

Select Board Minutes

January 18, 2022

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Virtual Meeting – 143TV and Zoom

Select Board Present: Keri Thompson, Chair
Corey Evans
Diane Kennedy
Jean Healey Dippold
Jack Creighton

Others Participating: Christopher Senior, Town Manager

Chairperson Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and asked for a Roll Call Vote. Corey Evans-Present, Jean Healey Dippold-Present, Keri Thompson-Present.

Pledge-Recited.

Public Comment-None.

Minutes-Chairperson Thompson stated Select Member Dippold had some edits to the 12/14/2022 minutes. The Board will vote on at the next meeting.

Select Member Creighton joined the meeting.

Cemetery Maintenance-Perpetual Care Fund Request-Director of DPW Brian Joyce was present. He reminded the Board that the perpetual care accounts are funded by the sale of grave sites. He stated they are looking to fund 7 projects totaling \$43,000 for Woodside Cemetery as follows; resetting listing/tilted headstones, replanting mature plants along the MBTA where hedge line is snow damaged, repoint all columbarium and memorials, repair/replace flagpole lights, add additional stone dust to walkway, reconnect power to Hingham Light and replace section markers. **Motion by Select Member Evans to approve \$43,000 for the 7 projects at Woodside Cemetery as presented, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote; All aye.** Mr. Joyce stated they are also requesting \$11,500 for 3 projects at Beechwood Cemetery as follows: elevated tree trimming, plantings for screening north side and repairs to building roof. **Motion by Select Member Dippold to approve \$11,500 for Beechwood Cemetery projects as presented, seconded by Select Member Evans. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Jean Healey Dippold-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.**

Public Hearing-Liquor License-Split Rock Social, Inc d/b/a Split Rock Social-12 Parkingway-New on Premises Wine & Malt-Chairperson Thompson read aloud the public hearing notice. **Motion by Select Member Evans to open the public hearing for Split Rock Social, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote; All aye.** Attorney James Lampke stated the applicant has stated they are still working on details of the business and are requesting that the board continue the hearing until Feb 1st. **Motion by Select Member Evans to continue the hearing for Split Rock Social until February 1, 2022, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Jean Healey Dippold-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.**

Select Member Dippold recused from the next hearing.

Public Hearing-Liquor License-Salty Days Cohasset, LLC d/b/a Salty Days Fish-85 South Main Street-New on Premises Wine & Malt-Chairperson Thompson read aloud the public hearing notice. **Motion by**

Select Member Evans to open the hearing for Salty Days Fish, seconded by Select Member Creighton. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye. The applicants Attorney Carolyn Conway gave an overview of the applicant's plan. Sean McDaniel, the proposed manager, stated they are looking to open a fish market with dine in. There will be 47 seats inside and 9 outside. They are looking to be open 8 a.m. -10 p.m. during the week and 8 a.m.-midnight on weekends. Rowena Karp-91 South Main Street stated the area is already congested, there are trucks blocking her driveway and she is concerned that the area will smell of fish and people leave trash. Owner Doug McGregor said he has a restaurant in Hingham, and they are good neighbors. He will work with neighbors and agreed to give the neighbors a list of managers on duty. The Board had a brief discussion out the outdoor sitting and agreed that 10 p.m. **Motion by Select Member Evans to approve the Wine & Malt on Premises license for Salty Days Cohasset, LLC d/b/a Salty Days Fish and approve Sean McDaniels as the manager, seconded by Select Member Creighton. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye. Motion by Select Member Creighton to close the hearing, seconded by Select Member Evans. Roll Call Vote; Jack Creighton-Aye, Corey Evans-Aye, Keri Thompson-Aye.**

Norfolk County Sheriff's Office-Update-Sheriff Patrick McDermott gave the board an update on programs they are running, the procedures they have added during the pandemic and educational opportunities. He advised the Board of opportunities for Cohasset to partner with them on projects in town.

Select Member Kennedy joined the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Community Update-Health Director Pam Fahey and Emergency Management Director Glenn Pratt were present. Pam Fahey reviewed the current Covid cases in Cohasset that are still on the rise. There is a clinic for children ages 5-11 at the Deer Hill School on Saturday, January 22nd from 1-3 p.m. There is another adult (18+) at Willcutt Commons on Wednesday, January 26th from 4-7 p.m. All information is on the website. There are free at-home test kits that are available to every home at COVIDtests.gov. Glenn Pratt thanked Pam Fahey, Mary Goodwin, and the facilities crew for their work on the clinics.

Field Study Update-Contracts & Procurement Manager Michelle Leary advised the Board that the study is moving along. They have a public forum scheduled for January 26th from 6-7 p.m. via Zoom. The more participation they get the more they can work together. They need more input from the youth sports organizations. Select Member Creighton offered his assistance calling organizations. Select Member Dippold suggested they reach out to the schools; they have a great communication process.

MPIC Zoning Bylaw Group-Liaison Appointment-Chairman Thompson advised the Board the liaison is for the interview committee and must be available the week of February 21st and for interviews on February 28th from 5-8 p.m. **Motion by Select Member Kennedy to appoint Jack Creighton as the Select Board liaison to the MPIC Zoning Bylaw Group, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote; All aye.**

FY23 Budget Update-Operational Budget-Finance Director Don Piatt reviewed FY22 budget and the first look at FY23 budget. He noted he kept the state aid level as he is not sure at this time what to expect. Health insurance will have a sizable increase as well as risk management and Norfolk County pension. He reviewed contributions to OPEB and other stabilization funds. Select Member Dippold stated it appeared that the net revenue is getting smaller, and Mr. Piatt confirmed that the net revenue is less

due to not knowing what the state will give the town as well as inflation. Mr. Senior stated one of the drivers of inflation is energy costs, but the town is fortunate that they have locked into lower rates. Select Member Kennedy suggested after they get through the FY23 budget cycle they should look at the long-range planning again. There is only so much growth left in the town.

Capital Budget-Michelle Leary stated she met with the town manager and department heads for a first draft of projects. She reviewed the proposed Capital Budget requests. Each department head will meet with the Capital Budget Committee to prioritize their list of projects.

Regional Sewer Discussion-Joint Meeting with Sewer Commission- Chairperson McGowan called the Sewer Commission meeting to order. Bill McGowan, Wayne Sawchuk and Paul Kierce were present. Chairperson McGowan stated there needs to be a clear understanding of the Sewer Commission and what they are responsible for. They resolved the Little Harbor 2nd Amended Judgement, and they expect to handle any regional sewer projects. Mr. Kierce has been on the commission for one-year but has been involved as a resident with the sewer issues in town. The commission wants what is best for the town. What they need to do for Cohasset is on the forefront. The Town of Scituate has a desire to expend their sewer and they have a desire to regionalize. That is Scituate's desire not Cohasset's problem. Cohasset needs to do what is good for the town. They are open to ideas from time to time, but they are here to help Cohasset. The Sewer Commission has had a plan to sewer South Main Street for over 3 years now. They need to focus on that before they entertain abutting town's desires. Mr. Sawchuk expressed concern that Cohasset gains no capacity through this effort and cannot increase the town's capacity. Select Member Evans stated they are looking to improve resident health by cleaning up pollution entering the harbor and beaches. They are looking to protect existing infrastructure for the future and support overall regional health. There was a lengthy discussion on where the pollution is coming from and who is responsible for it. Mr. Kierce stated adding sewer to South Main Street and fixing an issue at the Cook Estate will use of most of their existing capacity. Select Member Creighton stated when the town had an issue with Little Harbor, Scituate did not help the town. The town cannot give up sovereignty. Select Member Dippold stated this is a risk management question, where we need to consider our existing sewer demands, failures, and pending projects (and the Sewer Commission should weigh in before large projects before the Planning Board) that affect sewer capacity; the sewer plant is close to the harbor and resiliency issues concern her; that the town's agreement with Hull expires in 2024; pollution and other consequences. They should compare the cost's of going at it alone, including a satellite plant, or having a regional agreement. They need more concrete data. Mr. Kierce added that they need a resiliency plan and wastewater plan before they can figure anything out. Mr. McGowan added they need to have an overdue conversation with Scituate. They can do this in parallel.

Motion by Select Member Creighton to endorse additional meetings between Scituate Sewer, Town Manager and Chris Senior, Select Members Evans & Creighton, and Sewer Commission, seconded by Select Member Evans. Roll Call Vote; All aye.

Town Manager Update-Mr. Senior stated the Town is hosting a youth clinic on Saturday, January 22nd, and another for adults on Wednesday, January 26th. All details are on the town website. The Town of Cohasset received two awards for the 9th straight year thanks to the hard work of everyone that makes it possible.

Select Board Comments-Select Member Kennedy asked for a moment of silence for Joan Brown who passed away recently. She served on many boards in the town over the years. Select Member Evans

thanked the Public Board of Health for all their work on the vaccine clinics. Chairperson Thompson stated every resident now can get free test kits through the new federal program. Select Member Dippold thanked the BOH for the kid's vaccine clinic. The field study forum is January 26th, and the Cohasset Harbor Climate Resilience Forum is on January 25th.

Motion by Select Member Creighton to adjourn, seconded by Select Member Dippold. Roll Call Vote; All aye.

The meeting adjourned at 10:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keri Thompson

Documents

Cemetery Maintenance Request
Split Rock Application
Salty Days Application
Community Health Update
Draft FY23 Budget