutes

January 13, 2019

- Review BoS License and Permit Fees
- SPED Reserve Fund-Discussion on committee set up
- 2020 License Approvals
- ADA North Shore Tour de Cure Cycling Event for approval May 17, 2020
- Library Request to Surplus Property by Sarah Cognata