

Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833

**Meeting Minutes 11/7/2022**

Ph. (978) 352-5755 □ Fax (978) 352-5727

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**Memorial Town Hall**

**7:00PM-General Meeting**

**Verizon Channel 42/Comcast channel 9**

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**Selectmen Present:** D. Dawes, Chair, Vice Chair P. Kershaw, G. Fowler, A. Smith and D. Lamonica.

**Others Present:** Orlando Pacheco, Town Administrator.  
M. Shultz, Administrative Assistant participating on Zoom.

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**7:00PM CALL TO ORDER**

Invocation-Douglas W. Dawes

Pledge of Allegiance-Douglas W. Dawes

**Georgetown Flat Bread: Public Hearing:** Attorney Jill Mann from the Law Offices of Mann & Mann, P.C. was in attendance representing Georgetown Flatbread.

D. Lamonica motioned the Board to open a public hearing for a Change of Manager for Georgetown Flatbread, 258A Andover Street, Georgetown, Mass for their all-alcohol restaurant license, seconded by P. Kershaw. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

P. Kershaw motioned the Board to approve Carolyn O'Leary as the new manager for Georgetown Flat Bread for their all-alcohol restaurant license, seconded by D. Lamonica. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

A. Smith motioned the Board to close the public hearing for a Change of Manager for Georgetown Flatbread, 258A Andover Street, Georgetown, Mass seconded by D. Lamonica. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

**RYBO'S BISTRO: Public Hearing:** Attorney Jill Mann from the Law Offices of Mann & Mann, P.C. was in attendance representing Rybo's Bistro.

D. Lamonica motioned the Board to open a public hearing for a change of manager for Rybo's Bistro II, Inc, 258 Andover Street, Georgetown, Mass for their all-alcohol restaurant license, seconded by A. Smith. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

D. LaMonica motioned the Board to approve Peter Brown as the new manager for Rybo's Rybo's Bistro II, Inc, 258 Andover Street, Georgetown, Mass for their all-alcohol restaurant license, seconded by P. Kershaw. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

G. Fowler motioned the Board to close public hearing for Rybo's Rybo's Bistro II, Inc, 258 Andover Street, Georgetown, Mass seconded by P. Kershaw. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS: State House note for water borrowing:**

*Alex Williams, Town Treasurer spoke on the following State House note for water borrowing:*

*No vote needed by the Board -Signatures will be required from the Board*

*Borrowing \$1 Million dollar water treatment project that's was approved last year at the Annual Town Meeting*

*Four bids were received for the project*

*Bid was awarded to the lowest bidder which was from Newburyport Bank at 4.25%.*

*Bond allows for flexibility to pay down part of the principal balance in one year, or combine this with other borrowings that may arise over the next year or two.*

*G. Fowler asked about rates going up and asked if they are working on these rates good for a year-administrative cost.*

*D. LaMonica inquired about the filter and asked if we already approved \$750K.*

**Post 65 Retirement Transition to Medicare.**

*Mr. Larry Tereso from MIIA was in attendance on Zoom and shared his screen with the Board to give a presentation and spread sheets on Post-65 Retiree Transition to Medicare.*

*The following were discussed:*

*Why move retirees to Medicare that are not currently eligible.*

*Town has currently 10 retirees that were hired before 1987 that never contributed Medicare or did not work enough quarters to qualify.*

*Medicare charges that post -65 retirees need to know.*

*Charges that apply from Medicare for 65 Retirees*

*Medicare cost for non-qualified retirees.*

*Transition help for non-qualified retirees.*

*Advantages of Municipalities making the transition*

*Advantages of Non-qualified retirees making the transition*

*65 communities involved in this plan.*

*Better program, less cost, less claims to Medicare,*

*Buy in program*

*Win-win from the get go.*

*P. Kershaw asked where the figure if \$20K per year comes from.*

*G. Fowler asked that the penalty & fee never goes away.*

*G. Fowler asked how new employees are looking at the future, do we expect the cost to be higher.*

*D. Lamonica asked where the maximum benefit fee comes from.*

*P. Kershaw motioned the Board to authorize the Town Administrator, O. Pacheco and Town Treasurer, Alex Williams to work with MIIA and BCBS of Massachusetts to transition otherwise non- eligible post-65 retirees to Medicare and any actions related to the successful completion of the transition, seconded by D. LaMonica. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.*

**VOTES OF THE BOARD:**

*A. Smith motioned the Board to approve meeting minutes from October 24, 2022, seconded by D. LaMonica. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.*

*D. Lamonica motioned the Board to approve meeting minutes from September 26, 2022. Seconded by P. Kershaw. Roll call vote was taken all in favor.*

**OLD BUSINESS: POULTRY DISCUSSION**

William Holt, Health Inspector spoke to the Board on the following:

- *Nine (8) formal complaints in the downtown area-RA districts -RB Districts*
- *Two (2) complaints at the same site-4 chickens coops possibly*
- *Downtown -Downtime Area-Densely populated area.*
- *Rodent gestation*
- *High vegetation*
- *Other issues beside chickens that attack rodents*
- *Rat Complaints /trash containers/ Flier sent out.*
- *Outside inspections*
- *Not a requirement to ask if residents have chickens but the Health Department does encourage them to let them know.*

*D. Dawes asked if any of the complaints were bonafied because of chickens.*

*A. Smith looking to alter the Town's Zoning by Laws.*

*D. Lamonica asked if the Town food establishment have things in place.*

*D. Dawes asked about best practice, coop management and State regulations.*

*D. Dawes asked if there is a State Poultry Inspector and are there any state rules and regulations.*

*A. Smith asked what the date of the last complaint the Health Department had received.*

*A. Smith asked what the largest number of chickens in a coop in the Downtown area.*

*A. Smith asked if Chicken owners have been in compliance in Town/ suggested adding the word coop to certain areas of the By Law.*

*D. LaMonica spoke on fines being issued in the future would be under the by law was mentioned.*

*A. Smith asked to table this item since it only affects people with chickens and not all poultry owners / poultry overlap.*

*G. Fowler questioned if investigations with the Health Department have only been with chickens.*

*G. Fowler suggested to take this discussion of Poultry off of old business on future agendas.*

*A. Smith suggested to table the discussion at this time since many are in compliance at this time.*

*O. Pacheco, Town Administrator suggested a letter go to the Planning Department Zoning change undertake a review -they can give an opinion.*

*P. Kershaw stated he he is not sure that a letter to the Planning Department is necessarily the way to proceed.*

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

*O. Pacheco, Town Administrator requesting the Board to approve the use of ARPA funds to be used to pay for repairs at the Georgetown Public Library for repairs on the roof's skylight.*

*Director of the Georgetown Public Library Sarah Cognato, Library Director gave an update on repairs needed for the sky light that had received some intensive water damage from a recent rainfall and spoke on the following:*

- Scope of work*
- Cost*
- Caulking joints, flashings at the top of skylight*
- Rights side of the slate needs repair*
- Scrape loose materials*
- Temporary repairs by Aulson Roofing, Inc including quote in the amount \$9,800.00*
- Terms apply.*

*P. Kershaw asked if anyone has ever discussed removing the skylight not suggesting the removal but only inquiring.*

*P. Kershaw inquired the warranty for the work done on the skylight and suggested to ask the company.*

*D. Lamonica asked if the contractor has done work before in Town and asked if there was any other damage.*

*G. Fowler asked if there had been repairs on the skylight before and also asked for clarification of the sky light location.*

*P. Kershaw motioned the Board to use ARPA funding in the amount of \$9800.00, to make repairs to the Skylight at the Georgetown Public Library, seconded by D. Lamonica. Roll call vote was taken 4-1 in favor, G. Fowler voted nay on the motion.*

**SELECTMAN'S TIME:**

*D. Dawes read aloud the Town Veterans Day observance & celebration.*

**OLD DISCUSSION: PUBLIC COMMENT DISCUSSION:** *O. Pacheco, Town Administrator spoke to the Board on the following:*

- *Many communities have public comment at the end of their meeting*
- *Robert's Rules of order should be used.*
- *Board does not engage*
- *Some people can be offensive and be asked not to be recognized by the Chair*
- *Three-minute time line.*

*G. Fowler mentioned that might be difficult to uphold.*

*A. Smith agrees it should be last on the agenda.*

*A. Smith asked for some clarification on the policy under "Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated under # C asked for clarification*

*D. Lamonica requested further discussion on the guidelines.  
Amy asked about end of meeting or at the beginning*

*G. Fowler asked the Board if have we turned people away from being placed on an agenda.*

*P. Kershaw supports public comment but would like to know before hand on what people would be speaking of suggested public comment needs to go out with the packets and or on Wednesdays to the Board.*

*O. Pacheco, Town Administrator will clean up the policy and add it to the next agenda.*

*G. Fowler suggested to try this on a temporary basis.*

*P. Kershaw asked him to clarify what he means by temporary. P. Kershaw would support a temporary basis for public comment.*

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*D. Lamonica motioned the Board to adjourn meeting at oved to adjourn at 8:37 P.M. with P. Kershaw seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken all in favor.*

*All Board of Selectman Meetings can be viewed on our Town Website at <https://www.georgetownma.gov> Under the Community TV tab on the left side.*

*Documents used in the meeting:*

*Change of Manager application form Georgetown Flatbread, 258A Andover Street, Georgetown, Mass*

*Change of Manager application from Rybo's Bistro 258 Andover Street, Georgetown, Mass.*

*Post 65 Retirement presentation*

*Meeting minutes from September 26, 2022*

*Meeting Minutes from October 24, 2022*

*Public Comment Draft Guidelines*

*Information /E-mails / Public Records to all staff, elected and appointed officials.*