

Town of Raynham, Massachusetts

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Board of Selectmen Minutes 10/25/2016

Board of Selectmen

October 25, 2016

Chairman Joseph Pacheco called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Present were Joseph Pacheco, Karen Roberts and Marie Smith.

Acceptance of the Minutes

Mrs. Smith motioned and Ms. Roberts seconded to accept the minutes of the October 18, 2016 meeting as printed and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

Department Heads & Committees

Chief Jim Donovan was present to give his monthly report. There were 1,093 calls, 34 people with crime and there were 4 non-fatal overdoses. The improvements in the lock-up facility are going along well and it should be operational by mid to late December.

Appointments

An application for Re-Appointment of Constable was received from Louis Cabaceiras, Elm Street West, which the Chief has signed off on. Mrs. Smith made a motion to re-appoint for one year, Ms. Roberts seconded and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

Continuation of a Public Hearing for the Kennel Application on 142 Elm Street West, Mathieu K-9 Services

Attorney Manning, who was representing the applicant, was present to address the Board. Attorney Manning brought to the Board's attention the amended application reflecting the 8 dogs being kept in the kennel. He also wanted to address the neighbor's concerns of safety, and of their short notice of the hearing as well. He also brought renderings of the kennel and general layout of the land. The land will be cleared of debris, some of which has been done. They plan to also have a video monitoring the kennel. Mr. Pacheco asked Attorney Manning about the training that would occur on the property. Attorney Manning said that the training that would occur on the property would be for obedience and socialization only.

The amended application was read:

Please let this letter serve as my request to amend the above petition as follows: total number of dogs 8, average number of dogs at any given time on kennel premises 8. Would dogs be kept as pets? Yes. Describe all fences shown, or other structures on premises to be occupied by dogs. The structures now or are proposed are 4 - 10' x 10', 4 - 5' x 10' enclosed indoor/outdoor runs in the temperature controlled 16' x 36' structure with a fence around the training field. This was submitted from Matthew K-9 Services.

Kristina Saunders of 154 Elm Street West read a prepared statement of her safety concerns regarding the proposed kennel in her residential neighborhood. She is requesting that the Board vote to reject the application.

Kim Martin of 20 Carpenter's Lane also read a prepared statement of her safety concerns and had questions regarding the proposed kennel in a residential area.

Linda Chuckran of 202 Elm Street West read a summary of last week's meeting and read a prepared statement that stated her opposition to the kennel in her neighborhood which has been classified and billed as residential since 2006.

Marion Ritz of 195 Elm Street West was present to address the Board and voice her concerns of the safety of the people in her neighborhood as it relates to the proposed kennel.

Mr. Pacheco read a statement from Louis & Marilyn Oliver who live at 90 Mowry Street but were unable to attend tonight and who are opposed to the kennel.

Attorney Manning wanted to remind the residents that a portion of the property is zoned for business and can be used for it, then the property will be assessed appropriately. He also noted that there are 5 other kennels in Raynham in residential areas. Eric Marshall, a K-9 Officer from the City of Newburyport was present to address the Board in support of Mr. Mathieu's business.

Brenda Clemmey of 171 Elm Street West was present to address the Board and wanted to discuss the ownership of the two Raymond houses and has concerns regarding the proposed kennel.

Ms. Roberts wanted to thank everyone for coming and sharing their concerns. Mrs. Smith said this is extremely difficult, and appreciates how everyone feels. Her concern is strictly with zoning and property itself, and its legality for that purpose. Mr. Pacheco wanted to discuss the notification process, just for clarification, when there is a change in zoning there is a formal notification sent out by the applicant. In this instance, there was no requirement, but there is a lesson learned and they believe it is something that should be explored to compel future applicants to do a notification to abutters.

Mrs. Smith made a motion based on the information that they have, without the opinion of Town Counsel, to deny the license, Ms. Roberts seconded and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

Mr. Pacheco wanted to let Mr. Mathieu know that he is entitled to an appeal.

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 8:05 PM and a short recess taken.

The meeting reconvened at 8:07 PM

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Buckner reviewed the Town Administrator's Report. The Fall Town Meeting will be coming up November 14th at 7:00 p.m. at the Middle School. The pre-Town Meeting is November 8th at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall. Warrants will be mailed the week of November 5th.

The next Board of Selectmen's Meeting will be held at South School at 7:00 p.m. because of early voting.

Mr. Buckner has a HOME Consortium Meeting this Thursday at 8:30 a.m. in Taunton.

The continuation of the Board of Appeals hearing regarding the Forge River Estates 40B project is Wednesday, November 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

Adjournment

8:11 p.m. Mrs. Smith motioned and Ms. Roberts seconded to adjourn for the performance of administrative duties, signing of Bills and Warrants, with no business to be conducted afterwards. Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

Respectively submitted,

Janet Murphy
Recording Secretary