

Town of Raynham, Massachusetts

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Board of Selectmen Minutes 12/20/2016

Board of Selectmen

December 20, 2016

Chairman Joseph Pacheco called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
Present were Joseph Pacheco, Karen Roberts and Marie Smith.

Acceptance of the Minutes

Mrs. Roberts motioned and Mrs. Smith seconded to accept the minutes of the December 13, 2016 meeting as printed, Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

Department Heads & Committees

Mr. David Flaherty, Health Agent was present to give his monthly report. Almost all the food service applications are in. New inspector Sara Holt is doing well.

Mr. Flaherty discussed raising the age to buy tobacco to 21 and he has shown by a map the towns who have raised the age to 21 although most are still 18. He suggested perhaps limiting the permits. Mr. Flaherty is the newest member of the Bristol County Emergency Preparedness Coalition. He is interested in hiring a Public Health Nurse for communicable disease follow up. Mr. Flaherty also discussed the goose project at Johnson's Pond, and Mr. Pacheco told him to go ahead with the project and work with Mr. Buckner on the funding source. Mrs. Smith asked about raising the age to 21 to purchase tobacco. Mr. Flaherty was concerned about the effect on retail stores. But sales to those 18-20 is less than 2% of all cigarette sales and it never affected the retailers like they thought it was going to. Mrs. Roberts asked about flavored tobacco. Mr. Flaherty feels the State is going to do something about flavored products. Mrs. Smith asked about e-cigarettes, she feels that they are just as dangerous as tobacco.

Would they be banned as well? Mr. Flaherty said the Attorney General's Office has said that those should be considered tobacco products as well. Mrs. Smith is in favor of changing the age to 21 for all tobacco products. Mr. Flaherty suggested having a public hearing just to get back feedback from retailers. Mr. Pacheco suggested if the Board wants to take action, not just for appearance, but potential liability, he suggests holding a public hearing and to make all interested parties aware of the public hearing. Mrs. Smith made a motion to schedule a public hearing on Jan. 10th at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

New Business

The Board discussed the Alcoholic Beverage Licenses. Mr. Pacheco's recommendation to the Board is to accept the list, less Christopher's, as the Board has the continuation of the hearing tomorrow night at 6:00 p.m. regarding the conduct of Christopher's. Mrs. Smith moved and Mrs. Roberts seconded the motion. Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous. As an addendum to the approvals, and as part of the conversation that was held last week, Chief Donovan and Town Counsel have put together list of rules and regulations for all liquor licensees who are issued any type of a license in Raynham. Among other things, the Town expects full cooperation and compliance with any and investigation by the Police the Board or any other entity operating on our behalf.

The Town Counsel requested and suggested that when this goes out with the license, it should be signed and dated and returned to

the Town. If the Board is ok with the rules and regulations for alcoholic licenses he would ask the Board to approve the new rules and regulations with the renewals. Mrs. Smith made a motion to approve, Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

The Board discussed the Entertainment Licenses. Mr. Pacheco's recommendation to the Board is to accept the list, less Christopher's, since the Board has the continuation of the hearing tomorrow night at 6:00 p.m. Mrs. Smith made a motion to approve, Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

The Board then discussed the Auto Dealer Licenses. Mr. Pacheco noted that the Board has received correspondence from the Commonwealth Of Mass. Office of Consumer Affairs and Consumer Relations citing Buy-A-Ride at 147 Broadway for their lack of compliance with the Lemon Law. Specifically their dealership was recently documented as having only 11% compliance which requires decals being affixed to the windows for sale. Other dealers were also cited but Buy-A-Ride had the least compliance. Mr. Pacheco suggested as a condition of auto dealer licenses, the Board expects them to be fully compliant with the law. Mrs. Smith made a motion to approve, Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Buckner reviewed the Town Administrator's Report. The Raynham Housing Authority and the Capital Planning Committee still have vacancies. The Capital Planning Committee meets three or four times in September each year to review capital requests. The Housing Authority meets monthly.

The tax bills will be sent out the week after Christmas.

The Town Offices will be closed Friday through Monday for the Christmas Holidays.

The next Selectmen's Meeting will be on Wednesday, December 21st at 6:00 p.m.: Special Meeting – continuance of Christopher's Restaurant hearing.

Selectmen's Report

Mrs. Smith wanted to let everyone know that Denise Hartwell, who has worked at the Post Office for a very long time, is retiring and wanted to wish her well.

Correspondence

Correspondence was received from the Executive Office of Health & Human Services requiring the Town to have a full time Veteran's Agent and the Town currently has a part time Agent. The Office is requesting a plan by January 31st of how the Town anticipates becoming compliant with the request. Mr. Pacheco suggests that the Board collaborate with Mr. Buckner on coming up with a plan on how to address it.

Correspondence was received from Attorney Rudser regarding last week's hearing. Mr. Pacheco will read the letter at the continuation of the Public Hearing tomorrow night.

Correspondence was received from Mass Highway, who will be holding a public hearing at Town Hall on Thursday, January 12th at 7:00 p.m. regarding the bridge replacement on US 44 over State Road 24. The process of replacing the bridge will be lengthy.

There was a Tag Day request from the Girl Scouts for January 7th, 8th, 14th, 15th and 16th. Mrs. Smith made a motion to approve, Mrs. Roberts seconded and Mr. Pacheco made it unanimous.

Adjournment

7:41 p.m. Mrs. Roberts motioned and Mrs. Smith 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