

Town of Raynham, Massachusetts

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Board of Selectmen Minutes 01/26/2016

Board of Selectmen

January 26, 2016

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

Acceptance of the Minutes

Mr. Pacheco motioned and Mrs. Roberts seconded to accept the minutes of the January 19, 2016 meeting as printed, Mrs. Smith made it unanimous.

Department Heads & Committees

Police Chief James Donovan was present to give his Activity Report for the month of January. There were 1,509 incidents and 62 people were charged with crimes. In 2015 the department logged 14,857 incidents and charged 508 people with crimes. In the past month there was one non-fatal overdose. In 2015 there were 31 non-fatal overdoses and 1 fatal overdose, as compared to 2014 where there were 19 non-fatal overdoses and 4 fatal. On Tuesday December 29th there were 3 people who were apprehended for armed robbery. Chief Donovan also reported that James Kater died. He was convicted of the murder of Mary Lou Arruda of Raynham which occurred in 1978.

Public Hearings

7:00 p.m. Courtyard by Marriott – Continuation of Hearing - Alcoholic Beverage License Violation

Beth Sherer, manager of Courtyard by Marriot, was present to address the Board. She said they never received a notice by mail, but thanked Mr. Buckner for emailing her to let her know. The bartender and manager both had written statements. The bartender, Eric Lombard who served the minor, was distracted by a young boy who suffers from autism who had caused a disturbance and Eric had gone over to try to help. In his haste to wait on the person who had just come in to order a beer, he served him thinking that he looked over 21 without carding him. Ms. Sherer said that Eric was very sorry for the mistake and deeply regrets it, he has been with the organization for several years, is TIP certified and has been an exemplary employee.

So, for those reasons, they are not going to fire him, but suspended him without pay for three days. Chief Donovan reported that the report stated that the staff was fully cooperative and confirms the details that were just reported. Mr. Pacheco appreciated the fact that she came in and acknowledged the violation and went to the length to provide additional documentation. Mr. Pacheco wanted to remind Ms. Sherer that there is a zero tolerance policy for a liquor violation in Raynham. And that anytime this happens, it's disappointing. It is the Board's responsibility to see to it that it is not allowed and there are consequences. Mr. Pacheco made a motion that a one day liquor license suspension be given to the Marriott, Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mrs. Smith made it unanimous.

7:05 p.m. 2 Jerks BBQ for an All-Alcoholic License at 701 Broadway

Jill Finnerty, owner of 2 Jerks BBQ was present to address the Board. She said that an additional license was applied for through a Home Rule Petition to the Legislature and granted. Chris DePalma, her son, was also present looking for approval

from the Board. Mrs. Smith said the paperwork seemed to be in order. Mr. Pacheco had no issues with it, and appreciates their efforts to go through the process. And he just wanted to remind them and their staff that the Town has a zero tolerance policy for serving people who are underage. Mr. Pacheco made a motion to grant the license, Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mrs. Smith made it unanimous.

New Business

Mr. John McGarry, Sewer Superintendent was present to discuss the eminent domain land taking on Riverbrook Drive to accommodate the building of a sewer pumping station. There is only one vacant lot on Riverbrook Drive and it is suitable for this purpose. The taxes have not been paid on it for approximately 20 years and it has gone into tax title. It has now in the process of being taken into eminent domain. After discussion with Town Counsel, and the Board of Selectmen, they have taken about 4,500 square for the pump station and most of the lot is wetlands and not buildable. He has an order of taking and Town Counsel has determined that the compensation for the 4,500 sq. foot piece of land is \$10,000. Although there is a beneficiary who still owns the land, the amount of back taxes owed on the land is about \$90,000. The Tax Collector deemed that the Town should actually receive the money for back taxes owed. Mr. Pacheco made a motion that the land be taken by eminent domain as requested, Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mrs. Smith made it unanimous. Mr. Pacheco also motioned to instruct Town Counsel to review the process of payment to be applied to the outstanding balance, Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mrs. Smith made it unanimous. Mr. Gordon Luciano asked if they would be able to proceed while this process is going on? The Board agreed and said yes.

Correspondence was received from multiple out of town non-profit groups requesting Tag Days. Mr. Pacheco made a motion to approve, Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mrs. Smith made it unanimous.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Buckner reviewed the Town Administrator's Report. There have been about a dozen applicants received for the position of Director of Planning & Community Development. The interview process will take place during the week of February 8th. The Transfer Station stickers are due now. Stickers will also be sold at the Highway garage for the next few Saturdays:

January 30th, February 6th, & February 13th.

The Finance Committee has distributed budget guidelines to department heads for FY 17 and asked that they be returned by February 12th. Guidance is for the usual 2% increase in expenses and then negotiated wage/salary increases. Town Accountant David Grab is distributing the budget worksheets.

The request for bids for the jail cells to be issued at the beginning of March with the award to be made in April.

The Senior Center roof will be bid out in February/March for construction in the spring.

Mr. Ed Buckley, Highway Superintendent, will be present at the next Selectmen's meeting.

The Fire Safety Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 2nd at 6:15 p.m.

The next SRSG monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 3rd at 9:00 a.m. in Mansfield.

The next SMHG Steering Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 3rd at 12 noon in Westport. Preliminary health insurance rates for FY 17 will be discussed.

Selectmen's Report

Mr. Pacheco wanted to recognize the Highway Department for a great job handling the storms. He had a few people call and tell him as well. He thinks that Mr. Buckley has done the best job. Mrs. Roberts wanted to mention that there is a fundraiser for Mr. Monti to help him rebuild his home after the fire recently.

Citizen & Community Input

Elijah Whelan, from Boy Scout Troop 43, was present to address the Board. He is currently working on getting his Eagle project approved by getting 1,000 thank you cards, donated by his school Bristol Plymouth, and have them signed and brought to the veterans who are currently residing at the VA Hospital in Brockton. He wanted to know if any permits were needed to solicit different stores. Mrs. Smith commented, what an admirable thing to do! She instructed Elijah to go to each individual store and ask permission. Mr. Pacheco made a motion that the Board write a letter of support, Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mrs. Smith made it unanimous.

Correspondence

Correspondence was received from the Slap Shotz Family Sports Pub requesting to change their name to Slap Shotz Gastro Pub. Mr. Pacheco made a motion to approve, Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mrs. Smith made it unanimous.

Correspondence was received from Gil Alegi from the Finance Committee requesting Jim Haluch's appointment to fill a vacancy on their Board. Mr. Pacheco made a motion to accept, Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mrs. Smith made it unanimous.

Correspondence was received from Joe Bikel to fill one of the positions on the Finance Committee. Mr. Pacheco made a motion to forward the letter to the Finance Committee, Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mrs. Smith made it unanimous.

Correspondence was received from Priscilla Matton, Superintendent of the B.C. Mosquito Control requesting the Board's support relating to their upcoming budget.

Mr. Pacheco made a motion to whole heartedly support their request, Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mrs. Smith made it unanimous.

Correspondence was received from Ed Buckley, Highway Superintendent, requesting an affirmative vote for the authorization to purchase a brush mower. Mr. Pacheco made a motion to accept, Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mrs. Smith made it unanimous.

Adjournment

7:35 p.m. Mrs. Roberts motioned and Mr. Pacheco seconded to adjourn for the performance of administrative duties, signing of Bills and Warrants, with no business to be conducted afterwards. Mrs. Smith made it unanimous.

Respectively submitted,

Janet Murphy
Recording Secretary