



OPEN SESSION MINUTES BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, April 22, 2019

WILLIAM DOWLING, CHAIRMAN
CAROLE JULIUS, VICE CHAIRMAN
DAVID SHEEDY, CLERK

TOWN HALL, 1st FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
175 CENTRAL STREET
EAST BRIDGEWATER, MASS.

Members Present: William Dowling, Carole Julius, David Sheedy

Members Absent:

Others Present: Rocco Longo, Interim Town Administrator, Rebecca Johnson, Administrative Assistant

6:30 pm Chairman Dowling called the meeting to order.

Chairman Dowling led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPOINTMENTS

Rob Lynch of Lynch, Marini and Associates, was present to give an update on the FY18 audit. Mr. Lynch gave a brief overview of the main objectives of the audit. Mr. Lynch stated the town is required to have a single audit conducted under uniform guidance. He stated as a result of their audit, they did issue an unmodified opinion. Mr. Lynch indicated they did not note any instances of noncompliance. The single audit did not report any findings, pointing out the town is complying with the requirements. Mr. Lynch mentioned a management letter recommending internal control improvement. Some improvements specified that have been reviewed with management were, implementing a fraud policy, complying with investment policies and making sure the internal control is constantly being monitored and updated. Mr. Lynch gave an overview of the financial statements and Town funds.

Mr. Sheedy stated there were a few things to look at but other than that looks like the town is doing very well.

Ms. Julius stated she appreciated Mr. Lynch coming in and sharing information with the public.

Mr. Dowling wanted to know if the town was in line with other towns in regards to funding OPEB. Mr. Lynch advised that more towns and communities are starting to fund it and get a schedule in place. He indicated that down the road if more and more people start to fund it at a higher the rate, it could impact the town. Mr. Longo stated the fact that the town is putting money in the OPEB is a good thing. He mentioned how it effect town's bond rating and won't be long for town's to be required to put OPEB on their funding schedule.

Robert Charles, Veterans Service Officer was present to give an update. Mr. Charles stated he will be retiring on July 26, 2019. He thanked everyone involved with his tenure here at East Bridgewater Town Hall.

The Board of Selectmen tabled the contract signing for Council on Aging Director, Nancy Hill and Fire Chief, Timothy Harhen.

ACTION ITEMS

Motion/Sheedy, second/Julius to approve the request from Evan Gray, EB Commercial Club Youth Football & Cheer to hang a banner on Town Common to advertise EB Youth Football & Cheerleading Registration from April 15, 2019 – July 15, 2019. Vote 3-0

There was a discussion in regards to the placement and amount of signs and banners on Town Common. The Board mentioned the possibility of setting a policy.

Motion/Sheedy, second/Julius to approve the request from the Board of Health to use of the outside of Sachem Rock to hold a Rabies Clinic for dogs and cats on June 11, 2019 from 4:30 pm-7:30 pm. Vote 3-0

Motion/Sheedy, second/Julius to appoint Joel C. Thomas as Constable effective April 10, 2019 through June 30, 2021.

There was a discussion in regards to appointing Mr. Thomas as a Constable. Mr. Sheedy gave a brief overview of Mr. Thomas tenure as Constable for the Town of East Bridgewater. He stated the board gets these kind of requests quite often, pointing out that there is elected and appointed constables for the town. Ms. Julius stated this is something the Board should look into. Police Chief Scott Allen was present and stated the Town just elected five new constable positions and also has appointed constables that are self-bonded which conflict with one another. Pointing out over the past 6 to 8 years the Town has up to 5-14 constables on an annual basis. He mentioned he talked to Town Counsel in regards to the Town's infrastructure of elected and appointed constables for the same position. Town Council advised to put a policy and/or process in place and Chief Allen recommends this to the Board. Putting this policy in place will help the board by determining mechanism of both elected and appointed constables. Chief Allen also pointed out there is no process in writing set for appointed constables. He stressed a concern that we have people out there doing law enforcement work with no law enforcement training and background.

The Selectmen decided to table this item until they hear back from Town Council.

Motion/Sheedy, second/Julius to table the appointment as Constable for Joel C. Thomas, while waiting on a policy from Town Council within thirty days. Vote 3-0

Motion/Sheedy, second/Julius to approve the following Common Victualer License for the period ending December 31, 2019: Vote 3-0

LICENSE #50

Deli Italiano

Michael Simonetti, Mgr.

118 N. Bedford Street

Hours: Monday – Saturday 10:00 am – 7:00 pm

Motion/Sheedy, second/Julius to approve the following applications for One-Day Liquor Licenses from the Villa at Ridder Country Club for weddings on the following dates: Vote 3-0

May 25, 2019	July 5, 2019	September 6, 2019
May 26, 2019	July 20, 2019	September 7, 2019
June 1, 2019	July 26, 2019	September 13, 2019
June 8, 2019	July 27, 2019	September 14, 2019
June 21, 2019	August 2, 2019	September 15, 2019
June 22, 2019	August 9, 2019	September 21, 2019
June 23, 2019	August 11, 2019	September 22, 2019
June 28, 2019	August 24, 2019	September 28, 2019
June 29, 2019	August 31, 2019	October 5, 2019
June 30, 2019	September 1, 2019	October 18, 2019

INTERIM TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Longo mentioned he has started putting the budget together and has shared it with the Finance Committee. He stated a joint meeting will be held May 20 to review the warrant and warrant articles.

Mr. Longo mention he will be meeting weekly with the Fiscal Team, Paula (assessor), Phyllis (accountant) & Melissa (treasurer/collector). They will be working on the budget as well as policies.

Mr. Longo stated he recently met with a Green Communities' Rep and the Old Colony Planning Council

With Board approval will he would like to apply for a \$7,500.00 Grant to compile a Green Communities application – EB eligible for Green Community grant up to \$150,000.00 in the first year.

He would like to begin individual Department Head meetings and will hold regular meetings for all department heads either monthly or every other week through the transition.

Had an opportunity to sit with Carole and would like to sit with the other Board members. Mr. Longo stated he would like to do this regularly.

The Veterans Agent is retiring and with the Board approval he would like to get the process started to recruit and hire his successor. He would screen applicants down to three for the Board to interview.

Fire Chief, Tim Harhen has applied for a grant, and will receive \$23,836.00 from the last storm.

Mr. Longo stated he is also going to peruse unlawful harassment and just cause training for the staff.

There was a discussion in regards to the upcoming June 10, 2019 Annual & Special Town Meeting. Mr. Dowling mentioned the Board of Selectmen may need to open Town Meeting, per the Town by Law on May 13, 2019. The Selectmen will be checking with the Moderator and Town Council regarding this matter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / STAFF REPORTS

BOARD DISCUSSION

Mr. Dowling thanked all the Department Heads for their understanding and efforts while going through this transition.

ADJOURN

Motion by Sheedy, second by Julius to adjourn. Vote 3-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm



Board of Selectmen Clerk