



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 9, 2019

7:00 PM

ROOM 204, ACTON TOWN HALL, 472 MAIN STREET

Present: Joan Gardner, Jon Benson, Dean Charter, Peter J. Berry, David Martin, Town Manager
John S. Mangiaratti

Absent: None

I. Regular Business

1. Citizen Concerns

Jim Snyder Grant, West Acton – questioned about 8:00 meeting with AWD Commissioners if comments would be allowed.

2. Chair Update/Town Manager Update

Ms. Gardner – September 11 ceremony at PSF to commemorate the anniversary of 9/11 at 9:55 AM. Acton Restaurant week on 9/16, 9/26 celebrating 2 year anniversary at Human Service and Senior Center at 30 Sudbury Road. 9/27 town offices closed for annual professional development day, 8:00 tonight joint meeting with AWD.

Mr. Mangiaratti – Acton FF/Paramedic Luke Magnet passed away suddenly this weekend. Town Hall operating hours pilot program worked well and will continue until further notice, also talking with other buildings in town to see if they would like to change operations to allow alternative programs. Mosquito spraying this Thursday at town fields, school fields as well. West Acton Sewer project planned public meetings, school project, civil defense building (3 School Street) declare surplus (by the Board of Selectmen) and have started soliciting interest from the public to see if anyone wants to acquire the property. Hazardous material abatement completed at Asa Parlin House. Bettin Abe and volunteers constructed Boardwalk on the Assabet last week.

II. New/Special Business

3. Acton Dog Park Committee Report and Presentation

Clare Siska and Tom Gillespie presented a Power Point presentation to the Board regarding the final findings for a location of a dog park. Recommended location is in North NARA Park (abutting Miracle Field) that is municipal property used by the DPW, or a backup location is 72 Quarry Road. Requesting a \$2 increase in dog license fee and a one time appeal for voluntary contributions to fund the building of the dog park. Mr. Charter commented some concern about proposal for primary site – it is a critical site for town projects such as gravel, pipes, guard rails, existing green recycling is composted there, storage of logs, and deposit of materials - such as asphalt. Cannot support the primary site, and feels the secondary site would be sufficient. Noted that losing any more DPW land would have a significant effect on the taxpayers in town. Mr. Berry would like to tour the location to get a better idea of what the DPW would have to do if needed to shift the loam. Questioned about the amount the Stanton Foundation would grant – rest of the money (10%) would come from CPC funds (if granted at annual town



meeting). Mr. Gillespie stated that the \$2 increase in dog licenses would raise \$4000 towards maintenance of the dog park. Mr. Martin questioned about appropriation of the land, landscape design plans, questioned cost for maintenance of the park, and his interest in a site visit. Ms. Gardner opened for public comment. Several residents spoke in favor of support of the proposed dog park and also question the need for the project. Member of the audience questioned what the approval process was for approving the property and the project of a dog park. Further discussion of the location choices for the dog park continued with Board members. Mr. Charter stressed the reason for not choosing the current DPW location. Suggests meeting with the DPW staff for their thoughts and comments. Mr. Martin suggests town staff weigh in their thoughts and comments on the secondary site. Mr. Berry commented on the legal proposal for the parcels and how much of the town residents support the project and a town meeting involvement in the process. Mr. Mangiaratti will work with town staff with the comments and the CPC application recommendation prior to the November deadline to bring before the Board for a recommendation.

4. Discuss Increase in Dog Licensing Fee

No further decision from the Board.

5. Review Draft Warrant Article to Change Board of Selectmen to Select Board

Mr. Mangiaratti brought before the Board some communities have moved to change the name of the Board of Selectmen. Suggested using the reference to be gender specific. Town Counsel set the language to be individually referred to as “member”. Mr. Berry suggests leaving it to Town Meeting vote.

6. Approve Intermunicipal Agreement for Building Inspectional Services with the Town of Littleton

Mr. Mangiaratti has had meetings with the Town Administrator of Littleton who is in the process of hiring a building inspector since the current inspector has retired. Mr. Mangiaratti still has some language to work out to finalize the agreement. The plan would use our town staff a few hours of the week and at a fixed fee including an administrative overhead cost on a temporary basis - similar to Boxborough agreement for Veteran’s services. Mr. Berry motions to authorize the Chair to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement with Littleton as prepared by Town Counsel and the Town Manager to provide Building services to Littleton until the town is able to hire a building inspector, Mr. Benson seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries.

7. Update on North Acton Fire Station

Mr. Mangiaratti updated the Board on the NAFS and have finalized 2 schematic designs. Project budget is slightly higher at 10.9 million and will further refine costs moving forward. Meeting with the Finance Committee with the cost tomorrow and a public forum on September 18th.

8. Discuss Community Compact Agreement Best Practices Program

Director of Intergovernmental Affairs Austin Cyganiewicz presented to the Board several best practices in regards to the goals of the Board for grants to help complete several sustainability goals of the Board. Energy and Environmental Sustainability – can enact 2 best practices. Mr. Mangiaratti recommends bringing best practices back at a future meeting to vote on 2 to apply for a grant.



9. Discuss Boston Metropolitan Planning Organization MAGIC Seat
Mr. Cyganiewicz's original goals were to attend regional meetings and Acton is a member of MPO. Having Acton on the Board would have a substantial influence since Acton has a strong transportation service; also Kelley's Corner was voted on the TIP and work program. Looking for every fall MPO elects 4 municipal seats and one is a MAGIC seat. Acton is a member of MAGIC. Acton is a lead agent for CTC. An election will be held in the end of October.
10. Joint Meeting with the Acton Water District Commissioners
Members of the Board of Commissioners (Stephen Stunz, Erika Amir-Lin, Barry Rosen) met with the Board of Selectmen as posted on both agendas to discuss. Mr. Mangiaratti commented that the WRAC made recommendations to the BOS and one recommendation was to engage in long term planning regarding water supply with the town and part of the initiative was to start a conversation with the AWD, whether a formal collaboration or begin a communication channel. Board members questioned the Commissioners regarding looking for other sources of waters to prepare for crisis or growth causing increase in consumption, Mr. Steven Stunz commented that water use runs in peaks and valleys sporadically though out the year, and feels comfortable with their current design. Mr. Martin questioned about bringing unused wells back into service if the need arises. Mr. Stunz commented that permitting process for wells currently takes 5 years, linking up to another service (MWRA) would cost up to 30 million, Acton has a full supply compared to other communities. MWRA will not assist in the hookup to the service – it is on the cost of the town. Mr. Martin questioned about their master plan, future studies. Mr. Berry asked the Commissioners regarding the WRAC recommendation request and support for a 50 year plan for future needs for water in Acton. Willing to participate in a municipal study and willing to work with future Select Boards what to do when there is a potential issue in the future. Willing to work and educate with regards to their master plan. WRAC was looking for the initial financial support was for 50K for a study. Commissioner Erika Amir-Lin commented that it would be helpful for the town to assist on the enforcement and education on water use. No further discussion.

III. Consent Items

Mr. Benson held consent item 15. Mr. Berry held consent item 16 to clarify the conflict of interest disclosure. Mr. Charter held consent item 25. Mr. Charter moves to approve consent items 11-14, Mr. Benson seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries. Mr. Benson moves to approve consent items 16-24, Mr. Martin seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries. Mr. Martin moves to approve consent items 25-38, Mr. Charter seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries. Mr. Benson moves to not approve the refund request from consent item 15, Mr. Martin seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries. Mr. Charter held consent item 25 to thank the Town Manager for his leadership and acknowledging Arbor Day which brings the town closer to a Tree City USA status.

Mr. Martin moves to adjourn, Mr. Benson seconds. The Board voted 5-0. The motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 9:48 PM.



Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

- Avalon Acton Phase II Regulatory Agreement
- Meeting Minutes, June 28 and August 5, 2019
- Executive Session Minutes
- Amendment to SPSP#10/01/2018-471 Decision, Household Goods, 530 Main Street
- Building Permit Refund Request, Hossein Jowkar
- Conflict of Interest Disclosure, Austin Cyganiewicz
- Street Use Permit Request, Ride to Defeat ALS, September 22, 2019
- Eagle Scout Court of Honor, Winston Thompson and Yuuta Aoki, September 29, 2019
- Committee Appointment, Joanne Bissetta
- Committee Appointment, Franny Osman
- Committee Appointment, Joan Burrows
- Committee Appointment, Pesha Kokis
- Committee Appointment, Jim Snyder-Grant
- Committee Appointment, Arthur Leavens
- 2019 Proclamation of Arbor Day
- Accept Gift, Acton Police Department
- Accept Gift, Acton Fire Department
- Accept Gift, Recreation Department from Norman Provencher and Barbara Lankford
- Accept Gift, Recreation Department from Dr. Margaret Rudgard Bradley
- Accept Gift, Natural Resources
- One Day Alcoholic Beverage License Application, Nashoba Valley Neighbors Club
- One Day Alcoholic Beverage License Application, Concord River Financial
- One Day Alcoholic Beverage License Application, Rebecca Madden
- One Day Alcoholic Beverage License Application, Iron Works Farm in Acton, Inc.
- Request for Waiver of License Fee, Iron Works Farm in Acton, Inc.
- One Day Alcoholic Beverage License Application, Sisterhood Congregational Beth Elohim
- Request for Waiver of License Fee, Sisterhood Congregational Beth Elohim
- Request for Extension of Operating Hours, Red Raven
- Community Compact Best Practices Memo
- Memo Regarding the Boston Metropolitan Planning Organization MAGIC Seat