

Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833
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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
Memorial Town Hall
1/8/18
7:00PM-General Meeting~3rd floor meeting room, Town Hall

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

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

Absent: Douglas W. Dawes

7:00PM Call to order

Invocation-Gary Fowler
Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing-Lola's Mex Cocina-All Alcohol License Request

Mr. Bonavita opened the public hearing

Jose Oliva and Kevin Oliva were present

Mr. Bonavita asked why they were looking for an alcohol license.

Mr. K. Oliva stated that customers are asking for margaritas. He stated that his dad has 30 years of bartending and he has 3 years.

Mr. Bonavita asked what there hours would be. Mr. K. Oliva stated 12pm to 8pm weekdays, 12pm to 9pm weekends and they are closed on Sunday. He stated that after they finish the lease they plan to make the side area into a bar. Mr. J. Oliva stated that have to make sure they stay within capacity.

Mr. Sadler asked about dates on the lease in the application they read 2018 to 2019 is that when they plan to serve. Mr. K. Oliva stated that that was a mistake 2017 to 2018. Mr. J. Oliva stated that they plan to get the machine that checks ID's.

Mr. Surface asked about Tip Certification. Mr. K. Oliva stated that he is working on it now.

Mr. Fowler stated that the application states 1,000 ft. patio. He stated that they do not have a patio. Mr. K. Oliva stated that this can be removed from the application.

Mr. Surface stated that no drinks would be allowed out front in the sidewalk area.

Mr. Bonavita asked for questions from the audience. There were none.

Mr. Bonavita closed the public hearing.

Mr. Sadler asked about the Church on the corner and if they were notified. Ms. Pantano stated all abutters were notified and she would check on this building.

Owner of the building Splendore, LLC stated the Spot has a license why not them as they have been good tenants.

Mr. Surface moved to approve the All Alcohol Restaurant License for Lola's Mex Cocina Kevin Oliva, Manager located at 21 West Main Street, to expire December 31, 2018. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote 4-0.

Board Business

Mr. Bonavita stated that the town handled the storm well and some residents had some major issues and they were handled well. He thanked the Highway, Light, Police, and Fire for all they did.

Mr. Bonavita acknowledge Senator Tarr in the audience.

Senator Tarr explained that he has been talking about some State funds for Economic Development for the town. He stated that after a second vote some money has been released to Georgetown and he, Rep. Mirra will work with the town to develop some commercial development and give the town some resources. He stated that he would be in touch with Mr. Farrell this week with the details.

New-Firefighter Grant-Fire Chief Fred Mitchell to be present

Fire Chief Mitchell thanked residents for clearing the snow from hydrants.

Fire Chief Mitchell stated that the Fire Department received a \$1000 donation from Michael and Melissa Paglia residents of town and that it will be used for ice training.

Fire Chief Mitchell stated that he was here to discuss a FEMA grant. He stated that the grant would replace cylinders and air packs. He stated that the cylinders are only good for 15 years and they are coming up on some aging packs. He explained the testing of the packs. He stated that this a regional grant with Groveland and Newbury. He stated that he has quotes on the packs and the total grant will be for \$1Mil and the town's portion would be about \$300K. He explained what the packs contain. He stated that the total grant will cover safety equipment for 100 firefighters. He stated that Georgetown will be the host community and would have to pay the full 10% and the other towns would be invoiced their portion. He stated that they will have a MOU with the other two towns and the other Chiefs are going to their boards for approval of the MOU. He stated that he will be going to the State and Federal level for support.

Mr. Surface stated that he is in DC next month and if he sends him the information he will look for support. Mr. Surface stated that this is great that the towns are collaborating.

Mr. Fowler stated that it is great that this will be between the communities.

Mr. Sadler stated that this would take some items off of CIP.

Discussion on life of cylinders.

Mr. Surface asked if legal looked at MOU. Chief stated that he can send it over tomorrow.

Discussion on timeline and can be approved subject to approval of legal.

Mr. Surface moved to support the Firefighter Grant and the MOU with the towns of Groveland and Newbury and approval of the MOU after review by Legal and the Town Administrator. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

WARRANT and MINUTES

Minutes December 18, 2017

Mr. Fowler moved to approve the *Minutes of December 18, 2017* as presented. Mr. Sadler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 2-0 vote. Mr. Surface abstained.

NEW BUSINESS

Open the ATM and STM Warrants for May 7, 2018

Mr. Bonavita asked for an update. Mr. Farrell stated warrant will be open for 7 weeks until February 26, 2018.

Mr. Fowler moved to Open the *Annual Town Meeting Warrant* and the *Special Town Meeting Warrant* for May 7, 2018 and for the warrant to stay open until February 26, 2018. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Traffic Committee recommendation to Adopt Section 193 Ch. 218 of Acts 2016 and 25 Miles per hour West Street

Mr. Bonavita read the recommendation of the Traffic Committee stating that this allows the town to lower speed limits in thickly settled areas from 30MPH to 25MPH.

Mr. Fowler explained the committee recommendation and stated that he was the vote against and had asked for additional information. He stated that he would be in favor of all streets and not just one. He stated that Newburyport has adopted the law for all streets. He stated that there is a sign when you enter town that the road speeds are 25MPH unless posted otherwise.

Mr. Bonavita stated that we need to know the areas that are thickly settled.

Mr. Fowler stated that he feels that they should adopt the change to all streets.

Discussion

Mr. Surface stated that you have to adopt the law first and then vote on the streets. He stated that he is in favor of having control over the speed on the streets.

Mr. Sadler asked about the speed on streets now and is it 30MPH.

Mr. Fowler stated that West Street is not all thickly settled.

Mr. Surface asked to table to next meeting.

Mr. Bonavita requested that Chief Cudmore, Peter Durkee, and Conservation be present to discuss the recommendation.

Mr. Surface asked about the parking on West Main Street by Lola's Mex Cocina where there is to be a 15 min parking space. Mr. Farrell to look into this.

Disclosure-K. Durney

Mr. Farrell explained that Mr. Durney is on the EDC and CATV and is working on a website for Georgetown CARES and must disclose this if he is being paid.

Mr. Surface moved to accept the Disclosure from Charles Durney. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Plastic Bag Ban-for discussion

Mr. Bonavita stated that 61 towns have banned plastic bags. He read the list of towns. He explained why they are being banned is because of the chemicals from the bags breaking down and seep into water system. He stated that there was a survey online and not a lot of residents participated but those that did 95% were in favor of the ban. He stated that he believes in recycling and this is a healthy conversation to have. He stated that the board would have to figure out what type of bags to ban.

Mr. Folwer asked who did the survey on social media.

Mr. Bonavita stated that he was not sure who put it out but 95% of those that replied were in favor. He stated that Crosby's has already dealt with this in the other towns that they have stores. He stated that he is in favor of this.

Mr. Fowler stated that a comment he made was as individuals we should do this. He stated that he uses plastic bags to line his trash receptacles. He stated he feels we should encourage recycling. He stated that he feels we should ban Styrofoam. He is not in favor of the plastic bag ban.

Mr. Surface stated that he is in favor of the ban.

Mr. Sadler stated that he does not have any thoughts but is willing to pursue more information.

Mr. Bonavita stated that this is lifestyle changing and we can do this and can have more discussion. He stated that he will reach out to some towns that have adopted the ban and get some feedback and information for the board.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Budget update

Mr. Farrell stated that he wanted to update the board on the budget and gave a handout showing balances as of November 30, 2017. He stated that we have collected 40% of our revenues. He stated as far as expenditures you can look at the items that are 41% and we have spent 46% of budget. He stated that there are a couple items we may have look at. He stated that we have enhanced our Tax Title collections and this line item may need additional funds. He stated that the other is Veterans' Assessment and the last item is an over expenditure of \$8K for Property & Liability. He stated that we get credits during the year and we usually get \$12K in credits and are looking at departments to work to get additional credits.

Mr. Bonavita asked about Snow & Ice. Mr. Farrell stated that \$13K in deficit not including this last storm. Mr. Farrell stated Mr. Durkee requested to deficit spend after Christmas and he approved. Mr. Bonavita asked about Free Cash. Mr. Farrell stated that we have \$500K.

Mr. Bonavita stated that FinCom will be attending the next meeting to discuss the FY19 Budget.

Wage & Classification Study-Update

Mr. Farrell stated that the Wage & Classification chart has not been updated since 2003. He stated that the State has passed a law on equal pay for equal work especially for women. They recommend to update pay to not be sued. He stated that he has been working with legal to update. He stated that the attorney general has not issued any guidelines and looks like they are going to wait and go to court on a one by one case. He stated July 1 the law goes into effect and he hopes to have guidelines from the Attorney General by then. He stated what we have that he

did in August does not go far enough. He stated that we have to adjust salaries and he gave out appendix G. He stated if adjusted everyone's salaries to the average and comparing FY17 to FY18 and already falling behind again. He stated that it will cost \$174K to get the non-union up to the median.

Mr. Surface asked about the chart of steps and length of service that he gave him.

Mr. Farrell stated that we are comparing similar job titles not the people. He stated that we have done nothing since 2003 have to draw the line somewhere and move forward. He stated he has to do the budget and salaries and that is due in 3 weeks. He stated that wage and classification is done by position not the person.

Mr. Surface stated that he feels a wage & classification has to have a level baseline.

Mr. Fowler asked if he has seen any gender based gaps that they should be aware of. Mr. Farrell stated yes. Mr. Surface stated that does staff want to be paid median. Mr. Farrell stated most would love to be paid the median.

Mr. Sadler stated that we do not agree on how the wage and classification is done. Mr. Farrell stated that the bylaw states that he does the study and this is the way these are done.

Discussion on the chart that Mr. Farrell gave out and median.

Mr. Bonavita asked how we want to proceed.

Mr. Fowler stated why we have 3 weeks. Mr. Farrell stated that it is time to fix the study he has been trying to do this since 2010 and that is when he presents the budget.

Mr. Sadler asked about pay scale and median.

Mr. Bonavita stated this was a healthy discussion and will continue with FinCom at next meeting. He stated that start with the 2% increase and he asked members to review the charts before the next meeting. Mr. Fowler stated look at hourly not contracts.

Mr. Bonavita asked for discriminated positions right away. Mr. Farrell stated that he has the revenue to pay the adjustments this year.

Insurance

Mr. Farrell stated that we are going out to bid for health insurance. He stated the consultant will attend the next meeting and will have the RFP for the board to look at.

GreenBridge

Mr. Bonavita asked if there has been any contact from GreenBridge. Mr. Farrell stated that he has not heard from them and their next step is to go before the Planning Board.

Town Hall Sprinkler leak

Mr. Farrell explained a sprinkler pipe broke in the basement of Town Hall overnight and he explained what happened and what was done.

Mr. Bonavita asked board members to give him an update on their goals.

APPOINTMENTS and APPROVALS

2018 License Approvals

Mr. Surface moved to approve the *Common Victualler License for Village Sub & Pizza* to expire December 31, 2018. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Surface moved to approve the *Second Hand Shop License for Vintage Vault* to expire December 31, 2018. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Surface asked for an update on the house at 45 Central Street. Mr. Farrell stated that he still needs \$5K and will wait for spring to demolish. Mr. Surface asked if the funds could come from FinCom. Mr. Farrell stated that they could.

Mr. Farrell stated that Mr. Dawes asked about a Saturday workshop to discuss the classification and wage study. Mr. Bonavita stated that we will discuss at the next meeting and if we need to we can look at this.

NEXT MEETING

January 22, 2018 at 7PM, Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library St.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:51PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano.

Minutes approved January 22, 2018.

Documents used in this meeting:

- Public Hearing-Lola's Mex Cocina-All Alcohol License Request
- Minutes December 18, 2017
- New Firefighter Grant
- Traffic Committee Recommendation
- Disclosure-K. Durney
- Plastic Bag Ban
- Wage & Classification Study-Update
- 2018 License Approvals