



OPEN SESSION MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, September 12, 2022

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

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

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

Members Absent:

Others Present: Charles Seelig, Town Administrator; Rebecca Johnson, Administrative Assistant

6:30 pm Selectman Spagone Jr. called the meeting to order.

Selectman Spagone Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN FORUM

Town Clerk, Susan Gillpatrick was present to give an update on early voting. She commended election workers for their works and efforts. She stated there was a twenty one percent (21%) turnout, eight hundred (800) out of twenty-one hundred (2,100) were vote by mail and one hundred fifty (150) were in-person voting at town hall and the rest were at the poll's day of. Tuesday, November 8, 2022 is the State Primary. Early voting information will be available on the website.

Ms. Gillpatrick announced dog licenses were due September 1, 2022. At this point, late fees will be assessed. She stated the Town has a tiered system for late fees. First offense, \$25 per dog, second, \$50 per dog and third or more, \$100 per dog. Ms. Gillpatrick stated about three hundred (300) dogs unlicensed. If you have any question please call the Clerk's office 508-378-1606.

Fire Chief, Timothy Harhen was present to announce the East Bridgewater Fire Department has been awarded a FEMA Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant in the amount of \$976,818.00 for the hiring of four additional Firefighter/Paramedics. This grant will cover nearly 100% of the salaries and benefits for the next three years. He stated with this grant and the additional manpower, the fire department will be able to respond to subsequent calls for service more safely and efficiently, as well as provide additional manpower at fire scenes during the most critical beginning minutes.

Police Chief, Paul O'Brien was present to give an update on department. He announced newly hired officer, Mathew Monteiro. He gave a brief background of Officer Monteiro and stated he will be an asset to the department. Chief O'Brien stated the department two (2) Task Forces recovered over \$528,000 worth of drugs and taken over seventeen (17) firearms off the street. The Selectmen commended the department for their works and efforts.

PUBLIC HEARING

At 6:40 pm Selectman Sheedy stated a notice is hereby given that pursuant to the requirements of M.G.L. Chap. 138, a Public Hearing will be held relative to Transfer of License, Change of Manager, Pledge of Collateral and Pledge of Inventory - All Alcoholic License, as follows: From: Helly, LLC dba East Bridgewater Liquors, Rahul Shah, Mgr. To: Jay Ma Ambe Enterprises, Inc. dba East Bridgewater Liquors, Rashmi Hilten Patel, Mgr. Premises: 225 Bedford Street. A Public Hearing will be held at the Town Hall, First Floor Conference Room, 175 Central Street, East Bridgewater on Monday, September 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

Attorney Traux was present to represent Jay Ma Ambe Enterprises, Inc. dba East Bridgewater Liquors. He stated Ms. Patel proposed manager has alcoholic package store experience for the past three and half (3½) years. Operations and employees will remain the same.

Ms. Johnson stated September 12th through December 31st licensee will pay \$187.50 for new license.

Motion by Selectman Sheedy to approve transfer of License, Change of Manager, Pledge of Collateral and Pledge of Inventory - All Alcoholic License, as follows: From: Helly, LLC dba East Bridgewater Liquors, Rahul Shah, Mgr. To: Jay Ma Ambe Enterprises, Inc. dba East Bridgewater Liquors, Rashmi Hilten Patel, Mgr. Premises: 225 Bedford Street with addition that licensee pay a three (3) month license from September 12, 2022 to December 31, 2022 for \$187.50. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

APPOINTMENTS

ACTION ITEMS

Motion by Selectman Sheedy to approve minutes of the August 15, 2022 Board of Selectmen Meeting. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Motion by Selectman Sheedy to approve but not release minutes of the August 15, 2022, Board of Selectmen's Executive Session meeting. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Motion by Sheedy to approve the request from Fire Chief, Timothy Harhen for the quarterly Ambulance Billing Abatements as of September 2022 in the amount of \$30,583.57. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Motion by Sheedy to approve to instruct Animal Control Officers, Ed Gannon Jr., and Jacob Gannon to issue non-criminal violations to dog owners who have not licensed their dogs as of September 20, 2022. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Motion by Sheedy to approve a designee to the MBTA Advisory Board to represent the community on the Advisory Board. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

The Selectmen agreed to appoint Chairman, Spagone Jr.

Motion by Sheedy to appoint Paul Damon as a member to the Patriotic Activities Committee effective September 12, 2022, through June 30, 2025. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Motion by Sheedy to appoint Beth Hayes to the Bicentennial Committee effective September 12, 2022 with no designated term. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Motion by Sheedy to approve to surplus Sony Digital Photo Printer Model UP-DX100 x 2 and Sony Digital Still Camera Model DKC-C200X x 2. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Motion by Sheedy to approve the request from Pony Town Parties to extend Food Truck Nights through September. These events will take place every Thursday from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Sheedy passover action item 10.

Motion by Sheedy to approve the request from Ryan Layton of Cub Scout Pack 28 for the use of the Town Common for Cub Scout Pack 28 "Recruitment" event Saturday, September 10, 2022, from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

and to put a sign on municipal property for advertisement, August 30th through September 10th. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Motion by Sheedy to approve the request from Zach Michonski of East Bridgewater Youth Lacrosse for the use of the Town Hall Parking Lot for a Mums sale to fundraise EB Youth Lacrosse Saturday, September 17, 2022, from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Motion by Sheedy to approve the request from SPS Inc dba Freda's Restaurant for a One Day Liquor License for The Center at Sachem Rock for a Class Reunion on September 10, 2022, from 6pm – 10pm. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Motion by Sheedy to approve the request from Deana LePine, EB Community Gardens for the use of The Center at Sachem Rock for an end of the season cleanup October 15, 2022, from 10am – 2pm, rain date October 16, 2022. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Motion by Sheedy to approve the request from Natasha Threatts (Parks Coordinator – Tinkergarten) for the use of Sachem Rock Farm for the purpose of a small parent-child nature play class for children aged 18 months to 5 years old designed to provide families with fun and educational activities that encourage exploration, problem solving, teamwork and creativity. Along the way, parents learn about child development and the importance of both free play and time spent outdoors. Families are also directly taught to respect nature and local green spaces, and we leave no trace. This is a series of events based off a guiding curriculum. A trial class will be held on Thursday, September 15th. There will be a charge of \$200.00 for nine classes which will be held on Thursdays September 22nd – November 17th 2022 from 10:00 am – 11:00 am. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Motion by Sheedy to approve the request from resident Jennifer MacDonald for the use of the Town Common and Town Hall Parking Lot for a wedding ceremony on Saturday, October 15, 2022, from 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Motion by Sheedy to approve the request from Dianne Kennedy Warkel of the Kiwanis Club of East Bridgewater for the use of the Town Common for the Annual Lighting of the Common and Tree Decorating Contest on Thursday, December 1, 2022, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Motion by Sheedy to approve Street Lighting for Old Oak Street and 1 Chestnut Street. Seconded by Selectman Julius. All were in favor. 3-0

Mr. Seelig stated that after talking with Public Works and Public Safety their recommendation was to add a streetlight at the eastern intersection of Oak and Old Oak Street. Cost to the Town would roughly be \$110 yearly. Mr. Kevin O'brien of 69 Old Oak Street and Ross Ferguson of 64 Old Oak Street were present to stress their concerns for street lighting. Mr. Seelig will check with DPW Director, John Haines to see if Old Oak Street predated 1840. A street is automatically an accepted town way predated 1840. This will be brought back to the Selectmen for review and approval. Mr. Seelig stated Public Works agreed to take over jurisdiction for streetlight at 1 Chestnut Street.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / STAFF REPORTS

Ms. Johnson announced Save the Date - Community Shredding & Prescription Drug Take Back Event on Saturday, October 29th at The Center at Sachem Rock from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, 355 Plymouth Street. East Bridgewater residents only.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Seelig stated he received twenty-seven (27) applications for ARPA funds. The total will be over four (4) million dollars. He stated the Town has around three point six (3.6) million dollars available. The ARPA committee will review the application next day and make recommendations to the Selectmen.

Mr. Seelig stated he is working on and off with the Collins Center regarding personnel policies and wage grid. This will be discussed in detail at the next Selectmen's meeting the 26th.

Mr. Seelig stated a resident has concerns about crosswalks on North Bedford Street. Request is to have flashing pedestrian signs. Mr. Seelig suggest having one on the South side of intersection, the Selectmen agreed. He will put in a request with MA DOT.

BOARD DISCUSSIONS

Selectman Sheedy thanked public safety for 9/11 Memorial.

Selectman Spagone Jr. would like a joint meeting with Agricultural Commission regarding animal grievances. Selectman Spagone Jr. advised Mr. Seelig to send another email to State Representatives regarding Home Rule Petitions for an update.

Selectman Spagone Jr. commended all that were involved, Run for Jess.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monday, September 26, 2022, Board of Selectmen 6:30 pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Selectmen were entering into Executive Session Pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations and conducting collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with Firefighters, Superior Officers, Clerical, DPW, Dispatchers, Patrol Officers.

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a)(6) To consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property; Casa Roma property off Robbins Pond if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to move into Executive Session and not return to open session, Ms. Julius seconded. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Spagone Jr: Aye, Ms. Julius: Aye, Mr. Sheedy: Aye. All were in favor, 3-0

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm

Board of Selectmen Clerk