

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MAY 10, 2016

The regular meeting for the Board of Selectmen convened in the Public Meeting Room in the Town Office Building at 110 Main Street. In attendance were Dr. Richard M. Smith, John R. Morrell, and Edward S. Harrison. Also present were Town Administrator Evan Brassard and the media.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Harrison made a motion to accept the meeting minutes for April 26, 2016 – open session. Mr. Morrell seconded and it was unanimously VOTED.

Pole Petition #21368662 – Bogan Road – Public Hearing:

This was postponed at the request of National Grid.

Summerfest Planning Discussion:

Steve Slozak, on behalf of the Summerfest Committee, approached the Board of Selectmen and explained they have three requests. Mr. Slozak noted there was a mistake in the request which said the 4th of July fell on a Saturday this year, when it actually falls on a Monday.

Mr. Slozak said the fireworks will be held at Quarry Hill School on Saturday, June 25th with a rain date of Sunday, June 26th. The parade and Summerfest festivities will be held on Monday, July 4th. Both events will be the same as in the past. The only difference this year might be the size of the shuttle bus. They might go with something smaller as it seems there hasn't been a high demand for it. Mr. Slozak also noted he would like to request a letter setting the Summerfest boundaries as in the past, and request the usual donation from the Town to help defray the costs.

Mr. Harrison made a motion to approve the plan as discussed, and to allocate the sum of \$3,000 from the Gifts to the Town account to help with costs. Mr. Morrell seconded and it was unanimously VOTED.

Mr. Slozak explained the next request is for the one-day liquor license for July 4th. Mr. Slozak had sent in a packet containing the layout of how the beer garden will be set up by the gazebo in Dave Grieve Park, and noted this will be the same as in the past with no changes.

Mr. Harrison made a motion to approve the request for the one-day liquor license for the 4th of July from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., contingent upon the receipt of the insurance certificate. Mr. Morrell seconded and it was unanimously VOTED.

Mr. Slozak said the third request is for the block dance and beer garden on the night of the fireworks at Quarry Hill Community School from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Mr. Slozak said he has already spoken with the School Committee and received approval from them. Mr. Slozak said the Board of Selectmen have a

map of the layout for this beer garden as well. This will be the same setup as in the past, which has worked very well.

Mr. Harrison made a motion to allow the Summerfest to hold their block dance, and to approve the one-day liquor license for the beer garden on the night of the fireworks on Saturday June 25th with a rain date of Sunday June 26th contingent upon receipt of the insurance certificate. Mr. Morrell seconded and it was unanimously VOTED.

Mr. Slozak noted the Summerfest Committee is looking for new members. They meet once a month starting in September.

Mr. Slozak also noted they are finalizing plans to have two trailers come in that will be set up as arcades, and also to have a laser-tag tent.

Mr. Morrell thanked the Summerfest Committee for all of their hard work over the years.

Tree House Brewery – Planned Events Discussion:

Kim Goudreau and Lauren Lanier, on behalf of Tree House Brewery Co., approached the Board of Selectmen.

Ms. Goudreau said they just announced a second location in Charlton Mass. and noted with this opening, the traffic in Monson should be a bit less. Tree House Brewery in Monson will be used as a barrel aging program, to age different brews prior to bottling it. They will still have a retail presents here in Monson and plan to hold special events, it's just the larger manufacturing location and larger retail location will be in Charlton, and they are hoping to start construction in the next month or so. Tree House Brewery was unable to expand here in Monson at their East Hill Road location because they need town water and town septic.

Ms. Goudreau said last year they had an anniversary party, and they would like to do the same this year on Saturday, June 25th. It will pretty much follow the same agenda as last year. The one-day liquor license will be from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. with the actual party being from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. They will sell tickets via a lottery system on-line. Tickets will include a tee shirt, glass, and twelve tickets for twelve 5 ounce pours. There will be no pours over 5 ounces once an hour, therefore it should equate to one pint. They will have plenty of parking attendants, and parking will be in the lot across the street from the brewery on Koran's Farm, and in front of the brewery. They are planning on having one detailed police officer, like they did last year, and will speak with the Police Chief regarding this. Last year they had 400 to 450 people in attendance including the designated drivers. All the tickets will also include a designated driver ticket as well, at no cost, and they will get a special colored wrist band so they will know that color equals no drinking. They will have plenty of port-a-pottys and water stations as well.

Mr. Harrison made a motion to approve the Tree House Brewery request for their 4th Anniversary bash on June 25th from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mr. Morrell seconded and it was unanimously VOTED.

Ms. Lanier explained they are also requesting a one-day liquor license at the Brewery for one Saturday a month from July to September during retail hours. On Saturdays they are open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Ms. Goudreau said they have been so low on samples that they often forgo the 2 ounce samples, and this would extend the opportunity for customers to try a pint only on the three days requested. All the servers at their parties are TIP certified, and noted it is limited to only one pint per person on that day. They have cards to keep track of how much liquor a person has had.

Ms. Lanier stated Tree House Brewery has decided not to advertise this until the day of the event, in order to be respectful to the community, the street, etc.

Mr. Harrison made a motion to allow Tree House Brewery Co. to hold their pouring events on the three Saturdays specified from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., contingent upon receipt of the insurance certificate. Mr. Morrell seconded and it was unanimously VOTED.

Dr. Smith congratulated them on their success, and said they have been doing a great job.

Town Meeting Review:

Mr. Morrell made a public apology to the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator, not for changing his mind, but for his indecision regarding the change of the Highway Superintendent from an elected position to an appointed position, and explained his reason for this noting after a lot of thought, he felt strongly about the elected position and its authority.

Dr. Smith said one of the benefits of our style of government is everyone has the opportunity to stand up and voice their opinions, and then to leave it up to the voters to decide what to do.

Mr. Brassard noted for the next Town Meeting he would like to make some infrastructure changes to the sound and lighting, as he felt this time it was a little off; as well as some working changes on the warrant that might also help. He feels the explanations on the warrants went very well and assisted residents in understanding the articles, and added this will be continued.

Mr. Brassard thanked Town Planner Dan Laroche for attending the Town Meeting and taking over for the Planning Board who couldn't be there, and for explaining the questions that arose.

Mr. Brassard explained the town's new web site should be live in August. This is an eight week process with the kick off on May 16, 2016. The new site should make a big change, and be very helpful.

Right of First Refusal – Lots 4 – 7 Bogan Road:

Dr. Smith noted the Monson Planning Board and the Monson Conservation Commission both voted unanimously to recommend that the Town waive its right of first refusal for Lots 4 through 7 located on Bogan Road owned by the estate of Stella Frances Furgal that are currently assessed as agricultural land under Chapter 61A.

Mr. Harrison made a motion to waive our right of first refusal for the Lots on Bogan Road as described, owned by the estate of Stella Frances Furgal. Mr. Morrell seconded and it was unanimously VOTED.

Capital Planning Contract:

Mr. Brassard explained he provided the Professional Service Agreement, not the actual contract, and the CIP Proposal which is the Capital Investment Plan.

Mr. Brassard said he has wanted to do something a little more robust for Capital planning since becoming the Town Administrator. He has met with the Department Heads on several occasions and talked about the need to really button up at least the 5-year Capital Plan, to know what we are doing, and to get a good idea of the cost to keep us current with Capital investments.

Mr. Brassard said he went to the State of Massachusetts and applied for a Commonwealth Compact, and was awarded a compact in two areas; on Energy Efficiency and second Capital Planning; which makes the town eligible for grants. Mr. Brassard was successful in receiving a \$25,000 grant to use towards Capital Planning portion and the Department of Labor Services recommended the Collins Center as a vendor for this type of service.

Mr. Brassard said he has been working with the Collins Center for about a month now to develop a plan where they would have a kick off meeting in July, with representatives, himself and the Board of Selectmen, to discuss the process. Also in July, the representatives will meet with the Department Heads to go through their inventory and help them develop a strategy for replacement. In August, they will be looking at the requests submitted by the Department Heads, having a little more detail from the things they discussed with the Collins Center. They will also put in place rating criteria, so you know which items need to be replaced first. They will also develop a request form for use by the Department Heads should something new come in, to keep the plan current. They will work with our Finance Department to view the town's finances and financial stability to see what we can actually afford to do, which will take until the end of September. In October, Mr. Brassard said we will finalize a five-year spending plan and go through the rest of the planning process, ending in December. That should put us in good shape for the budget process Mr. Brassard added, which begins around January.

Mr. Brassard said this plan will be electronically done in Excel, and noted currently there isn't any software around that he's been able to locate, that does what we want it to do. Most of it is private sector related, and it doesn't have a good cross over capability for municipal use.

Mr. Brassard explained it's his intention the Collins Center will set us up with really good groundwork; and then we will implement the plan and take it over.

Mr. Harrison made a motion to approve the contract with the Collins Center for \$25,000 that will be reimbursed through the State grant 100%, starting the Capital Planning process. Mr. Morrell seconded and it was unanimously VOTED.

Boys State Discussion:

Mr. Brassard explained last year we helped fund an additional position on the Boys State program. Mr. Brassard said he worked with the School Department on the Girls State side and they are all set this year, being fully funded. However there was an additional candidate on the boy's side. The bank funds three girls and three boys each year, and Mr. Brassard told them if there was a fourth student in a stand out position, he would bring it back to the Board to see if they would support funding that student, and this year there was a fourth student. The amount to fund this student comes to \$325.00.

Mr. Harrison made a motion to use \$325.00 from the Gifts to the Town Account to support the one candidate for the Boys State program. Mr. Morrell seconded and it was unanimously VOTED.

Correspondence was read and completed.

In Other Business to Come Before the Board:

- Charles Cournoyer of Silver Street approached the Board of Selectmen and questioned why at last night's Town Meeting, the Board wanted to change a few town positions from elected to appointed, and wondered if it was due to not being able to get people to volunteer.

Dr. Smith said an appointed position has a better vetting process; you can actually interview people and attract candidates from outside of town.

Mr. Harrison added sometimes we hire outside consulting services to try to find someone with all of the right qualifications.

Mr. Brassard said having an elected position vs. an appointed position comes down to a difference of opinion. In his conversations with people after the Town Meeting, he feels it's a very personal choice.

Dr. Smith added that's why we have a Town Meeting, so everyone can come out to vote the way they wish.

Mr. Morrell said in some positions, such as the Parks and Recreation Commission and Cemetery Commission, he feels it's really better to have a town resident representing the position that really cares about, and is involved, in the town.

At 8:05 p.m., Mr. Harrison made a motion to adjourn from open session. Mr. Morrell seconded and it was unanimously VOTED.

Edward S. Harrison, Clerk