

Board of Selectmen
February 27th, 2020

Stanley Wysocki
Robert Czekanski
Jonathan Keep
Don Lowe, Town Administrator
Jenny Jacobsen, Town Secretary

Approved via Zoom Remote
Conferencing by
SW, RC, JK
(88)

Mr. Wysocki called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

401 MAIN STREET SPECIAL EVENT

Megan Moran of Cultivate Care farms appeared before the Board to request a free ticketed event to be held on Sunday March 29th from 2pm – 4pm. If there is enough interest, they would like to have a second showing on the same day understanding that no more than 50 people could be present at once. The event is a showing of the work of photographer Julia Cybelarz on “finding your voice through photography”. They have received approval from the chief of police and the fire chief. Mr. Lowe suggested that there be a stipulation for no on street parking. No detail officer is required.

Ms. Moran requested if there was enough interest, they would like to have a second showing. Mr. Keep noted that they would need to allow enough time for people to leave.

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Czekanski the Board voted to approve the Special Event at 401 Main Street on Sunday March 29th from 1pm – 5pm with no on street parking. Motion passed 3/0.

APPOINTMENTS

Martha Remington introduced Mr. Tattersall to the Board. Mr. Tattersall commented that he has been meaning to volunteer for something and the Historical Commission has always been an interest. The Board thanked him for volunteering.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Keep the Board voted to approve the appointment of Robert Tattersall to the Historical Commission. Motion passed 3/0.

BOLTON ACCESS TELEVISION

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Keep the Board voted to release \$26,532.26 to Bolton Access Television for operation, equipment and supplies. Motion passed 3/0.

TAGGART PROPERTY

Rebecca Longvall and Brian Berube appeared before the Board to provide information about the Taggart Property located on Forbush Mill Road and Wilder Road. They are waiting for the appraisal on the property and should have it back in two weeks. The appraisal will factor in the current condition, whether it is buildable, and the access to it taking into consideration the resources on it. No action was requested until the appraisal is received. At Mr. Keep's request Ms. Longvall reviewed the history of the 43-acre parcel. It provides significant wildlife habitat and is contiguous to existing open space.

Conservation Commission looked at the 6 goals of the Conservation Resource plan in reviewing this parcel. They are doing research on grants and funding for reimbursement to the Town if the Town decides to purchase the parcel. The owner suggested that she would look for ½ the market value if selling to the Town. If the Town determined to move forward it would appear on the warrant for a vote at Annual Town meeting. Ms. Longvall has been in discussion with Sudbury Valley Trustees since the Conservation Trust

did not feel they had the resources. Ms. Longvall listed several grants that are being researched and the corresponding reimbursements that the Town could seek.
Mr. Lowe invited Ms. Longvall and Mr. Berube to the March 12th meeting for a more detailed discussion.
Mr. Czekanski requested more details about what the property offers at that time.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Truck Exclusion

Town of Berlin asked for a sight meeting with DPW director Joe Lynch and the engineer of the project. They don't have concerns but wanted to discuss some signage. Mr. Lowe assured them that if it is a matter of signage, we can accommodate them.

School Committee meeting

Last night was the public hearing and right now the assessment is at 3% which is what we've asked for.

Cobham Property

Mr. Lowe notified the Board that he has had no further discussion with the party interested in purchasing the Cobham property. The Town has not received a proposal of any sort.

Plot Plan for Accessory Apartment

The Board received a copy of a plot plan from Curt Plante for an accessory apartment at 269 Green Road that comports with the bylaw as accessory apartments need to be filed with the Board of Selectmen. Mike has reviewed the plan.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Keep the Board voted to acknowledge receipt of the plot plan for 269 Harvard Road. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Keep noted that the plan doesn't show much about the existing dwelling in relation to the addition.

LED Street lights

Mr. Lowe requested authorization to begin the process to convert the street lights to 25-watt LED. The annual savings would be \$639.31 and a one-time rebate of \$1,769. The change would support our Green Initiatives. The light would appear brighter at first as it is white light but as eyes adjusted you would not notice a difference. There is no cost to convert.

Czekanski made a motion to follow the Town Administrator's recommendation to convert the street lights to LED. Keep seconded. Motion passed 3/0.

On the topic of green initiatives, Mr. Lowe reported that he is working with National Grid for a charging station location in the town. It appears that we could do one for almost no money. He will bring more regarding that at a future meeting.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN BUSINESS

Public Service Announcements

Mr. Lowe reminded the public of the Caucus on Monday, March 3rd. Mr. Czekanski added that we will be taking nominations for a new school committee member at that time.
Czekanski announced that they will be looking for a new school board member.

Pavilion at the Town Common

Burt Schnitzler announced that the Pavilion is built and that they have received reimbursement from the Massachusetts Cultural Council for half of the cost. He requested to move the ownership of the Pavilion to the Town.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Keep the Board voted to accept the gift of the Pavilion at the Town Common from the Conservation Trust. Motion passed 3/0.

Annual Report

Keep made motion to approve the Selectmen Annual Report as presented. Czekanski seconded. Motion passed 3/0.

ATM Warrant

Mr. Lowe reviewed the changes to the warrant since the last review.

Article 19- we are awaiting the article wording and summary from the school district.

Article 20- we have received the wording of the Community Choice Aggregation article from the chairman of the Subcommittee which is being reviewed by the Town Counsel.

Article 21- remains a placeholder as we are awaiting the article language from the Mosquito Response Subcommittee. They have their public meeting scheduled for next Thursday.

Bills/Payroll Warrants

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Czekanski, the Board voted unanimously to approved the Bills/Payroll warrants: W20-17 & W20-17A and W20-18 & W20-18A.

Minutes

No minutes were approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board did not enter executive session.

Keep made a motion to adjourn at 7:45pm. Czekanski seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Jenny Jacobsen