

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Natick Town Hall

May 26, 2015

6:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Charles M. Hughes, J Richard P. Jennett, Jr., Joshua Ostroff, Nicholas S. Mabardy and John Connolly

Also Present: Town Administrator Martha White and Executive Assistant Donna Donovan

Executive Session

Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, moved to enter into executive session to discuss matters pertaining to real estate negotiations. By roll call vote the Board voted to enter into executive session. Mr. Ostroff, Mr. Mabardy, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Connolly and Mr. Jennett all voted in favor of the motion. At 6:30 p.m. the Board entered into executive session after announcing that the meeting would return to open session. The Chair further announced that discussion of real estate negotiations in open session would have a detrimental effect on the Board of Selectmen's negotiating position.

The open session was reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

Announcements

1. Mr. Mabardy announced he attended a Transfer of Flags Ceremony and thanked the American Legion, Paul Gilfoil, John Hughes, and Mike Carney for their excellent work. Mr. Mabardy also announced he attended an awards ceremony for Tom Collins where he was recognized as one of the top ten DPW Directors in the Country. Mr. Mabardy further stated he attended a Veterans Service Council meeting and Veterans Agent Paul Carew received an award.
2. Mr. Ostroff announced that the Board attended the Memorial Day events. He thanked the Auxiliary Police and Mr. Hughes for their work. Mr. Ostroff reminded people that Board of Selectmen office hours will be on Thursday at 9:00 a.m. at the community center.
3. Mr. Hughes commented on the strong turnout for the Memorial Day events. Mr. Hughes commended Mr. Mabardy on his speech at the Transfer of Flags Ceremony. Mr. Hughes also stated that the audit is complete and will be presented at the June 8th Board of Selectmen meeting.

4. Ms. White announce that Tom Collins will be recognized at the June 8th Board of Selectmen Meeting.

What's New

1. **Director of Recreation and Parks and Boy Scout Troop 7**

Jon Marshall thanked the Scout Troop for installing fitness equipment at J.J. Lane Park.

2. **Mathworks Scholarship Recipients**

Recipients Ruth Azaria and Elizabeth Dreyer were recognized. Ms. Dryer was present. Ms. Azaria could not attend.

3. **Recognition of Natick Cub Scouts Pack 40, Den 4**

The Troop attended the meeting and lead the Pledge of Allegiance to earn their Citizenship in the Community badge.

4. **Recognition of 2014 Police Officer of the Year**

Police Chief Hicks announced School Resource Officer Elizabeth Heffler as the 2014 Police Officer of the year. Ms. Heffler addressed the Board and audience and thanked many for the honor and the support she has received.

5. **DPW Director: SeeClickFix Demonstration**

Jeremy Marsette gave a demonstration of the new SeeClixFix application available on the Town web site. This application allows people to report any non-emergency issues such as roadway damages, curbside rubbish collection problems, traffic signals not working properly etc. The customer service requests will be routed to Town staff to help answer questions and provide solutions.

6. **Sustainability Coordinator: Pending Eversource Electric Rates and Impact on Town's Community Choice Electric Supply Program**

Jillian Wilson-Martin and Consultant Joe Shortsleeve discussed the predicted drop in Eversource electric rates this summer putting the rate well below the ConEdison Solution rates offered through the Community Choice Aggregation program. It was explained that residents can opt out of the program to receive the lower rate however, if they do so, they will not be able to opt back in when rates typically increase in January. It was recommended that this be discussed at a future Board of Selectme3n's meeting to allow time to gather more information.

Citizens Concerns

1. Carol Delehunty of 44 Barnsedale Road spoke of concern with the modular classrooms being installed at the Brown School.

Appointments with the Board of Selectmen

1. Boston Athletic Association: 2015 Boston Marathon

Executive Director of the BAA, Tom Grilik thanked the Town for all the work that is done every year for the Boston Marathon. Mr. Hughes thanked Mr. Grilik for attending the meeting. Mr. Ostroff commented that it was a remarkable event.

2. Procurement Officer Peter Roche: Book Restoration Contract

Mr. Roche recommended awarding the restoration of birth and marriage records contract to Kofile Preservation of Essex, Vermont and Dallas, Texas for \$99,850. On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to award the book restoration contract to Kofile Preservation.

3. Interviews for Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals

Interviews continued from the May 11, 2015 meeting. Associate member Jason Makofsky and Zachary Spellman were interviewed at that meeting. Tammy Taylor and Vasavi Vora were present for interviews this evening. Ms. Taylor cited her communication and written skills as well as her understanding of federal laws, regulations and policies. Ms. Vora cited her understanding of property laws. Ms. Vora and Ms. Taylor answered questions from the Board. By paper ballot, the Board voted ~~Zachary Spellman~~ Jason Makofsky as a regular member with a term expiring 5/1/2018. ~~Mr. Hughes, Mr. Osroff and Mr. Jennett voted for Jason Makofsky and Mr. Mabardy and Mr. Connolly voted for Zachary Spellman.~~ By paper ballot, the Board voted 3-2 Vasavi Vora as an associate member with a term expiring May 1, 2016.

4. Ben Goldman: Appeal Denial of a Street Opening Permit – West Street

Mr. Goldman addressed the Board stating that Eversource requested permission to dig up and open the street at 26 West Street to install gas service to his new home under construction on May 1, 2015. Mr. Goldman further stated that the request was denied by the Town due to a moratorium in place until 12/31/2018. The Board reviewed a memorandum from Town Engineer, Mark Coviello asking that if the Board votes favorably on this request he recommends a condition of the street opening that Eversource Gas is required to directional drill the gas service under West Street to the maximum length possible. Mr. Coviello further recommended that any trenches within the travelled way of West Street shall be backfilled with excavatable controlled density fill, and trench patched to the requirements of the DPW. Further, the street opening permit must be issued before November 1st with all work completed before November 15th. On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to approve the waiver of the moratorium subject to Mr. Coviello's recommendations.

5. Application to Transfer a Class II License from Valor Automotive to United Auto Associates

Prospective new owner, Arquimedes Rocha appeared before the Board requesting the transfer of the Class II license. In addition to his application, Mr. Rocha provided a certificate of liability

insurance, a signed attestation form, and a lease of the premises. It was noted that Lt. Lauzon recommended approval. On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted approval of the transfer of the Class II license.

6. E-Z Ride Car Service: Application for a Taxi/Livery License

Andrey Trofimov appeared before the Board requesting approval of an application for a taxi/livery license. In addition to his application, Mr. Trofimov provided a Town of Natick Business Certificate, verification of commercial auto insurance and the RMV certificate of registration. Mr. Trofimov informed the Board of his three years of experience as an independent limousine driver and 4 months of experience as an uber driver. It was noted that Lt. Lauzon recommended approval. On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to approve the E-Z Ride Car Service application.

Discussion and Decision

1. Distribution of Boston Marathon Funds

Jon Marshall informed the Board that the Recreation & Parks Commission unanimously voted to request \$20,000 from the BAA fund for two seasonal ice skating rinks of which \$17,500 would cover the cost of the rinks, including the set up and break down each year, and \$2,500 for a storage shed or container to house the rinks in the off season. The rinks would be placed at Coolidge and East School. Of the \$61,500 allocated, Ms. White recommended the distribution of \$8,550 to the Fire Department, \$18,612 to the DPW, \$17,956 to the Police and \$20,000 to Recreation and Parks. The shortfall of \$3,618 should come from reserve and the present reserve level is \$40,941. On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to approve the allocation of the BAA funds as proposed.

2. Town Administrator FY 2014 Performance Evaluation

Mr. Ostroff explained the evaluation process and suggested that going forward, a more timely review would be more beneficial. Mr. Connolly apologized for not participating. Mr. Jennett commented that there are always areas to work on, however, Ms. White does a great job and he looks forward to a strong, progressive year. Mr. Ostroff also commented that Ms. White is an accomplished leader and that goals should be monitored more closely. Ms. White stated that she is proud to serve this community and that she felt the review was harsh and not reflective of her quality of work. Mr. Hughes stated that the Town is well served by Ms. White and that the review reflects strengths and some concerns.

3. Strategic Planning Review Committee

Mr. Ostroff informed the Board that the Committee is meeting on May 28th to develop a scope and work plan for the coming months which will be proposed to the Selectmen in the near future. Mr. Jennett expressed concern with not using a professional organization. Mr. Hughes replied that there will be an article at Fall Town Meeting requesting funds be appropriated to hire a firm to work with all Boards to write a master plan that the Planning Board would adopt.

4. Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule

This was tabled to a future meeting to allow the administration to coordinate the schedule with the school committee meetings.

Requested Action

1. On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of November 6, 2013 and May 19, 2014.
2. On a motion by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to approve Walnut Hill School's request for a parade permit.
3. On a motion by Mr. Connolly, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to approve Bikram Yoga's request to use the Common.
4. On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to approve Natick Youth Football & Cheerleading request to hang a banner
5. On a motion by Mr. Mabardy, seconded by Mr. Jennett, the Board unanimously voted to approve Natick Artists Open Studio request to use the Common

Selectmen's Concerns

Mr. Ostroff recently learned that the Oak Street/Route 9 project is delayed because of the utilities work. The contractor is requesting an extension of completion from June 19th to November 19th. Mr. Ostroff suggested sending a letter to the utility companies.

Mr. Mabardy asked that citizens who submit letters of concern include a contact phone number or email address.

Mr. Mabardy requested that discussion of the 2017 budget begin at the next financial planning committee meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Jennett, seconded by Mr. Ostroff, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 10:05 p.m.



Nicholas S. Mabardy, Clerk

A list of all documents used at this Board of Selectmen meeting are available at:

<http://naticktown.novusagenda.com/AGENDAPUBLIC/MeetingView.aspx?MeetingID=161&MinutesMeetingID=36&doctype=Agenda>