



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Date: October 24, 2016 – Business Meeting
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
Present: Chairman Stevens, Vice Chair C. Woodbury, Clerk Hicks,
Members G. Woodbury and Pepe, and Administrator Gaudette

At 6:08 p.m. Chairman Stevens called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Vote to Approve Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the Business Meeting of October 12th (Hicks/G. Woodbury) passed 5/0.

Citizen Input

None

Communications:

Steve Tyler announced major improvements to the Rail Trail are now complete and the Trail is officially open.

New Staff Introductions – Paul Dell’Aquila, Director of Planning & Economic Development

Administrator Gaudette introduced Paul Dell’Aquila, the Town’s new full time Director of Planning & Economic Development. Mr. Dell’Aquila holds a Master’s Degree in Planning and most recently worked as a Planner for CMRPC. Mr. Dell’Aquila said he looks forward to working in Spencer and offered his thanks to Larry Smith from PVPC and the ODIS staff for helping him transition into this new position. The Board welcomed him.

New Business:

Appoint Assessor due to Vacancy (MGL c. 41, Sec. 11)

Mr. Gaudette reported that there is an opening on the Board of Assessors due to the resignation of Maureen Hatch. The Board of Assessors recommends the appointment of Cynthia Cosgrove as a temporary Assessor until the next Election.

A motion to appoint Cynthia Cosgrove as a member of the Board of Assessors until the next Election (Hicks/G. Woodbury) 5/0 passed.

6:00 p.m. Public Hearing Class II Auto Dealer’s License Application of Brian Lucier for Brian’s Auto – 37 Main Street

Chairman Stevens opened the hearing at 6:16 pm. It was advertised in the October 7th Edition of the New Leader and all property abutters were mailed a Notice of Public Hearing.

Mr. Gaudette noted that in addition to the Class II Application, correspondence from Steve Tyler was submitted indicating numerous calls and complaints relative to ongoing obstruction of the sidewalks due to Brian’s Auto parking vehicles on Town property.

Brian Lucier said he is reapplying for his Class II Auto license, which lapsed on December 32, 2015 and is only requesting a license for up to four cars at the 37 Main Street address.

The hearing was opened for public comment at 6:20 pm.

Mr. Durand, 45 Main Street said he was concerned by the overflow of cars from Brian's Auto onto Main Street and School Street as well.

Mr. Lucier said that after receiving complaints from neighbors, he parks on one side only to prevent obstruction, and will not have more than four cars at a time.

Dr. Hicks noted there are numerous violations for vehicles parked on sidewalk near the building making it unsafe to walk in the area.

Mr. Lucier said he planned to repair the sidewalk, however his contractor was told to stop since work was being done on Town property. Mr. Tyler noted that work was stopped because excavating was taking place without a permit. The contractor was notified of the process to complete the work and at that point Mr. Lucier chose not to move forward.

Mr. Gaudette pointed to the sketch that was submitted for the parking layout and noted that the the first spot is very close to the walkway. Mr. Lucier said he is willing to remove that spot.

Mr. Lucier said he has paid all fines that have been issued and believes he has rectified the concerns of the neighbors.

Dr. Hicks said he believes there too many cars for the size and type of property making the space inadequate for what is being done.

Additional cars were located at 16 Main Street, which is Harvey Shine's location. Mr. Lucier said he is aware he cannot sell without a license and has since removed the vehicles.

Mr. G. Woodbury asked about the width of the sidewalk noting there is no defined marking of the sidewalk near School Street. Another concern is having a wide parking lot with the opening pulling onto heavy traffic on Main Street.

Charles Neggars, 45 Main Street, said he cannot drive from School Street onto Main Street with the amount of cars parked there.

Gergia Trauschke, 35 Main Street said her driveway has been used by Brain's Auto and has been a major concern. She suggested that shrubs could be planted to improve her view which is currently looking directly at the building.

Mr. Lucier said he is no longer using the driveway and would be willing to install a fence. Ms. Trauschke is open to to the idea of a fence.

After some discussion, it was agreed that Mr. Gaudette will schedule a site visit with the Board. Mr. Tyler will arrange to have identification markers set up prior to the visit.

Mr. Pepe clarified that Brian's Auto is not allowed to sell vehicles at either location until a decision is made on the Class II License.

A motion to continue the Public Hearing to November 14th at 6:15 pm (C Woodbury/Hicks) passed 5/0.

Old Business:

Rescind Previous Vote to Postpone Fall Special Meeting Date – Keeping with November 17, 2016

Mr. Gaudette asked the Board to rescind the October 17th vote to postpone the date of the Special Town Meeting. This will allow the time needed to get the tax rate set and the bills out.

A motion to Rescind the Previous Vote to Postpone the Fall Special Meeting date and maintain the date of November 17, 2016 (Pepe /G. Woodbury) passed 5/0.

Town Administrator's Report:

Review Draft Town Meeting Warrant

There are no changes at this time.

Board Liaison Reports

Mr. Stevens asked the SEBRSDC Chairman Martha Berthiaume to provide regular updates on School Committee activities.

Mr. Stevens hosted a visit by Becker College on behalf of the Economic Development Committee to discuss a ways to work with student interns.

Citizen Input

None

Board Member and Staff Comments

Mr. Pepe announced the date of October 31st for the Halloween Party and December 3rd for the Christmas Parade with a snow date of December 4th.

Dr. Hicks noted that School Building Needs Committee will review the Capital Maintenance Report provided by the District.

Mr. Stevens participated in Homecoming over the weekend and encouraged the Board to maintain a presence at school events.

Mr. Gaudette noted that the dedication of the new Veterans Memorial will take place on Veterans Day, November 11th at 5 pm and the Parade will follow at 7 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie
Administrative Assistant

Referenced Materials

Class II Application for Brian's Auto