



## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen**

Date: Monday, March 11, 2013  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA  
Present: Chairman Pepe, Vice Chair Woodbury, Clerk Stevens, Members Berthiaume & Fritze, and Town Administrator Gaudette

At 6:30 p.m. Chairman Pepe called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

### **Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of February 20, 2013 and Business Meeting of February 25, 2013 (Woodbury / Fritze) passed 4/0. (Mr. Berthiaume arrived after the minutes were approved).

### **Citizen Input**

None

### **Communications**

#### **Announcement: Nominations being accepted for Meritorious Service Award**

Mr. Gaudette announced that nominations are being accepted for the Meritorious Service Award until March 25<sup>th</sup>. Forms are available online or in the Administrator's Office.

### **New Business**

#### **Action Item: Waive Spencer Soccer Club Portable Toilet Permit Fee**

Mr. Stevens questioned the reason for waiving the fee. Mr. Woodbury explained that the Board has waived the fee in the past as a courtesy to help the Club to keep costs down.

*A motion to waive the Spencer Soccer Club Portable Toilet Permit Fee (Woodbury / Fritze) passed 5-0.*

#### **Action Item: Sewer Borrowing Approval**

Administrator Gaudette informed the Board that UMB Bank was the low bidder for the Sewer Bond at a 1.25% interest rate in year one and ending a a rate of 2.55% in year fifteen.

*A motion that the sale of the \$1.9 million General Obligation Sewer Bonds of the Town dated March 20, 2013, to UMB Bank, is hereby approved and confirmed. (Berthiaume / Woodbury) passed 5-0.*

## **Policy Introduction: Setting Health Insurance Contribution Rates for Elected Officials (Town Clerk and Treasurer/Collector)**

Administrator Gaudette reported there is no policy for elected officials in terms of health insurance percentages. Currently all union personnel are at a 40/60 split; he recommends moving elected officials to a 40/60 split as well. This will include the Town Clerk and the Treasurer/Collector. The Board will vote at their March 25th Meeting.

### **Action Item: Approve One Day Alcohol License for Mary Queen of the Rosary**

Sandra Fritze, representing Mary Queen of the Rosary applied for a full liquor license for the annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner to be held on March 16<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 9 PM.

*A motion to approve a one day all alcoholic beverages license for Mary Queen of the Rosary on March 16, 2013 (Woodbury / Berthiaume) passed 4-0. Mr. Fritze abstained.*

### **Appointment: Patricia Woods as Registrar**

Eleanor O'Connor was present. She noted that Patricia Woods just completed serving the remainder of Brenda Cloutier's term and recommends Ms. Woods be appointed to a full term as Registrar.

*A motion to appoint Patricia Woods as Registrar of Voters (Woodbury / Fritze) passed 5-0.*

## **Old Business**

### **Discussion: Town Planner Michelle Buck – Medical Marijuana**

Administrator Gaudette noted there was information on Medical Marijuana in the packet as well as a copy of an Email message from Planning Board Chair James Whalen.

Mr. Berthiaume reported that many Massachusetts towns are working on zoning changes to regulate marijuana dispensaries. He questioned why this is not being sold in a pharmacy.

Mr. Stevens suggested waiting to see outcome of the Attorney General's review of proposed zoning changes put forth by other towns.

Mr. Pepe said public hearings are needed to see where people stand on the issue.

Town Planner Michelle Buck reported that the Planning Board voted to do nothing at this time. Dispensaries would be regulated under zoning for Retail/Medical Office and Manufacturing.

Mr. Berthiaume suggests asking voters at the Annual Town Meeting to place a temporary moratorium on this issue for one year.

There was discussion on filing a bill to require it to be sold in pharmacies only.

*A motion to ask the Administrator to place an article for a one year moratorium on Medical Marijuana on the May 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Town Meeting Warrant (Berthiaume / Fritze) passed 5-0.*

## **Town Administrator's Report**

### **FY14 Budget Update:**

*Calendar* – Mr. Gaudette reviewed the budget calendar with the Board. He will meet with Capital Planning Committee on Tuesday to conduct rankings.

*Warrant Articles* – The Board reviewed the proposed list of articles for the Annual Town Meeting.

*Monthly Budget Report* – Mr. Gaudette provided a copy of the report per request of Mr. Stevens.

### **Bid Update**

No updates at this time

### **Board Liaison Reports:**

Chairman Pepe said he will continue with the process of the Capital Planning Committee.

### **Citizen Input**

Carl Kwiatkowski, Meadow Rd, commended Mr. Gaudette for standing up at the School Committee meeting and setting the record straight. He also asked where revenue generated from Fire Department inspections is used. Mr. Gaudette said it goes into the general fund.

Al Atchue, Meadow Rd, said he was pleased when Mr. Gaudette spoke at the School Committee meeting about what the Town has done in support of the District; Mark James, member of the Teachers Union insulted the Town by saying they are not doing enough. He is also concerned about medical marijuana sales and asked if it could be grown on farms. Mr. Berthiaume said it must be grown in a green house.

Eleanor O'Connor said that several hundred people have not returned their Census forms to the Town Clerk's Office. They will be removed from the voting list if a completed form is not received.

### **Board Member and Staff Comments**

Mr. Pepe asked Board members to contact him or Mr. Gaudette if they're interested in serving on a search committee for the SEBRSD Business Manager or Interim Superintendent.

Mr. Berthiaume Comments:

- He said he appreciates Michelle Buck's assistance as Town Planner, especially all the work she had done on the medical marijuana issue.
- Thanked Mr. Gaudette for setting the facts straight at the School Committee meeting.
- Invited Board members to join him on a visit to Quaboag Nursing Home to present Rita Paras with a certificate honoring her as one of Spencer's oldest residents.
- Announced April 1<sup>st</sup> is Candidates Night on the Talk of the Town program.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie  
Administrative Assistant

Referenced Materials:

General Obligation Sewer Bonds  
Draft Policy on Health Insurance Rates  
Medical Marijuana MMA Article – Land Use Concerns  
Email from James Whalen