

Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE

Select Board Members Alisa Brewer, Doug Slaughter, Connie Kruger, Andy Steinberg, Jim Wald
Staff: Interim Town Manager M. David Ziomek; Sonia Aldrich, Comptroller; Guilford Mooring, DPW
Superintendent; Amy Rusiecki, Assistant DPW Superintendent; Stacey LeCuivre, LSSE Program Director;
Deborah Radway, Human Resource Director
Other: APAC members Rene Theberge, Chair; Rosario Gaddier; and Eric Broudy.

Meeting called to order by Ms. Brewer at 6:31 p.m.

Stacy LeCuivre, LSSE Program Director spoke about the Halloween parade and pumpkin roll scheduled for Sunday, November 1, 2015 and the permissions needed.

Larry Kelley requested the Select Board get more aggressive in relation to the Strategic Partnership Agreement noting he was stunned to learn the University has managed to exempt themselves from the local hotel meal tax.

Ms. Brewer declared review of the revised Public Transportation, Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee Charge item would be deferred to a later date.

Meeting Schedule

Ms. Brewer explained the need for a change in meeting dates, with a suggestion to remove the December 21, 2015 date and substitute in its stead December 14, 2015.

VOTED unanimously to amend the 2015 Select Board Meeting schedule, causing November 9, 2015 to show as a regular meeting if Town Meeting has concluded.

VOTED unanimously to amend the 2015 Select Board Meeting Schedule to include December 7, 2015 and December 14, 2015,

VOTED unanimously to approve the Select Board meeting schedule for December 2015 through June 2016, as amended, noting the change of December 14, 2015 in place of December 21, 2015.

FY 2016 First Quarter Report

Comptroller Sonia Aldrich reviewed the first quarter report, emphasizing anomalies and sources of revenues, Mill Valley Estate permit fees and Medicare part D reimbursements. Expenditure anomalies include IT expense and employee benefits, which reflects annual fees and retirement assessment payments respectively. Ms. Brewer noted hotel and meal tax collections were on target at 25%, explaining it was partly due to the reduction taken in revenue projections in anticipation of a decision from MA DOR on the UMass Hotel not having to collect tax.

Taxi Driver Licenses

VOTED unanimously to approve the application of Andrew P. Diehl for new 2015 Taxi License on behalf of Mercedes Cab Company Inc.

VOTED unanimously MOVE to approve the application of Joyce E. Dube for a new 2015 Taxi License on behalf of Aaron's Paradise Transportation.

Special Licenses

VOTED unanimously to approve the application of the Top of the Campus Inc., for a Special License for service of Wine and Malt beverages on Wednesday, October 21, 2015 from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 3rd floor lobbies of the Computer Science Building, UMass, Amherst; Meredith Schmidt, Director.

VOTED unanimously to approve the application of the Trustees of Amherst College for a Special License for service of Wine & Malt beverages on Saturday, October 24, 2015 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Amherst College Homecoming in the 50th Reunion Tent; Greg Wardlaw, Catering Manager. Select Board requested greater specificity of location of the tent.

Parking Reservation Request – LSSE Halloween Pumpkin Roll

VOTED unanimously to approve the reservation of the North Common (Main Street) Parking Lot on Sunday, November 1, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. for the Leisure Services & Supplemental Education’s Annual Halloween Pumpkin Roll; Stacey LeCuvire, Program Director.

Liquor License: Amherst Golf Club, Inc. Change of Officers/Directors

VOTED unanimously to approve the new officers/directors, as presented in the petition for transfer of ownership dated March 3, 2015 for Amherst Golf Club, Inc., License #002400030 a Wine & Malt Annual Club License, 365 South Pleasant Street; David P. Twohig, Manager.

Minutes

VOTED unanimously to approve the minutes of July 27, 2015, as amended.

Voting and Assigning Positions on Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles

Mandi Jo Hanneke, Town Meeting Electronic Voting Study Committee member spoke about the specifics related to Article 5, which proposes amendment to the General Bylaws to provide for electronic voting at town meetings.

VOTED to recommend to the November 2, 2015 Special Town Meeting Article #5 Bylaw Amendment – Electronic Voting; Andy Steinberg to speak to article on behalf of the Select Board.

Mr. Ziomek reviewed the next two articles. Article 14 stems from a request of a property owner to release the Town’s easement across his property. The Town properties on which it would provide access have road frontage and do not require an easement over abutting property. Select Board members voiced concern about the potential of the action to affect future ability to create affordable housing on one of the lots.

VOTED unanimously to recommend referral to the Select Board to the November 2, 2015 Special Town Meeting pg Article # 14 Release of Rights and Easements; Connie Kruger to speak to article on behalf of the Select Board.

Article 15 is the acquisition of a highly coveted watershed protection project, 140+/- acres that lays 150’ from the boundary of the Town reservoir. The Town has applied for a grant, which if successful will require a 50/50 match, to be paid from the water/sewer fund if successful. Bob Romer - the owner has offered a bargain sale price that makes this a great opportunity to the Town.

VOTED unanimously to recommend to the November 2, 2015 Special Town Meeting Article #15 Pelham Land Acquisition; Andy Steinberg to speak to article on behalf of the Select Board.

MCC Cultural District Application

Rene Theberge, Chair of the Amherst Public Arts Commission provided a brochure from the Massachusetts Cultural Council that explains the designation and the timeline for creation. The Business District and the Chamber of Commerce are supporting the delineation. Mr. Theberge introduced members of the Commission

present. Mr. Theberge indicated the administrative reporting requirements of the designation are minimal and would be managed by the BID in conjunction with the APAC. The designation is for five-years and will require reapplication. Public input will help define the naming of the district, which is planned to parallel the BID boundaries combined with parts of the Dickinson Historic District.

FY 17 Budget Policy Guidelines

Ms. Brewer reviewed fiscal year 2016 guidelines and explained the need to update for the upcoming fiscal year. Members offered suggestions and amendments for draft revision for the next Select Board meeting.

Town Manager Report

Mr. Ziomek acknowledged the Select Board's participation in the recent UMass homecoming parade. An update on public safety related to weekend activities as well as preparations for upcoming weekends was provided. Amber Sullivan from DPW and Mike Olkin of IT were called out for their work to roll out the See Click Fix online reporting tool for Amherst. Ms. Sullivan is the staff person who will be working with the resource, ensuring update and response are available. Select Board requested a demonstration of the tool at a future meeting. An update on DPW projects was provided. A review of the process related to the start of the shelter season was offered, noting new safety features in place related to cooking. Mr. Ziomek referenced recent emails and letters related to Uber and AirBnB operations, noting we have put forth inquiries to Town Counsel and will report to the Select Board if any action is available. A preview of the discussion planned on Downtown Parking for next Monday, October 26, 2015 was provided. The first meeting of UTAC Steering Committee and a reception was announced for October 28, 2015 at the Campus Center. A second forum on solar is planned for October 27, 2015, to be facilitated by Stephanie Ciccarello. A brief reference to the Four Board meeting held last week was made, acknowledging the work of Finance Director Sandy Pooler and IT staff Maria Racca. Mr. Ziomek reported on the decision rendered by the State on the hotel/motel tax for the University and the ongoing dialogue with the University on the verdict.

Member Reports

Mr. Steinberg reported on the delegation's recent trip to Kanegasaki, remarking on the graciousness and generosity of their hosts.

Ms. Kruger reported on a recent Branding and Wayfinding meeting and schedule for upcoming.

Ms. Brewer remarked on the Governor's visit to the Eric Carle Museum recently. She also noted the reasons for entering executive session this evening, providing a brief update on the Town Manager search. Preview of upcoming meetings was also provided.

Executive Session

MOVE to enter into Executive Session, in accordance with Massachusetts General Law (MGL) Chapter 30A, section 21, part a, subset 2, to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel, Interim Town Manager M. David Ziomek, and to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, Interim Town Manager M. David Ziomek, and also in accordance with MGL c30A, §21, part 1, subset 3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining units, as the Chair declares an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body, and to discuss strategy with respect to ongoing litigation as the Chair declares an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body, with the intent not to reconvene in open session at the conclusion. Roll Call Vote: Brewer, Aye; Slaughter, Aye; Steinberg, Aye; Wald, Aye, Kruger.

ADJOURN - The meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Submitted by M. David Ziomek, Interim Town Manager

List of Documents Presented at the Meeting – Available in the Online Packet for the Meeting Date

Agenda and Draft Motions

FY 16 First Quarter Year to Date Report

Application from Amherst Golf Club for New Officers Directors

Article 14 Release of Rights and Easements

Article 15 Pelham Land Acquisition

Article 5 TMEVSC Report to Fall Town Meeting

UMass Hotel Tax Letter and Decision

Select Board Calendar 2016

Budget Policy Guidelines December 15, 2014

Select Board Meeting Schedule January to June 2016

Article 14 Properties Mapped

Executive Session Employment Agreement Musante 8-31-15

Executive Session ATGA c263 of the Acts of 2006

Executive Session Employment Agreement Musante 09-24-10

Executive Session Employment Agreement Shaffer 03-20-06

Executive Session Employment Agreement Shaffer 09-21-09

Handouts for Article 14 and Article 15

Mail Capital Conversations Invite

Mail League of Women Voters Invitation

Halloweenfest Flyer 2015

LSSE Pumpkin Roll

Taxi Driver Applications for J. Dube and A. Diehl

Special Wine and malt applications Amherst College 10-24-2015

Special Wine and Malt applications UMass Amherst 10-21-2015

Draft Minutes 07-27-2015