



OPEN SESSION MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, January 25, 2021

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

REMOTE MEETING
175 CENTRAL STREET
EAST BRIDGEWATER, MASS.

REC'D EB TOWN CLERK
'21 FEB 9 PM 4:03

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

Members Absent:

Others Present: Brian Noble, Town Administrator and Rebecca Johnson, Assistant to Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen

4:30 pm Carole Julius called the meeting to order.

Ms. Julius led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Julius asked that everyone remain standing for a moment of silence for Mr. William Hubert, Chairman of the Board of Health and High School Security Officer who recently passed away. Ms. Julius stated Mr. Hubert has been a valued member to the community and will be missed.

OPEN FORUM

Council on Aging Director, Nancy Hill was present and thanked Viking Pizza for their donation of ninety-five pizzas for the "Grab and Go" event. She stated Viking Pizza also donated ninety-five gift certificates for an additional large cheese pizza.

ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve minutes of the January 4, 2021 5:00 pm Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the proclamation for the Community Coalition for Change. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Nadia Clancy, member of the Community Coalition for Change was present to give a brief background on the organization. She thanked all the people involved with this process.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to accept the recommendation to award the general contract to Titan Roofing, Inc as the low, responsible bidder for the Central School A.R.P. Roof Project. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve agreement between the Town of East Bridgewater and Titan Roofing, Inc for the Central School Roof Project. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve for Firefighters / Paramedics and Firefighter / EMT's employed by the East Bridgewater Fire Department to give vaccines to anyone who is not a first responder. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the request from Fire Chief, Timothy Harhen for the quarterly Ambulance Billing Abatements as of December 2020 in the amount of \$51,661.77. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy.

All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to reauthorize and amend the Intermunicipal Agreement that created the Southeastern Regional Services Group (SERSG) so as to extend the term of that agreement for a period of twenty-five years from February 1, 2021, subject to any rights of termination or withdrawal, with all other terms of the original agreement remaining in place without change, and to authorize Brian Noble to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of this vote. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to accept the resignation of Timothy Cramer from the Capital Planning Committee effective 1/25/2021. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Sheedy thanked Mr. Cramer for his service to the Town.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Noble stated Operations Manager Rob Kenn applied for and received a Sustainable Materials Grant. Mr. Noble briefly went over Local Receipts. He is pleased with the Local Receipts number but disappointed with all the other line items being down. Mr. Noble stated there was confusion on State's Press Release regarding Local Aid.

Mr. Noble stated the Town is now in Budget Season and meetings have begun between the Finance Committee and Department Heads. He also stated the Town Hall is currently open to the public by Appointment Only and recommends to the Board of Selectmen to open the doors effective Monday, 2/1/21. Mr. Noble stated the RFP – Engineering Services has been emailed to firms and posted on Town's website. Mr. Noble mentioned recent employment opportunities at the Town Hall, positions include Town Planner and Town Accountant which have been posted on the Town's website. Mr. Sheedy suggested to put together a committee to interview for potential planner. Mr. Noble stated the Town's IT Director created email address personnel@eastbridgewaterma.gov for employment application submittals.

There was a discussion on Mr. Noble's recommendation on reopening Town Hall on 2/1/21. Mr. Sheedy stated he is not comfortable with opening Town Hall as the community is high risk designation for COVID-19 category. Mr. Spagone Jr. briefly went over communication and process of the "Opening Committee."

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mr. Spagone Jr. stated The Board of Selectmen held a Public Hearing remotely on Monday, January 25, 2021 at 5:00 pm given that pursuant to the requirements of M.G.L. Chap. 138, a Public Hearing will be held relative to the Application for AMENDMENT- Change or Alteration of Premises of a Common Victualer – All-Alcoholic License, as follows:

From: The Vallarelli Group, inc. dba Johnny Macaroni's
John Vallarelli, Manager
Premises: 1300 Plymouth Street

A 40 X 35 outside deck was built on the east side of the building due to inside restrictions of seating due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. John Vallarelli, Manager was present briefly went over application for amendment change or alteration of premises. Mr. John Shaughnessy of 2286 Washington Street was present as an abutter and stated he endorsed the license. His only concern is in the future the deck will be used for outdoor entertainment or extension of the bar. Mr. Vallarelli stated he could not promise there will be no outdoor entertainment in the future but confirmed it would be nothing more than a light rock/jazz guitar/piano player. He stated his business does not stay open late. Ms. Julius stated any changes/transfers of the license would come before the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Julius closed the public hearing.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to approve the Application for AMENDMENT- Change or Alteration of Premises of a Common Victualer – All-Alcoholic License at 1300 Plymouth Street. Seconded by Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. stated he is a longtime member of the Commercial Club of East Bridgewater and will be abstaining from all votes regarding matter.

Mr. Sheedy stated The Board of Selectmen held a Public Hearing remotely on Monday, January 25, 2021 at 5:15 pm held relative to the Application for Change of Manager as follows:

Purpose: Change of Manager
For: Commercial Club of East Bridgewater
1 Neilson Ave
Janet M. Brooks

Ms. Janet Brooks was present to give a brief background on herself and previous job experience. Mr. Don Ferbert was present and stated Ms. Brooks is the right person for the position. The Selectmen wished Ms. Brooks success and Mr. Don Ferbert a happy retirement. Ms. Julius closed the public hearing.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to approve the change of manager at the Commercial Club of East Bridgewater, 1 Neilson Ave, Janet Brooks. Seconded by Ms. Julius. 2-1 Abstain Spagone Jr.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Selectmen's Meeting Monday, February 8, 2021

Selectmen's Meeting Monday, February 22, 2021

BOARD DISCUSSIONS

There was a discussion regarding the East Bridgewater Food Pantry. Mr. Spagone Jr. stated the food pantries in Town advised they were in dire need to stock their shelves. He stated there will be a food drive from February 1, 2021 through February 14, 2021. Collection boxes will be placed at Dewhurst Lumber, Union Congregational Church, as well as the YMCA, and monetary donations collected at EB Insurance. Every food item and dollar donated will help the current pandemic driven food shortage.

Mr. Spagone Jr. also stated a resident reached out to him regarding a potential senior citizen discount on water/trash bill. He will speak with John Haines, Director of Public Works to see if the Town can implement as the Town of Whitman has this in place for their seniors.

Ms. Julius briefly discussed her attendance at the MMA Virtual Conference. She really enjoyed her experience and stated it was well worth attending. There was a brief discussion on these educational seminars.

Ms. Julius stated there is now an opening on the Capital Planning Committee due to the resignation of Timothy Cramer. All "Letters of Interest" and appointment application should be sent to Rebecca Johnson at rjohnson@eastbridgewaterma.gov.

ADJOURN

Motion by Sheedy, second by Mr. Spagone Jr. to adjourn. All were in favor, 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 5:21 pm

Board of Selectmen Clerk