



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 8, 2020
5:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Present: Joan Gardner, Jon Benson, Dean Charter, Peter J. Berry, David Martin, Town Manager
John S. Mangiaratti

Absent: None

Ms. Gardner called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM via a virtual meeting with no Board members in physical attendance and broadcasted via Zoom.us virtual meeting platform before a motion to enter into executive session.

I. Regular Business

1. Citizen Concerns

Rabbi Mike Rothbaum, 22 Tuttle Road – concerned about the relationship of persons of color and the police in Acton, mentioned about the independent report of the incident at Merriam School. Would rather talk about the relationship of town leadership, police department, school district and the persons of color in the community. Would like to see a plan on how to deal with discrimination.

Charlie Kadlec – interested in seeing the full report, as he believes the executive summary has 2 conflicting findings.

2. Chair Update/Town Manager Update

Mr. Mangiaratti provided the following updates:

- COVID-19 still present in community,
- The small business grant program and rental assistance have received a very good response so far
- Utilizing CARES Act funds to hire a part-time intermittent virtual meeting scheduling position.
- Highlighted Town Planner Roland Bartl's accomplishments and announced his pending retirement.
- Congratulated the Town Clerk's performance regarding elections.

Mr. Benson mentioned a sign-on agreement letter from Bettina Abe and facilitating a discussion and commented on extending the hours of operation for the Farmer's Market.

II. New/Special Business

3. Discuss Release of Independent Investigative Report on Merriam School Incident

The Board discussed releasing the pertinent information aside from redacting any pertinent medical information, and information that would violate the privacy interests of the parent and child involved. **Mr. Benson moves to direct the Town Manager to**



publish the independent investigative report including the attached exhibits on the Merriam School incident to the Town website redacted as required by law, Mr.

Martin seconds, Mr. Charter called roll:

Mr. Benson - aye

Mr. Berry - aye

Mr. Martin – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries

4. Updates and Discussion Regarding COVID-19 Pandemic

Mr. Mangiaratti reported there were two new COVID-19 cases last week. The Memorial Library will re-open later this week for limited curbside service for web printed materials. The beach at NARA will open this Saturday, June 13. The Recreation Department is creating a plan to operate the NARA summer camp. 110 small business grant applications were distributed and are due June 15th. The grant lottery will be June 19th. Approximately 60 inquiries have been received for the rental assistance program. Added virtual office hours for some departments.

5. Discuss Annual Town Meeting Timeline and Logistics

Mr. Mangiaratti and Town Moderator Jo-Ann Berry reported on Town Meeting logistics. Outdoor seating in the upper parking lot adjacent to the entrance to the gym will be available. Screen projection, and a microphone for audience speakers will be available and the Deputy Town Moderator will moderate the outdoor portion of the meeting. Madam Moderator expressed the arrangement is the safest and best solution. The main meeting will be held in the gymnasium. Article presentations will be available online beginning June 23. Presentations at the June 29 Town Meeting will be limited to three to five minutes. Town Meeting will begin at 6PM on June 29.

6. Review Annual Town Meeting Warrant and Consider Article Recommendations

Both citizen petitions indicated they want the articles to be presented at Town Meeting. Mr. Mangiaratti requested the collective bargaining agreement approval article be placed back in the warrant. Mr. Charter recommends the Wetherbee article to allow an EAV2 zone to allow more commercial activity. **Mr. Charter moves to recommend Article 10, Mr. Benson seconds, Mr. Charter called roll:**

Mr. Martin – aye

Mr. Berry - aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.

Mr. Benson requested the list of properties for the Kelley's Corner Land Acquisition article be included in the warrant.



7. Board to Consider Compost Bin Fee Recommendation

Mr. Berry moves to approve the change of process for the compost bins, Mr. Martin seconds, Mr. Charter called roll:

Mr. Benson - aye

Mr. Berry – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.

8. Board to Consider Application Fee Waiver for Outdoor Dining

Mr. Martin moves to waive application fees for liquor license and other licenses for outdoor dining during the state of emergency, Mr. Charter seconds. Mr. Charter called roll:

Mr. Berry – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.

9. Board to Consider Plans for Outdoor Dining and License Amendments

Mr. Benson moves to approve the amended common victualler licenses to expose, keep for sale, and to sell all kinds of alcoholic beverages to be drunk on premises specifically in outdoor service areas temporarily until November 1, 2020, or until the Governor's order from June 6, 2020 is rescinded for Rapsallion Tap to Table, Filho's Great Road, True West, Red Raven and Atlantic Seafood Grill. El Huipil and Holy Grail depending on the Land Use Department approval of the applications, Mr. Martin seconds. Mr. Charter called roll:

Mr. Berry – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Martin – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.

Mr. Benson moves to approve the common victualler licenses to expose, keep for sale, and to sell malt and wine beverages to be drunk on premises specifically in outdoor service areas temporarily until November 1, 2020 or until the Governor's order from June 6, 2020 is rescinded for New London Style Pizza, Mr. Charter seconds. Mr. Charter called roll:

Mr. Martin -aye

Mr. Berry - aye



Mr. Benson - aye
Ms. Gardner – aye
Mr. Charter – aye
The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries

III. Consent Items

Mr. Martin moves to approve consent items 10 and 11, Mr. Charter seconds.

Mr. Charter called roll:

Mr. Martin – aye

Mr. Berry – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries.

IV. Public Hearing

12. 7:10 PM Proposed Grant Application for FY 2019 CDBG-CV Funding

Ms. Gardner read the public hearing notice. A required public hearing was held on a proposed grant application under the Massachusetts CDBG Program funded through the CARES Act and administered through the MA Department of Housing and Community Development. Acton would be the lead community in a regional application of neighboring communities. Funding would provide grants to businesses of five or fewer employees, including the owner and/or funding to support public social service activities designed to assist persons who have been impacted by the COVID-19 virus. The maximum funding available is \$400,000 per individual community. The Board instructed John to proceed with the application.

Mr. Martin motions to adjourn, Mr. Benson seconds. Mr. Charter called roll:

Mr. Martin – aye

Mr. Berry – aye

Mr. Benson – aye

Ms. Gardner – aye

Mr. Charter – aye

The Board voted 5-0, the motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

- Agenda, June 8, 2020
- Memo Regarding 32 Wetherbee Street Article, April 22, 2020
- Memo from Department of Public Works, June 2, 2020
- Application for Outdoor Dining
- Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission Advisory
- Memo from Planning Division for Approval of Outdoor Dining Applications, June 8, 2020
- Public Hearing Notice, Grant Application for FY CDBG-CV Funding