

# BOARD OF SELECTMEN – TOWN OF NATICK

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## **MEETING MINUTES**

**EDWARD H. DLOTT MEETING ROOM – NATICK TOWN HALL**

**January 16, 2018**

**6:00 PM**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Jonathan Freedman, Vice Chair Susan G. Salamoff, Clerk Richard P. Jennett, Jr., Member Michael J. Hickey, Jr., and Member Amy K. Mistrot

**ALSO PRESENT:** Acting Town Administrator Bill Chenard and Executive Assistant Trish O'Neil

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m., noting that a quorum was present and that the meeting had been duly posted, and requested a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to Litigation, Collective Bargaining, and Non-Union Personnel Negotiations, with the Chair announcing that discussion of Executive Session matters in Open Session would have a detrimental effect on the Board of Selectmen's negotiating position and the Town's interests. Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Hickey, moved to enter into Executive Session and, by a roll call vote, all Board Members voted in favor of the motion. The Board entered into Executive Session at 6:10 p.m. and adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Open Session reconvened at 7:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed for those protecting our country.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Jan Phlegar, a TEDx organizer, announced that tickets are still available for the TEDx Program scheduled for Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup> and thanked MathWorks and other program sponsors and volunteers.

Ms. Salamoff announced her participation in yesterday's Martin Luther King Celebration service and called it an overwhelming, inspirational experience, and read aloud the Board's statement created in November of 2016, reaffirming Natick as a caring and supportive community for all.

## **CITIZEN'S CONCERNS**

None.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Jennett read the Consent Agenda aloud and the Chair asked if any members of the public or the Board would like to discuss any item; no discussion was requested. Moved by Ms. Salamoff and seconded by Ms. Mistrot, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda conditional upon the fulfillment of all recommendations from Town Agencies and/or Departments. The following items were approved.

- a. Project Samana 5K Dog-Friendly Walk/Run on April 29, 2018
- b. Request for Exemption from Town ByLaws Ch. 41, Sec.4 for Kallan Grundberg (Leader-Parks & Rec/BOKS Instruction-Schools)
- c. Weekly Warrant Review 1/8/18

## **APPOINTMENTS WITH THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

1. **Jessica Greenblatt – Interview for Appointment to the Conservation Commission with Term Expiring June 30, 2019:** Ms. Greenblatt was the sole applicant for one vacancy. After providing some background information relating to prior volunteer work and her love for Natick's outdoor amenities, the Board voted 5-0-0 to appoint Ms. Greenblatt to the Commission on a motion by Mr. Jennett that was seconded by Ms. Salamoff.

2. **John Ingemi – Request to Amend Class II License by Removing “Wholesale” Restriction:** In 2002, the Board approved a license for Mr. Ingemi to buy and sell motor vehicles with the stipulation that he would not sell, store, or work on vehicles on his home premises. A “Wholesale Only” restriction was also noted on the license but Mr. Ingemi did not notice it until he received his renewed license the following year. Subsequently, that restriction was noted on his license some years and not noted other years. Mr. Ingemi presents this evening to have the “Wholesale Only” restriction removed since he does sell several cars per year. Mr. Jennett felt that the Board at that time probably “misspoke” when they used the term “Wholesale.” Moved by Ms. Salamoff and seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board voted 5-0-0 to remove the “Wholesale Only” restriction from Mr. Ingemi’s license, accepting Mr. Hickey’s friendly amendment to the motion to replace the phrase “on the premises” with “at his place of residence,” thus maintaining the restriction that no vehicle sales, storage, or work be performed at Mr. Ingemi’s home.
3. **Procurement Officer**
  - a. **Beta Group, Route 27 Project 75% Design:** Moved by Mr. Jennett and seconded by Ms. Salamoff, the Board voted 5-0-0 to award a contract to Beta Group, Inc. in the amount of \$600,000 to complete the 75% design work for the Route 27 Project (\$544,800), to complete a roundabout feasibility review, tasks 1-4, in scope supplement (\$20,000), and to be paid expenses (\$35,200).
  - b. **Camp Arrowhead Architecture Contract Amendment:** Moved by Mr. Jennett and seconded by Ms. Salamoff, the Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of adopting the provisions of Amendment Number 1 to the owner/architect agreement awarded in December of 2017 to Resolution Architects, LLC in the amount of \$14,000 for planning/designer services related to the Camp Arrowhead Building Rehabilitation Project.

## **DISCUSSION AND DECISION**

4. **Recreational Marijuana Discussion:** Mr. Errickson, Director of Community & Economic Development, provided follow-up to questions the Board had at its previous meeting. The language of a potential town-wide vote of the voters is clearly defined by the State in that it would be a vote for a ban on recreational marijuana. If no ban is pursued, then regulation would be the next step. In relation to the approach the Town may take to regulating marijuana establishments, the law provides for varying types of establishments, from growing facilities to on-premises consumption (café) facilities. Natick is considered a “yes” community since the Town voted “yes” to legalize recreational marijuana in the last State election several years ago. In order for the Town to ban any one category, a vote of the voters would be required for each category for which a ban is being considered. The exception to that would be cafes (on-premises consumption) – a community is required to opt in to an on-premises facility. There are three opportunities to have a town-wide vote in the upcoming year – March, September, and November. September is a state-wide election and involves a very different process so is not favored by the Town Clerk and November is too late in terms of timing (Town Meeting begins in October and the logistics of passing any regulations should a ban not be supported by the voters would be very challenging), making March the default option. Mr. Freedman asked what the Town’s options would be for cafes in the absence of a vote of the voters. Mr. Errickson, though wanting to confirm with the Cannabis Control Commission (CCC), believed that they would not be allowed. The purpose of tonight’s discussion was for the Board to determine if it wishes to regulate recreational marijuana in general, or if it wants to proceed to a vote of the voters on a question to ban it. Discussion ensued among the Board Members, Ms. Mistrot commenting that the regulations put forth by the CCC are far more stringent than she had anticipated but wanting more information about the 500-foot barrier to areas where children congregate, Ms. Salamoff stating she had changed her mind and did not feel a revote was necessary, and Mr. Jennett, Mr. Hickey, and Mr. Freedman agreeing that the voters had already indicated their preference and expressing confidence that it could be regulated properly. Mr. Freedman moved, seconded by Ms. Salamoff, to direct the Administration to begin formulating regulations for recreational marijuana. The Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of the motion. Mr. Jennett stated he would like recommendations as to who would be managing what regulations, e.g., licensing, zoning, etc., concerned that having the whole

process fall on the Community Development staff would be too cumbersome for that department to handle on its own. Mr. Freedman also asked that regular progress reports be provided to the Board. Mr. Errickson stated that he would like to see one set of regulations developed that would apply to both recreational and medical marijuana.

5. **Proposed MMA Resolutions Related to State-Local Fiscal Partnership:** Three resolutions have been proposed for the annual MMA Business Meeting with voting open to all municipal members. Mr. Chenard stated that the Chair of the Board of Selectmen is the authorized voter for the Town, but can authorize another member of the Board or the Town Administrator to vote on behalf of the Town. Mr. Freedman stated that he had delegated the voting responsibility to the Vice Chair, noting that he could not attend the MMA Conference.
  - a. Resolution ensuring a strong and enduring fiscal partnership between cities and towns and state government in Fiscal 2019 and beyond: Moved by Ms. Salamoff and seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of supporting this resolution.
  - b. Resolution in opposition to the ballot question that would reduce the sales and use tax rate: Moved by Ms. Salamoff and seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board vote 4-1-0, with Mr. Hickey casting the dissenting vote (citing the need for input from retailers,) to support opposition to a reduction in the sales tax.
  - c. Resolution supporting a local state-federal partnership to combat the impact of climate change: Moved by Ms. Salamoff and seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board voted 5-0-0 in support of this resolution.
6. **2018 Spring Annual Town Meeting Articles:** Mr. Chenard explained that this topic will be on the agenda for the next several meetings for review, beginning with the standard, recurrent Articles that appear on every Warrant.
7. **FY 2019 Budgets:** The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed FY 2019 Selectmen's Budget of \$2,776,747. Mr. Chenard mentioned that the position of Prevention & Outreach Program Manager will be removed from the purview of the Board of Selectmen to that of the Board of Health.

### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR NOTES**

Mr. Chenard gave kudos to the Finance Committee for having their subcommittee and committee meetings work so well.

### **SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS**

Ms. Mistrot stated she would like to create a timeline for Board of Selectmen Projects and discuss same in Executive Session.

Mr. Hickey mentioned that the Kennedy Middle School forum is scheduled for January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 in the Kennedy School Library.

Mr. Jennett asked about Selectmen's Meeting Minutes and Mr. Chenard stated that the office staff are working to catch up. Mr. Jennett asked for information about "See-Click-Fix," which Mr. Chenard provided. Mr. Jennett stated that there have been complaints from stores and restaurants about residents parking illegally around Washington Street and South Avenue. Mr. Jennett, as Chair of the Parking Advisory Committee, would like to have dismissal and reconstitution of the Parking Advisory Committee and its charge on an upcoming agenda.

Ms. Salamoff stated she received an email stating that the only Mr. Hickey had responded to his concerns about the South Main Street Project. The office staff will acknowledge receipt of these emails going forward – the emails had just been archived with the intention of providing all of them to the Board when this topic was included on an upcoming agenda. Ms. Salamoff also inquired if anyone would be attending the MMA Conference and received several affirmative responses.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Ms. Mistrot, seconded by Mr. Hickey, the Board unanimously voted on a roll call vote to adjourn the Board of Selectmen's Meeting at 9:57 p.m.

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Richard P. Jennett, Jr., Clerk  
January 29, 2018

January 16, 2018 Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes Approved by the Board of Selectmen on January 29, 2018

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**All documents used at this Board of Selectmen meeting are available at:**

**<https://naticktown.novusagenda.com/agendapublic/MeetingView.aspx?MeetingID=465&MinutesMeetingID=-1&doctype=Agenda>**