



OPEN SESSION MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, August 31, 2020



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CAROLE JULIUS, CHAIRMAN
DAVID SHEEDY, VICE CHAIRMAN
PETER SPAGONE JR. CLERK

TOWN HALL, 2nd FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
175 CENTRAL STREET
EAST BRIDGEWATER, MASS.

Members Present: Carole Julius, David Sheedy, and Peter Spagone Jr.

Members Absent:

Others Present: Brian Noble, Town Administrator and Rebecca Johnson, Administrative Assistant

5:30 pm Carole Julius called the meeting to order.

Ms. Julius led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPOINTMENT

Fire Chief, Timothy Harhen was present to request an Ambulance purchase using CARES ACT funds. He went over Federal Government guidelines to help support eligibility. Chief Harhen pointed out surrounding Towns that already purchased vehicles through the CARES ACT. He mentioned two quotes, one for \$339,718.00 and one for \$296,574.00. He briefly went over ambulance revenue. Chief Harhen requested the Board of Selectmen review ambulance purchase request.

Police Chief, Paul O'Brien and Deputy Chief, Michael Jenkins were present for Deputy Chief Michael Jenkins contract signing. Chief O'Brien praised Deputy Chief Jenkins and stated he's a pleasure to work with. Deputy Chief Jenkins thanked the Board of Selectmen and briefly went over his swearing in ceremony day. He updated the Board regarding a recent drug bust involving local, state and federal law enforcements. The Board of Selectmen each commended Deputy Chief Jenkins and look forward to working with him.

The Board of Selectmen held a continued Public Hearing under the provisions of Chapter 166 of General Laws and any additions thereto, or amendments thereof, the Board of Selectmen on August 10, 2020 at 6:30 pm on the petition of NATIONAL GRID, covering NATIONAL GRID pole location(s) to install new pole to Tower Hill Road about 30' from P1.

Mr. Noble stated he reached out to National Grid to get a better understanding as to why the pole install had to be at particular location and not located further down the line, closer to the racetrack or commercial zone area. A representative / engineer from National Grid was present and stated pole location is per design. Mr. Noble pointed out National Grid was unable to provide adequate information and answers to abutters concerning location.

Resident John Irvine, 82 Tardy Terrace was present, stated he reached out to National Grid with his concerns.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to deny National Grid pole location(s) install new pole to Tower Hill Road about 30' from P1 until specific questions have been answered. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to close public hearing. Seconded by Mr. Spagone Jr. All were in favor. 3-0

OPEN FORUM

ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes of August 10, 2020 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

ZBA Chairman, Robert Looney was present to express concerns regarding administrative support on ZBA Board. There was a discussion on duties, allotted time and pay scale.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve job description and authorize hiring of part time assistant to ZBA. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Ian Furst of Boy Scouts of America for the use of the Town Common for a Cub Scout Joining Day. To welcome families into their premier K-5 Cub Scouting Program. Event will be Saturday, September 12, 2020 from 12pm – 3pm. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Sheedy stated outdoor gatherings are limited to 50 people.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Jonathan Babcock for the use of the outside of Sachem Rock Farm to hold Girl Scout Troop 70812 meetings every Tuesday from 4:30pm - 6:00 pm. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve, sign and date the lease agreement between the Town of East Bridgewater and the Beaver Brook Beagle Club, Inc. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. 2-1 Abstained Spagone Jr.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve, sign and date the OPEB Trust Agreement. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve extension period to license dogs without issuing non-criminal violations until October 1, 2020 due to the COVID -19 pandemic and State election. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Noble stated Plymouth County announced Phase 4 of CARES ACT funding and an additional \$635,000. He stated a department head meeting will be held next week regarding funding to date and plans for use. Mr. Noble stated, Plymouth County would like the town to complete a preliminary report of how much of the \$1.9 million will be used by the end of September. He commended Mr. Sheedy on the reorganization of the Planning/Building office. Having his guidance has been worthwhile.

Mr. Noble went over the upcoming Land Auction scheduled for Wednesday, September 2. He mentioned documents and instructions regarding the auction are on towns website. Mr. Noble thanked the Town Assessor, Paula Wolfe, Treasurer/Collector, Melissa Morrissey, Accountant, Phyllis Tirrell for their hard work.

Mr. Noble mentioned a possible Fall Town Meeting to be added on future agenda. He stated, the state is working on meals tax implementation.