



MINUTES
Board of Selectmen
Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at 5:00 P.M.
Town Hall Hearing Room, 60 Center Square
East Longmeadow, Massachusetts 01028

Present: James D. Driscoll, Chairman, Board of Selectmen, Paul L. Federici, Chairman, Board of Health and Clerk of the Board

The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chris Maza from The Reminder publications was taping the meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no sign ups for Public Forum

APPOINTMENTS:

5:15 P.M. – Paul Morrisette, Fire Chief, Reserve Fund Transfer request

The Chief explained the request for a Reserve Fund Transfer in the amount of \$6,451.83 for additional expenses. The Chief stated that he had previously met with the Appropriations Committee. It was recommended by Appropriations to submit the request to the Board. The item will be continued until Town Counsel's appointment.

6:35 P.M. – Douglas Mellis, Police Chief: a) Civil Service; b) Personnel issues
These items will be discussed in executive session.

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel issues, contract negotiations, update for personnel reports from Civil Service, to return to open. So moved by P. Federici. J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. Motion passed 2-0 by roll call vote. Mr. Federici, yes. Mr. Driscoll, yes.

The Board returned from executive session and called for a five minute recess.

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion for a five minute recess. So moved by P. Federici. J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. Motion passed 2-0.

5:45 P.M. – Michael Torcia, Manager, Pasquale's Ristorante, 642 North Main Street
Present: Michael Torcia, Richard Torcia, Joseph Santanello, Police Chief

Board of Selectmen Meeting 12/11/12
Appointment Mr. Torcia continued

Mr. Torcia was asked to appear before the Board in conjunction with a report from the Police Department regarding an incident which occurred on December 1, 2012. The police report stated that people were injured and one or two were hospitalized. There were concerns from the Police Department regarding public safety as to what occurred. Other concerns were that the dining area was not opened and the kitchen was closed the night of the incident. Mr. Richard Torcia made clarification to the Board, because of the report from the Police Department, that Pasquale's is an LLC owned by Pasquale's Associates, Joe Santanello is the majority partner and Michael Shagnon is a partner, Michael Torcia is the Manager of record; the building is owned by Torcia, Santanello & King LLC, Shevone Gauthier is a partner on the LLC that owns the building. There was discussion that Shevone

Gauthier identified herself the night of the incident as the owner of Pasquale's and she is not identified on any applications as such nor does her name appear on any other records. Mr. M. Torcia was directed to provide an update to the Board. Mr. Richard Torcia explained the incident that occurred on December 1. Mr. Santanello also gave his version of the occurrence and stated that food is always provided whether there is a party or not. Mr. Santanello stated that there have been meetings with staff/employees outlining the precautions to be made to insure that this will never occur again. The discussion continued. The Police Chief asked about their Entertainment License; there was discussion and clarification from the Town Administrator on the question. The Police Chief severely reprimanded the individuals present on the incident and the potential danger the offices face; the bartenders need to focus more on safety. The Chief spoke about the conversation he had with Mr. Torcia after hearing from anonymous individuals that the kitchen was closed but a bar menu was available; the establishment is not a bar operation a full kitchen has to be available during the hours posted on the Licenses. Mr. Richard Torcia stated that he doesn't want this incident to tarnish their reputation or business nor does he want to strain the Police Department or cause problems for the Town. It was suggested that Mr. Torcia come up with a plan to address the issue and forward to the Police Chief or his designee.

James Shields, Town Moderator
Capital Planning Vacancy

The Town Moderator spoke about the vacancy on the Capital Planning Committee. The Moderator suggested that applications be submitted through to the Selectmen's Office.

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion that the Board announce the vacancy with a description of the roles and responsibilities and ask the applicants to apply by December 26, 2012. So moved by P. Federici. J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. Motion passed 2-0. The vacancy will be placed on the Town Web Site.

Petitioned Warrant Articles

All citizens petitioned Warrant Articles are due by March 1, 2013 for the Annual Town Meeting on Monday, May 20, 2013.

6:00 P.M. – Heather Cunningham and Christine Callahan, Friends of the Brown Farm

Board of Selectmen Meeting 12/11/12
Appointment Heather Cunningham continued

It was noted that the revision for the MOU was being worked on by Town Counsel. There was discussion that the Phase 1 approach was approved but there should be input from the new Board; without permission at Town Meeting this cannot proceed. The discussion continued that the Town allocated money just to determine what to do with the property.

Town Counsel discussed that this is municipal property and under the control of the Town any activities there should be under the direction of the Town not an individual entity.

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion that the Town Administrator work with the Building Commissioner to get an environmental certification of the property from the funds that were allocated at a regular Town Meeting. So moved by P. Federici. J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. Motion passed 2-0.

Approval of Minutes

Open Session, October 16, 2012

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion to approve the open session minutes of October 16, 2012. So moved by P. Federici. J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. Motion passed 2-0.

Open Session, November 1, 16, 27, 2012

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion to approve the open session minutes of November 1, 16 & 27, 2012. So moved by P. Federici. J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. Motion passed 2-0.

Executive Session, October 16, 2012

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion to approve the executive session minutes of October 16, 2012. So moved by P. Federici. J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. Motion passed 2-0.

Executive Session, November 1, 16, 27 2012

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion to approve the executive session minutes of November 1, 16, 27, 2012. So moved by P. Federici. J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. Motion passed 2-0.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

OLD BUSINESS

Website update

It was reported that the training was well attended. The Website goal update is December 20, 2012. Each Department will be responsible to update their own site.

CDGB

CD Strategy

The Board was asked to consider a vote on the CD strategy which was similar to last year.

Board of Selectmen 12/11/12

BOS old business continued

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion for the approval of the CD strategy. So moved by P. Federici.
J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. Motion passed 2-0.

Joint Application Document

The Board signed the joint application authorization document for the Grant for East Longmeadow and Agawam.

Reserve Fund Transfer updates

Recreation

The figure was incorrect on the previously signed Reserve Fund Transfer for the Recreation Department. The new figure had the support of the Appropriations Committee and needed a formal vote of the Board.

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion for the request of the Reserve Fund Transfer not to exceed \$11,200 for the Recreation Department personnel. So moved by P. Federici. J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. Motion passed 2-0.

Benefits Administration

Appropriations is aware that departments under the Board of Selectmen have been operating at less personnel than in the past and are in the support of bringing departments up to speed with the administrative support they need. Appropriations were requesting specifics and data. This item was tabled until the next Board meeting.

MIIA

A two year renewal agreement for FY 14 & 15 was offered to the Town. First year no increase second year no more than 2 ½%. The Town Administrator consulted with the Town Accountant, their opinion was for a recommendation. Town Counsel had no concerns.

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion for the 2 year proposal from MIIA for FY 14 & 15. So moved by P. Federici. J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. Motion passed 2-0.

ELCAT Intern

Don Maki, ELCAT Director stated that Michaela Sheranho's part-time internship (on an as needed basis) expires the end of the calendar year and asked the Board to extend given the staffing situation has not changed.

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion to extend the part-time intern on an as needed bases for the rest of the Fiscal Year. So moved by P. Federici. J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. Motion passed 2-0.

There was some discussion on the ELCAT renovation.

Board of Selectmen Meeting 12/11/12

continued

5:25 P.M. – Carolyn Brennan, COA Director

This appointment was in executive session

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel issues, potential litigation, non-union negotiations, strategy with respect to collective bargaining, discuss matter with Counsel to return to open. So moved by P. Federici. J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. Motion passed 2-0.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

NEW BUSINESS

Budget Calendar FY 14

The Administrator stated that the Budgets are due to the Appropriations Committee on January 10, 2013.

Eagle Scout

The Board signed the Citation for Eagle Scout Connor James O'Shea. The ceremony to be held on January, 19, 2013.

BOARD OF HEALTH

OLD BUSINESS

Holiday Trash

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion for the approval of the extra trash allowance for the holiday schedule as in the past. So moved by P. Federici. J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. Motion passed 2-0.

NEW BUSINESS

W. F. Young

The Board signed the W. F. Young Certificates of Free Sale for Israeli and Saudi Arabia.

Correspondence

The Board noted the thank you letter from the Social Service Food Coordinator from the COA for the food drive that took place November 17.

Civil Service Police Candidates

Two officers have been chosen and one alternate. The alternate scores were extremely close to the officers that were chosen. There was discussion that the Board was recently informed that there would be another opening in the Department with a mandatory age requirement in about fourteen months. Another officer would have to be hired by June hoping for an Academy date for the candidate. It was the collective thought after discussion with Labor Counsel and the Police Chief to appoint three officers. The discussion continued on the decision.

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion to appoint Mr. Michael Calcasola rather than an alternate but to a third officer position for the Town of East Longmeadow be offered that position. So moved by Board of Selectmen Meeting 12/11/12

continued

P. Federici. J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. There was discussion that it makes good financial sense and for public safety prospective. Motion passed 2-0.

Labor Counsel stated that as a result of the selection of three it will result in three by-passes. Two were by-passed in the screening stage. Labor Counsel said that reasons for the by-passes should be put

on the record and in writing to the Civil Service Commission. Reasons for by-pass may also be about the candidates that were selected. There was further discussion on situations in the past and that Civil Service mandates why candidates were not selected and also emphasizing the positive of a candidate. Selectman Driscoll gave his reasons why Gregory Vatrano was by-passed and why he chose candidate Matthew Lecuyer. Selectman Federici had discussion on his decisions also.

Meetings/Invitations/Reminders

The Chairman of the Board read into the record the meetings/invitations/reminders

Selectman Federici gave a farewell speech to James Driscoll for his last Selectmen's meeting and it was an honor to work with him. Selectman Driscoll has been involved over 14 years as a Selectman and as a member of Planning Board.

Motion:

J. Driscoll entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. So moved by P. Federici. J. Driscoll seconded out of necessity. Motion passed 2-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lorraine Banspach, Assistant Executive Secretary.

MINUTES APPROVED AT THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING ON TUESDAY,
JANUARY 22, 2013

Paul L. Federici, Chairman, Board of Selectmen

I certify that I prepared this summary of minutes from the audio tape of the meeting of December 11, 2012.

Lorraine Banspach
Assistant Executive Secretary