

## Minutes of the Select Board Meeting, June 22, 2021

Rebecca Coletta and Patrick Williamson were present; Hilary Weeks was absent. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. Rebecca agreed to act as temporary chair in Hilary's absence.

### Fire Department/EMS

Fire Chief David Alvord addressed the Board in regard to an 4:00 a.m. alarm call at the Public Safety Complex just over a week ago. The preliminary response showed nothing wrong in the office and other areas of the building, however, the new alarm system wouldn't reset. David later called Police Chief Litchfield, also a firefighter, so the alarm could be reset and found the issue to be in the medical supply room which is always locked. Chief Alvord expressed appreciation for Justin's assistance.

The Morann's also expressed their appreciation to Police Department and EMS for their response to their recent 911 call.

Several evenings ago, Sgt. Miazga responded to a missing person call at Plainfield Pond. Upon arrival Police Sgt. Miazga was informed the person had been swimming and could no longer be seen by his father. Sgt. Miazga then called out the Fire Department to respond with their boat. Firefighter Duane Meehan was first on the scene with his boat which was already trailered and hitched to his truck. What was initially a missing person report was in fact a man in distress in the water on the far side of the pond. The result was a successful rescue.

### Police Department

Chief Litchfield reported new cables have been installed for the CJIS line. Chief Perkins, Cummington, has the new reporting system up and running. Plainfield officers are required to complete 40 hours of training.

Reimbursement for POST required training in the amount of \$41,000 is being sought from the state.

In response to a question about the number of special officers, Chief Litchfield noted as of July 1<sup>st</sup> officers formerly called "special officers" are called officers. Plainfield has 10 per diem officers who are willing to volunteer. After July 1<sup>st</sup> Chief Litchfield cannot hire officers; officers have to go through POST which will be costly for the Town as new hires will be full time.

The FY'22 salary budget supports the chief, the sergeant and 5 hours per week for one officer. Officers will have the opportunity for off-duty detail. The department is caught up on training. Grant money was used, in part, for a new copier. It was noted that Plainfield Pond is now a busy spot.

The Fire Department has cleaned out the upstairs at 315 Main Street.

Rebecca inquired about welfare checks on the Police Log, to which the Chief responded, "Neighbors, relatives, etc. and ask the department to check on someone they have not seen or heard from." In response to the question of another department handling these calls, the chief stated no as there may be other factors involved.

Anna Hathaway asked to have name Hathaway Hall removed from the 315 Main Street premises. The Buildings Committee has approved her request.

#### Host Community Agreement Guidelines

The Board is still waiting for an HCA template from KP Law. According to Planning Board Chair Brian Hawthorne proposed reforms are being sought by companies and lobbyists. HCA's are negotiated with applicants for marijuana growers so towns can recoup the cost of impacts of said businesses on town services. The permitting process for applicants may be 2-5 years. Patrick noted the 3<sup>rd</sup> applicant's proposal is small venture. Guidelines should be established to ensure a level playing field for all applicants. Discussion of things that might be included in the guidelines include: percentage of gross revenues to determine or a flat fee beginning with signing, predictability of the percentage of business growth, termination clause, etc.

It was also suggested one Board member negotiate with applicants before bringing the Host Community Agreements to the Board for an open session vote.

The difference between cannabis and hemp was noted. Both emit odor in the flowering stage.

#### American Recovery Plan Act

Potential uses for ARPA funds were discussed. The loss of local revenue will be researched. Specific uses are not required in the application which will be submitted this week.

#### Resignation

Rebecca moved to accept Bill Latimer's resignation from the ZBA with appreciation and regret. The motion, seconded by Patrick, was approved.

#### Other Business

IT Grant: Steve Barlow, NOVUS, plans to be at the Town Offices at 7:00 a.m.

Thursday to set up computers and install software.

Patrick, noting the consultant's report on regionalizing fire departments, stated a working group to include fire chiefs will discuss the possibility of implementation and the ten most important points.

#### Correspondence

KP-Law issued an eUdate entitled "Extension of Pandemic-Related relief Relative to Municipal Operations".

ABCC sent notification of the extension of patio/outdoor service and take away/delivery of alcohol for on-premises licensees until April 1, 2022.

The Board also received notice of NEXAMP Collateral Assignment under the Agreement for PILOT per M.G.L. Chapter 59, Sec. 38H(b).

Miscellaneous mail was reviewed.

Warrants were signed.

A motion to adjourn was entertained and approved at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula J. King  
Administrative Secretary