

BOARD OF SELECTMEN Meeting
Tuesday, October 20, 2015

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held at 6:15pm on Tuesday, October 20, 2015 in Conference Room A in Town Hall; present were five selectpersons, the Town Administrator and the Asst. Town Administrator. Selectperson Sheedy left the meeting following the Executive Session at 7:15pm.

6:15 Meeting Called to Order

Executive Session – MGL Chapter 30A §21(a)(3) Strategy with Respect to Litigation: Selectperson Wilkinson moved that the Board of Selectmen enter into Executive Session under MGL Chapter 30A, §21(a) for exemption #3 to discuss strategy with respect to litigation, seconded by Selectperson Murphy, roll call vote, Chairperson Battistelli – aye, Selectperson Lucas – aye, Selectperson Murphy – aye, Selectperson Sheedy – aye, Selectperson Wilkinson – aye.

Executive Session –
Strategy with
Respect to Litigation
Motion Approved

Chairperson Battistelli: “We are entering executive session because, by not doing so, it would be detrimental to the Town’s litigating position. The Board will reconvene in Open Session”.

7:20 Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Approval of Minutes of October 6, 2015: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board of Selectmen approve the minutes of October 6, 2015, Selectperson Wilkinson seconded, Vote: 4-0.

Approval of 10/6/15
Minutes
Motion Approved

Approval of Minutes of October 13, 2015: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board of Selectmen approve the minutes of October 13, 2015, Selectperson Wilkinson seconded, Vote: 4-0.

Approval of 10/13/15
Minutes
Motion Approved

Selectmen Updates and Liaison Reports: Selectperson Wilkinson commented that HarvestFest gets better every year. Chairperson Battistelli said it appears the MBTA power upgrade is moving forward at the train station, and it sounds like they are going to be able to move that track (access to Evan’s Field). Selectperson Murphy said the governor signed the petition so the alcohol issue will be on the ballot in May, it is now allowed for restaurants to serve alcoholic beverages without a meal. Selectperson Wilkinson said on the day Santa will be coming to town he will be arriving at 1pm to the Firehouse Trust, they are hoping people can enjoy the shops, there will be an arts and crafts event at the Community House; Santa will be at the tree by 4pm.

Selectmen Updates
& Liaison Reports

Public Comment Period: T. Arsenian, 95 Granite Street, said he would like to comment when the issue of plowing Blueberry Lane is discussed. He said a month ago the Board of Selectmen provided an update on the tool company; he said large loads were unloaded on the site. He said he feels the board’s update was unsatisfactory. Rae Francoeur said a petition and letter were sent requesting a modification to the winter parking ban. She said the ban should be in affect when snow is on the ground or when it is predicted. From November 15 through April the downtown area is difficult. She suggests perhaps using a reverse 911 and reconsidering the winter parking ban. She said this can’t be good for the economy; the streets are empty and desolate in the winter. She said she spoke to some business owners; almost all of them signed the petition. Kevin Carrigan said of course nobody can park downtown if there’s snow on

Public Comment
Period

the streets. Selectperson Wilkinson said we don't have reverse 911; we have no automatic way to communicate with town residents. Chairperson Battistelli said she doesn't want to bring this to the DPW every year. Selectperson Murphy said he would like to talk about this at a meeting with the DPW, the police, the Board of Selectmen and residents. The DPW said last year that different equipment would need to be purchased in order to accomplish this. Selectperson Lucas said the new police chief may have new ideas. Selectperson Wilkinson said the town doesn't tow. Selectperson Lucas said we need some steps working toward the parking ban.

L. Hale, Chestnut Drive, said he was here regarding the plowing of private roads. Previously he said he hired an attorney; he said we needed a vote by the town regarding the financing of plowing private roads. The DPW has said it's in the hands of the Board of Selectmen, but he still hasn't heard anything. Chairperson Battistelli said we will put this on next meeting agenda. She said members of the board went on a road trip previously to see what the plow trucks need to do. She said we are evaluating the criteria and will present next steps at the next meeting.

Frederick Tarr, 156 Main Street, said he supports the letters to the state regarding Halibut Point State Park; many visitors are from out of state.

7:25 Action List

Resignation of
Suzan Galpin from
Economic Develop.
Committee
Motion Approved

- Resignation of Suzan Galpin from the Economic Development Committee: Selectperson Wilkinson moved that the Board of Selectmen accept, with regret, the resignation of Suzan Galpin from the Economic Development Committee effective as of October 31, 2015, Selectperson Murphy seconded, Vote: 4-0.

Elder Abuse
Awareness Event at
Five Corners
Motion Approved

- Elder Abuse Awareness Event at Five Corners: Selectperson Lucas moved that the Selectmen grant permission to the Rockport Police Department and the Rockport Council on Aging to hold their "Show You Care" elder abuse awareness event at Five Corners on Thursday, November 12, 2015 from 10 am to 12 noon, Selectperson Murphy seconded, Vote: 4-0.

Letters of Support
for Halibut Point
Visitor's Center
Motion Approved

- Letters of Support for Halibut Point Visitors Center: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board approve and sign the October 20, 2015 letter of support to our state Legislators to assist in finding adequate funding to reopen the Halibut Point Visitor's Center, Selectperson Wilkinson seconded, Vote: 4-0.

Increase Board of
Health Membership
to Five
Motion Approved

- Increase Board of Health Membership to Five: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Board of Selectmen change the membership of the Board of Health from three to five members, Selectperson Wilkinson seconded, Vote: 4-0.

51 Granite Street
License to Use
Public Property
Motion Approved

- 51 Granite Street License to Use Public Property: Selectperson Wilkinson moved that the Board of Selectmen grant Lawrence and Mary Santapaul a license to use the public property on Beach Street identified as parcel 17-43 contingent on their purchase of the residence at 51 Granite Street, their modification of a portion of the fencing abutting the residence at 49 Granite Street and coordination their assistance with occasional access across it by the 49 Granite Street property owners, Selectperson Murphy seconded, Vote: 4-0.

Cranberry Marsh
Lease
Motion Approved

- Cranberry Marsh Lease: Selectperson Lucas moved that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign a lease agreement with Kenneth Lane of 38 South Street in Rockport for the property known as Cranberry Marsh and identified on Assessor's

Map 27, Lots 25 and 26 for a three year term from October 20, 2015 to October 19, 2018 for an annual rental amount of \$350.00, Selectperson Wilkinson seconded, Vote: 4-0.

- 69 Long Beach Notice of Lease: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Selectmen approve and sign a Notice of Lease for 69 Long Beach with Michael and Nicole Zimmerman, Selectperson Wilkinson seconded, Vote: 4-0. 69 Long Beach Notice of Lease Motion Approved
- Request for Town to Plow Blueberry Lane: no action taken.
- Performance Evaluations & Merit Approval: Selectperson Wilkinson moved that the Board of Selectmen accept the Personnel Board's recommendation for the distribution of Merit Bonuses to the listed non-union employees based on their Performance Evaluation ratings, Selectperson Murphy seconded, Vote: 4-0. Performance Evaluations & Merit Approval Motion Approved
- Contract for Pleasant Street Extension Paving: Selectperson Lucas moved that the Selectmen approve and sign a Contractor Agreement with the Cassidy Corporation of 54 Cummings Park, Woburn, Massachusetts for the Pleasant Street Extension Paving project for the sum of \$23,936.00, Selectperson Murphy seconded, Vote: 4-0. Contract for Pleasant Street Extension Paving Motion Approved
- Contract for Pigeon Cove Breakwater Repairs: Selectperson Murphy moved that the Selectmen approve and sign a Contract with Classic Site Solutions, Inc. of Framingham, Massachusetts for the Pigeon Cove Breakwater Repairs project for the sum of \$2,887,817.00, Selectperson Wilkinson seconded, Vote: 4-0. Contract for Pigeon Cove Breakwater Repairs Motion Approved
- Selectmen Liaisons for FY16: postponed to subsequent meeting.

8:15 Discussion Items

- FY17 Budget Guidelines – the Town Administrator inquired how the board members would feel about making a change to the budget process this year and offering no budget guidelines to department heads. She said we have been looking at everything to see if there's anything we can do about the deficit position. We're in more of a deficit position every year. She said the Finance Committee has used a sound methodology; some of the assumptions ended up with an estimate that if we did nothing in some major areas, there will be a \$665,000 deficit. We don't want to ask the taxpayers for an override, at least this year. L. Sanders asked that instead of sending out the forms to department heads and asking them to level fund this year; not giving them the opportunity to ask for anything additional. There are four huge departments; the Board of Selectmen should meet with those department heads. Board of Selectmen workshop meetings would be scheduled for the four large departments to come before the board. Maybe schedule workshops on the Tuesdays the board doesn't regularly meet. Discussion Items:

FY '17 Budget Guidelines
- Integration of the Community Development Function: The Town Administrator explained that we have many people doing community development throughout the town. The Economic Development group does a lot of it; the Planning Board, Conservation Commission and the Town Administrator are involved as well. Leaving it as it is isn't working; starting new committees may not be the answer. The Town Administrator is proposing that the board create a function called "Community Development" with all the above folks working in the same direction. There's been misconception around the expenses of the economic development; it Integration of the Community Development Function

appears to be public relations. L. Razdan, Economic Development Committee, says it is difficult when residents question the budget. She said many things you work on overlap other departments. It was recommended that board members review the draft, L. Razdan will meet with the Economic Development Committee, and the board should finish the draft. Selectperson Lucas inquired if the Cultural District is participating in this.

8:50 Selectperson Murphy moved to adjourn, seconded by Selectperson Wilkinson, Vote 4-0.

Warrant signed for the Fiscal Year 2015 Payroll and Expenses for the week of October 22, 2015 in the amounts of \$109,576.57 and \$108,933.67 respectively.

Items Signed:

Innholder's License, Sally Webster Inn.

Letter to Bruce Tarr re: Halibut Point State Park Visitors Center

Letter to Ann-Margaret Ferrante, re: Halibut Point State Park Visitors Center

Contractor Agreement: Cassidy Corporation, Pleasant St. Extension

Pigeon Cove Breakwater repairs agreement, Classic Site Solutions \$2,887,817

Michael and Nicole Zimmerman, 69 Long Beach Lease

Lease Agreement: Kenneth Lane, Cranberry Marsh (town owned property)