

APPROVED

**MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
GRIFFIN ROOM, TOWN HALL
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2016
6:30 P.M.**

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Hughes, Kavanagh, LaMantia, MacAskill

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Administrator Christopher Clark, Assistant Town Administrator Charleen Greenhalgh, Carolyn Carey, Andy Gould, Amy Usowski, Ginny Hewitt, Richard Waystack, Bruce Nightingale, Jay Kavanagh, Joan McCarty, Joanne Brown, Mary Warde, Jeanne Wheeler, Allin Thompson, Jim Hartley, Valerie Bell, and others.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman MacAskill.

WEEKLY BRIEFING

Ms. Carey reported on events at the Community Center. Ms. Usowski reported that Falmouth has dismantled a dam and is donating it to the Town for material for our next artificial reef. She introduced new Assistant Conservation Agent Nicole Smith.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Minutes - November 7, 2016 Regular Session
- B. Approve Mooring Service Agent Permit Renewals for 2017 as recommended by Harbormaster
- C. Confirm appointment of Megan Holmes as Administrative Assistant in Assessors Office as recommended
- D. Approve application for Hawkers & Peddlers license for Pilgrim Lodge to sell Christmas trees and waive associated \$60 fee
- E. Sign Declaration of Votes Form as required by Barnstable County Office of County Clerk and as recommended by Harwich Town Clerk

Mr. Clark requested to table Item C as questions have come up and he would like an opportunity to address those questions. Ms. Kavanagh moved approval of the Consent Agenda Items A, B, D, and E. Mr. Hughes seconded the motion. Mr. Rendon responded to questions from Chairman MacAskill regarding the process for Mooring Service Agent renewals. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/PRESENTATIONS *(Not earlier than 6:30 P.M.)*

- A. Annual Meetings with the Board of Selectmen
 - 1. Library Trustees

Ms. Warde delivered the annual report of the Library Trustees.

- 2. Water Commissioners

Mr. Thompson delivered the annual report of the Water Commissioners.

3. Youth Services

Mr. Hartley delivered the annual report of the Youth Services Committee.

B. Public Hearing – Classification Hearing – Board of Assessors – *continued from 11/14/16*

Chairman MacAskill reopened the hearing which was continued from November 14, 2016. Mr. Waystack reported that the Board of Assessors voted to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that they select a factor of “1” taxing all property at the same rate, that they do not grant an open space exemption, that they do not grant a residential exemption, and that they do not grant a small commercial exemption. Mr. Waystack reported that the single tax rate is estimated to \$8.97 per thousand which is a drop from last year obviously corresponding to a value increase of the community of about \$170,000,000 and we are getting close to \$5 billion in fair cash value for this community. He further recommended that the Board authorize Donna Molino, the Assessing Director, to sign the LA-5 the corresponding document on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Hughes moved to close the hearing. Mr. LaMantia seconded the motion and the motion carried by a unanimous vote. Mr. Hughes moved that 1) we select a factor of “1” taxing all property at the same rate, 2) that we do not grant an open space exemption, 3) that we do not grant a residential exemption, 4) that we do not grant a small commercial exemption and 5) we vote to authorize Donna Molino to sign the LA-5 on DOR Gateway on behalf of the Selectmen. Mr. LaMantia seconded the motion and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

C. Public Hearing – Proposed Winter Boat Storage Fee

Ms. Kavanagh read the hearing notice into record. Mr. Rendon stated that as indicated in the Board’s packet he is proposing a change to our Harbor Management Plan to include the option to offer winter boat storage at Saquatucket Harbor run through the Harbormaster Department. He noted that a couple of months ago we put out a bid proposal for leasing or entering into a licensing agreement with companies that wanted to utilize Town property for boat storage and we received only one bid from Allen Harbor Marine. He noted that due to the installation of an impervious pavement system at Allen Harbor and it becoming a public access facility we can no longer do winter boat storage there but with the recent acquisition of the Downey property we have a significant amount of land at Saquatucket Harbor. He said that since there didn’t seem to be a significant need he would like to offer boaters the option to work directly with Harbormaster Department to store their boats on our property there. Ms. Kavanagh questioned if we need additional insurance to store the boats and Mr. Rendon responded that we have insured the old Downey property because it is part of our facility and there is no additional coverage required. He added that the boat owners will be required to have insurance. Mr. Hughes asked how the fee of \$20 per foot compares with other facilities and Mr. Rendon responded that they conducted a survey of area providers, it is very similar to Sandwich which is \$23 and they offer pressure washing, and Bass River Marina is very similar at \$18 and they offer boat storage only. Mr. Hughes moved to close the public hearing. Mr. LaMantia seconded the motion and the motion carried by a unanimous vote. Mr. Hughes moved to approve the request of the Harbormaster to allow boat storage this winter season at Saquatucket Harbor. Ms. Kavanagh seconded the motion and the motion carried by a unanimous vote. Mr. Rendon stated that he is intending to make this change to the Harbor Management Plan so we’ll have that option going forward to do winter boat storage and the Board agreed.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Memorandum of Understanding for Solar Revenue

Mr. Clark outlined the document noting that the Water Department would be treated as an off-taker. Chairman MacAskill commented that he believes Item #1 should include both revenue and expense. Chairman MacAskill asked if the Water Commission has a preference on the look back period, specifically whether it should be 3 or 5 years. Mr. Thompson stated that he would prefer the 5 year lookback. Chairman MacAskill requested to change paragraph 2 language from “they shall receive 50% of their allocated portion” to “they shall receive 50% of actual as allocated by Eversource.” Mr. Clark suggested saying “electric utility” rather than “Eversource” in case it changes and Chairman MacAskill agreed. Mr. Clark agreed to make the changes, no vote was taken.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Brooks Free Library Generator

Mr. Clark provided background information on this topic. Ms. Hewitt stated that this request for a full building generator has been on the Capital Plan for 3 years. She noted that the request is not so that the Library can serve as a shelter but rather to provide library services after power outages. She noted that the Capital Outlay Committee has asked them to resubmit the request. The Board discussed the requirements, price, funding and specifications as well as what to do with the current smaller generator. Chairman MacAskill stated that there is support from the Board and they will wait for the final numbers. No action was taken.

B. Wastewater Implementation Committee Charge

Peter DeBakker, Chair, stated that he believes that they have met all the goals that were set by the Board of Selectmen in the charge. He stated that the next phase is the implementation of the wastewater program. He noted that the committee has discussed what they could do next and suggested that they pursue the function of being a CWMP compliance tracking committee and Ms. Pflieger has composed a 4 page document that could be used as a tracking mechanism. He added that they could be a repository of information as to how the program progresses and relay that to the citizens of Harwich. He stressed that the committee cannot execute the program. Mr. LaMantia said the committee could examine various opportunities to go forward to implement getting it up and running and focus on how we handle each of the other parts of Town. Mr. Hughes stated that the near term will be determined if we come to agreement with Chatham on an IMA. He suggested having a Harwich wastewater handbook that can take citizens through the process and answers questions and it should have some effective graphics. Mr. Clark said it is important for the committee to continue on as this is going to be a 40 year program and we should update the charge to allow for the implementation phase. Mr. MacAskill asked the Board to send Mr. DeBakker comments on changing the charge.

C. Proposed letter to Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities recommended by Cape Light Compact in response to National Grid’s petition requesting to be exclusive service provider

Valerie Bell explained the rationale behind the letter. Mr. Hughes moved to authorize the Board to sign this document to Secretary Marini at the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities. Ms. Kavanagh seconded the motion and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

D. Utility & Energy Committee Charge

Chairman MacAskill noted that in the annual report of the Utility & Energy Committee, they were looking for some direction from us as indicated on 1) Participate in the State Program, Solarize Massachusetts; 2) pursue Green Community Status again; and 3) establish Town-wide greenhouse gas emission reduction targets and timetables. He asked the Board if they had any thoughts on where they go from here. Ms. Bell stated that they are also open for any other ideas the Board may have and she took questions from the Board regarding the charge. Mr. Hughes commented that he thinks the charge is outdated and the committee should take a shot at rewriting it and Ms. Bell agreed. Mr. Cole pointed out that if they were to undertake Solarize Mass, it is labor intensive and they would need their full membership.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. Request by Library Director to change Selectmen Holidays from December 27 & December 30, 2016 to December 24 & December 31, 2016 for Library employees

Mr. Clark explained that if a department is open on a Saturday then some discretion is given for that and the intent of the Selectmen is to give 2 days. He stated that it is up to the department as to how they are allocated if they are open on Saturday and the Board agreed.

B. Draft Capital Budget Summary

Regarding the draft Capital Budget Summary, Mr. Clark stated that the main reason this is on the agenda is to get direction from the Board. No comments were offered.

Mr. Clark encouraged use of simplified room rental agreements at Middle School rather than numerous license agreements that require Board approval as it is not an efficient way of doing business. He said he would like the Board to give Ms. Carey and him discretion over this. He noted that they may come back with something to outline that. Mr. LaMantia said he needs to know how much it costs to operate the building and how much they are getting from the rentals and it is enough to cover it. He said it is fine if the use is appropriate and he is kept informed of revenue.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

A. Committee Vacancy Listing for November

This item was not addressed.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hughes moved to adjourn at 9:14 p.m. Mr. LaMantia seconded the motion and the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Steidel
Recording Secretary

Related Documents - 11/28/16 BOS Meeting

- 01 Agenda.pdf
- 02 Minutes - Nov 7, 2016.pdf
- 03 Mooring Servicing Agents.pdf
- 04 Appt of Administrative Asst.pdf
- 05 Pilgrim Lodge License.pdf
- 06 Declaration of Votes.pdf
- 07 Library Trustees Report.pdf
- 08 Classification Hearing.pdf
- 09 Winter Boat Storage Fee Hearing.pdf
- 10 Solar Revenue MOU.pdf
- 11 Library Generator.pdf
- 12 WIC Charge.pdf
- 13 Dept of Public Utilities Letter.pdf
- 14 Utility & Energy Charge.pdf
- 15 Library Holiday Hours.pdf
- 16 Draft Budget Capital Summary.pdf
- 17 Committee Vacancy List.pdf