

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – TOWN OF NATICK

MEETING MINUTES

NATICK POLICE DEPARTMENT – COMMUNITY CONFERENCE ROOM

NOVEMBER 29, 2018

7:00 PM

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

ALSO PRESENT: Town Administrator Melissa A. Malone

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m., noting that a quorum was present and that the meeting had been duly posted. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed for those protecting our country.

CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

None.

SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS:

1. Ms. Mistrot advised the Board that Mr. Jeff Barton of Bountiful Things (formerly of Natural Remedies) had approached the Town again regarding a Registered Marijuana Dispensary (RMD). Ms. Mistrot had met recently with Mr. Barton and Mr. Erickson (Community Development Director) and, in follow up, inquired whether Board members were interested in considering Mr. Barton as an applicant. Board members did not express any objections to entertaining an RMD application. (No formal vote was taken on this item.)
2. Ms. Mistrot cited the recent Superior Court ruling on Public Speak involving the School Committee, and explained that a School Committee member had reached out to discuss whether a public discussion (perhaps a multi-board meeting) should be considered to understand the ruling and best practices going forward. Board members were supportive of such a meeting, but the consensus was that it should not be scheduled until Town Counsel has had an opportunity to provide legal guidance in light of the recent ruling.
3. Ms. Salamoff expressed concern with the manner in which the Board is expected to review and approve contracts.

DISCUSSION AND DECISION

1. Discuss Process to Develop Capital Planning Policy: Ms. Malone provided a high-level overview of the Town Administrator's role in developing the capital plan and timing relative to developing the annual budget. Ms. Malone also explained how staff/Directors have historically contributed to the capital plan development – expressing concern that there has not been an adequate level of prioritization or strategic decision-making. Ms. Malone then provided an update on certain items that she has removed from the current capital plan, including the Cole Center project and the Memorial Field House. Ms. Malone then requested that the Board consider providing guidance in the form of a governance policy relative to the capital plan based on existing principles and values. Ms. Malone expressed the view that a high-level policy statement that encapsulates the Board's values would be useful in shaping decisions with respect to the capital plan. The Board then engaged in a brief discussion of what such a policy statement might include – e.g., prioritizing safety-related items, mitigating the Town's liability, protecting Town investments/assets from premature deterioration, promoting a vibrant Town center, generating new revenue sources. The Board agreed to revisit this item in the near future.

2. Discuss Metrics for Town Administrator Evaluation: Mr. Freedman clarified that the intent of this discussion was not to focus on the “instrument” which may be used to document the TA’s performance evaluation, but rather to revisit the timing of the review cycle and next steps. Board members concurred. Ms. Mistrot briefly recapped the Board’s recent discussion of the “Top 10” priority items the Chair had identified to Ms. Malone at the time of her arrival in June, 2018. The Board then reviewed the items and provided clarity to Ms. Malone as to which items would be considered in her evaluation in early 2019.
1. Discuss January-June 2019 Goal Development: The Board discussed preparing an updated priority items/goal list (based on the aforementioned June, 2018 “Top 10” list) for 2019. The Board concurred that the 2019 goal list should be based substantially on the prior list, subject to certain identified updates/revisions. Ms. Mistrot indicated that she would prepare an updated draft for the Board’s consideration based on the discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Hickey, seconded by Mr. Freedman, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the Board of Selectmen’s Meeting at 9:20 p.m., confirmed by a roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Mistrot	Yes
Ms. Salamoff	Yes
Mr. Hickey	Yes
Mr. Freedman	Yes
Mr. Jennett	Yes

Michael J. Hickey, Jr., Clerk

Submitted by Michael J. Hickey, Jr., Clerk

November 29, 2018 Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____.

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

<https://naticktown.novusagenda.com/agendapublic/MeetingView.aspx?MeetingID=593&MinutesMeetingID=51&doctype=Agenda>