

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TUESDAY – AUGUST 23, 2016

The regular meeting for the Board of Selectmen convened at 7:00 p.m. in the public meeting room in the Town Office Building at 110 Main Street. In attendance were John R. Morrell and Edward S. Harrison. Dr. Richard M. Smith was absent. Also present were Town Administrator Evan Brassard and the media.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Motion to Accept Meeting Minutes:**

Mr. Harrison made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of August 5, 2016 – executive session and August 9, 2016 – open and executive sessions. Mr. Morrell seconded and it was so VOTED.

**Tree House Brewing Upcoming Events and Approvals:**

Kim Goudreau and Lauren Lanier of Tree House Brewery approached the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Goudreau handed out a sheet explaining their request and the event, as attached.

Ms. Lanier explained they were here to request permission to host their Second Annual 5k Road Race, as well as request a one-day temporary pour license for after the 5k Road Race, on Sunday, October 23, 2016, starting at 10 a.m. The pour license is requested from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Ms. Lanier noted the route will be the same as last year, and noted they do once again have permission from the Army Corps of Engineers for the use of the trails at Conant Brook from East Hill Road to Munn Road. The race course itself will go from the parking lot at Tree House Brewery, taking a left onto East Hill to the end at the cul-de-sac, taking a left onto the trail at Conant Brook, left on Munn Road, and right back to East Hill Road finishing at the Brewery. A water station will be set up the same as last year at mile two at the end of the trail at Munn Road, with water also available at the Brewery before and after the race. They also had a police officer at that location and will do the same this year.

Ms. Goudreau said they will have ambulance coverage this year for an extra level of safety, which is something they didn't have last year, just in case it's needed.

Ms. Lanier explained after completing the course, the runners who are of age will receive one pint of beer which is 16 ounces. There will be no beer sales allowed, as their license does not allow for sales on Sunday.

Ms. Lanier said 100% of the proceeds will once again be donated to an organization in Monson to give back to the community, excluding the costs. Ms. Goudreau said they were thinking of doing something with the schools, library, or with the arts; something specific.

Registration will be available on-line, and the number of participants will be limited due to limited parking.

Mr. Harrison made a motion to approve the 5k Road Race event at Tree House Brewery and a one-day temporary pour license for Sunday, October 23, 2016 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mr. Morrell seconded and it was so VOTED.

**Special Town Meeting Recap Discussion:**

Mr. Brassard recapped the Special Town Meeting for the listening audience who wasn't able to attend and haven't heard the results. There were 331 residents in attendance. Article one was to discuss the potential of adding in an overlay district for medical marijuana by the intersection of Upper Palmer Road and Macomber Road. This failed by approximately 261 to 80. The second article was to limit solar to commercial and industrial districts in Monson, as well as add special permit criteria, that article passed, again by a pretty substantial amount.

Mr. Brassard explained the solar bylaw will now go before the Attorney General's Office, and he doesn't foresee any major hurdles there.

Mr. Brassard added our new Town Moderator Peter Matrow, did an exceptional job for his first time, and considering how complicated the issues were.

Mr. Harrison agreed and said he felt Town Counsel Ben Coyle did an excellent job too ironing out some of the details.

Mr. Brassard echoed Mr. Harrison statement and said Town Counsel made a suggestion to him, which he thinks we should take under advisement as we look to do the next Special Town Meeting in November. In other communities it's not just the Moderator, Clerk, or Finance Committee that sits on the stage, but also the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, Town Counsel, and the Planning Board if they have issues to be considered.

Mr. Morrell said he respects the will of the voters, but hopes we have more opportunities for bringing jobs into our community that will maybe be more acceptable to them.

Mr. Harrison added the problem with economic development is it sometimes comes head to head with those who want to preserve the rural character of our community, and feels it will be interesting to see how this plays out when the Monson Developmental Center activity takes place, as this isn't really very close to a residential, rural residential, or village areas, so it's pretty much an open campus.

Mr. Brassard said in October or November the State should be coming out with proposals for MDC. A month ago he did a walk through with Mass. Historic, who had to come in and say they didn't want any of the buildings. They walked the entire campus and this was another major hurdle that had never actually been executed in the past, and right now it's just physically releasing the document. Mr. Brassard added a public hearing on the RFP will be held just prior to its release which is scheduled for the end of next month, with the beginning of October to launch the RFP.

Mr. Harrison said somewhere towards the beginning of next year, we should start to see a few proposals come in from developers who are interested in the MDC property. Correspondence was read and completed.

Mr. Morrell said he would like to add a number eleven to the correspondence list by adding Greene Room Productions and numerous requests for the use of Memorial Hall, since it was in a previous correspondence and action was never taken on it.

Erin Wallace Executive Director of Greene Room Productions, Brian Banning President of Greene Room Productions, and Reed Coles Vice-President of Greene Room Productions approached the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Brassard said most of the dates requested by Greene Room Productions he actually pegged out into the calendar prior to receiving the written requests, when first looking to do Summer Theatre Productions back in Memorial Hall, Mrs. Wallace, Parks and Rec. Director Tim Pascale, Town Planner Dan Laroche and himself had discussed future uses.

Mr. Brassard said there is only one conflict that currently exists with an Arts Council Talent Show event on March 11, and 18, 2017. The conflict occurs with Imagineering Showcase which is currently scheduled for March 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> which is a snow date; since both parties wish to use Memorial Hall on March 18<sup>th</sup>, the conflict needs to be resolved.

Mr. Coles said the Arts Council doesn't have any props or anything for the Talent Show, it's just a talent show. Mr. Brassard said the Arts Council could look at doing a split on March 11<sup>th</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup> instead of doing two weeks in a row, they would have a bi-week in the middle. Mr. Coles said the Arts Council will work it out with Greene Room Productions and notify the town of their decision.

Mr. Morrell said he thought there was another conflict as the Annual Election is scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup> and Greene Room Productions requested the use of Memorial Hall up to June 11<sup>th</sup> which would only give us one day for the set-up of the voting equipment, which isn't enough time. Mr. Brassard said we would actually prefer the Greene Room Workshop Showcase be moved maybe a week forward or a week afterward to allow for the set-up of voting equipment on June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, giving us a little leeway.

Mrs. Wallace said it would be better for them to go a week before that, so the first week of June with the same days after that. Mr. Brassard noted the new replacement dates will be from May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Brassard said the current calendar he uses is searchable, it's a Google calendar, and hopefully within the next two weeks our new website will be live. Memorial Hall will have its own page with its own calendar, so anyone in the community will be able to go on to see what is already scheduled in order to work their upcoming events around it. This will allow groups to go on the website, look at the calendar to see what is available for dates, with all of the forms on there as well, so they will be able to print out a use request form, fill it out, and return it to our office for approval.

Mr. Brassard said Summer Theatre held their production this past weekend in Memorial Hall. He spoke with Paul DeMaio on Monday, who said the building was left in the best shape it's been left in following any theatrical production held in Memorial Hall.

Mr. Morrell thank Mrs. Wallace for doing what she does, and for recognizing the Board of Selectmen are serious about the Memorial Hall building. Mr. Morrell said his only other concern is with all the dates between the Arts Council, Summer Theatre, and Greene Room Productions and dominating the use if the Scouts or anyone else wished to use the building.

Mr. Coles said both groups feel it's very important to keep that building active for theatrical events. Mr. Morrell added that's what that building was meant for. Mr. Harrison said theatrical events have a more difficult time when it comes to allocating time with set productions unlike scheduling a one-day event, and feels this is a good thing to be doing and endorsing.

Mr. Harrison made a motion to approve the dates as discussed. Mr. Morrell seconded and it was so VOTED.

There wasn't any other business to come before the Board.

At 7:42, Mr. Harrison made a motion to adjourn from open session. Mr. Morrell seconded and it was so VOTED.

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Mr. Harrison, Vice-Chair