

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Francis A. Hegarty, Chairman
Robert F. Brady, Jr., Clerk
Steven P. Rose, Associate

Town of Avon Massachusetts

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Michael McCue, Town Administrator



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 2013 7:30 P.M.

Members present: Francis A. Hegarty, Chairman
Steven P. Rose
Robert F. Brady, Jr.

Others present: Michael McCue, Town Administrator
Joseph Lalli, Town Counsel

Chairman Hegarty called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with all members present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairman Hegarty called for a moment of silence in memory of Earl E. Peterson who passed away. Mr. Peterson served as a member of the Board of Health Board for many years.

Mr. Brady made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday, January 3, 2013 (Regular Session) as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rose. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Brady made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday, January 3, 2013 (Executive Session) as submitted. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Water Commissioners Peter Marinelli and Charles Comeau, Jr. appeared before the Board at 7:35 p.m. Mr. Marinelli reported that by February 1, 2013 a candidate for the Water Superintendent's position should be selected. Interviews have been completed. Mr. Marinelli stated that things are going well. Mr. McEntee is back at work.

At 7:40 p.m. Robert Neal Borden appeared before the Board to present his Eagle Scout service project for the Board's approval.

Mr. Borden would like to clean up and improve the system of trails within the woods of DeMarco Park. This would involve clearing trails of trash and fallen branches, building simple benches along different parts of the trails and setting up markers for tree identification and areas

of historical significance. The project would also include building a new sign board at the front entrance which would display a map of the park with trails marked and some historical information regarding the history of the orphanage.

Mr. Borden expects the project to require approximately 240 hours of work with a cost of \$500.00 for materials. He plans on doing some fundraising in order to raise funds to cover the cost of the materials.

Chairman Hegarty stated he is in favor of the project and remarked that if the Board can be of any assistance to him, Mr. Borden should let them know. This project would benefit the community.

Mr. Rose made a motion to allow Robert Neal Borden to move forward with his Eagle Scout Service project. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All were in favor.

7:45 p.m.—Public Hearing on FY 2013 Massachusetts CDBG Program Grant Application

Ms. Kathleen Kelleher of Community Opportunities Group, Inc. appeared before the Board. Ms. Kelleher gave a general overview and provided information on the proposed grant application.

The Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant Program grants are provided through Title I of the Housing and Community Developments Act of 1974. For the Federal fiscal year 2013 application cycle, the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development is making funding available to non-entitlement Massachusetts communities through its Community Development Fund program. The Town of Avon has a Community wide Needs Score (CWNS) of 28 and is a CDF I community. The Town of West Bridgewater has a CWNS of 26 and has been invited by the Town of Avon to join it in a regional application to the CDF I pool. The Town of Avon may apply for up to \$1,000,000 as a CDF community in a regional grant with multiple activities.

Ms. Kelleher explained all activities using CDBG funds must meet one of the following national objectives:

- (1) Provide benefit to low and moderate income persons
- (2) Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blights
- (3) Meet a critical community need (defined as an unanticipated event such as a disaster)

Avon is proposing to submit a FY 13 Community Development Fund I grant application containing at least two projects/programs. One program will be a regional housing rehabilitation program to be implemented town-wide in Avon due to its population being fewer than 5000 people and a defined community development target area in West Bridgewater. The goal is to rehabilitate up to 20 units of housing—ten in each community.

Avon Community Development Strategy

- A. Housing—the goal is to support the construction, redevelopment, rehabilitation or preservation of housing to ensure that people of all abilities, income levels and household types have access to suitable affordable, safe and decent housing.
- B. Social Services—the goal is to ensure that all Avon residents, especially elderly, disabled, lower income and disadvantaged residents have access to needed services so that they can attain or maintain economic, social and physical independence to the greatest extent possible—to expand outreach services to Avon seniors and people with disabilities—especially residents who are homebound, per the recommendation of the 2010 Community Needs Assessment and Action Plan
- C. Economic Development—the goal is to support the continued health, vitality and expansion of the Town’s commercial and industrial base as a source of jobs and to meet the retail and service needs for residents and tax revenue for Town government, while balancing environmental and quality life concerns
- D. Public Infrastructure, Community Facilities and Environmental Quality—the goal is to ensure that the Town’s infrastructure and facilities meet the needs of Avon’s population by placing a priority on reuse, rehabilitation and expansion of existing facilities where feasible

This Community Development Strategy is highly consistent with the Commonwealth’s Sustainable Development Principles. It recognizes that existing development patterns need to be preserved and enhanced. The CDS’s emphasis is on reuse and redevelopment.

Community Development Priorities for Avon

The following priorities were discussed with the Board and reflect conclusions and recommendations of existing plans and studies and input from local officials, town staff and residents:

- 1. Construction of a new public safety facility
- 2. Completion and approval of an Economic Target Area application with the City of Brockton (and other surrounding communities) and continued Town support of commercial/industrial sector
- 3. Improving condition of housing stock throughout Town
- 4. Maintaining, expanding or improving services to elderly and non-elderly residents relating to economic, health, social and housing security and self-sufficiency

Ms. Kelleher discussed with the Board Sustainable Development Principles as follows:

- 1. Concentrate Development and Mix Uses
- 2. Advance Equity
- 3. Make Efficient Decisions
- 4. Protect Land and Ecosystems
- 5. Use Natural Resources wisely
- 6. Expand Housing Opportunities

7. Provide Transportation Choice
8. Increase Job and Business Opportunities
9. Promote Clean Energy
10. Plan Regionally

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve Avon's FY13 revised Community Development Strategy and authorized the Town of Avon to submit a FY13 CDBG CDF I joint application with the Town of West Bridgewater with Avon as the lead community; grant not to exceed \$1 million dollars. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Brady made a motion to approve all vouchers for the payment of bills, including Paolini Corp. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

February meeting dates were announced as follows:

Thursday, February 7, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 21, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

A request was received from Avon Fish & Game Association for a one-day special alcohol permit for February 10, 2013. Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the one-day special alcohol permit for Avon Fish & Game Association on February 10, 2013. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All were in favor.

A temporary sign permit request was received from Affordable Furniture to Go at 75 Stockwell Drive to display two banners advertising "Tax Refund Sale." Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the temporary sign permit for Affordable Furniture to be displayed from February 1st through February 24th. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

A temporary sign permit request was received from Independence Foods, LLC at 20 Memorial Drive to display one banner advertising a promotion.

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the temporary sign permit request for Independence Foods, LLC at 20 Memorial Drive to display one banner for the period February 1, 2013 through March 31, 2013. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Hegarty announced a letter of resignation was received from Personnel Board member Sherry Madore, effective January 14, 2013. Chairman Hegarty asked Mr. McCue to send a letter of thanks to Mrs. Madore.

Chairman Hegarty reported there are openings to serve on the Personnel Board. A letter of interest should be send to Town Moderator Frank Staffier via the Avon Town Hall.

Industrial Development Finance Authority

Mr. Rose made a motion to appoint the Board of Selectmen as the Industrial Development Finance Authority since all former members have expired. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. McCue reported a meeting was held with the auditors. The auditors discussed a few minor managerial items that needed to be tuned up.

The Vehicle Usage Policy was distributed and signature pages are being returned to the Town Administrator's office.

Documentation was received from the Commonwealth of Mass. Archives/Records Management Unit providing information and a timeline for the destruction of certain types of records.

Four (4) appointed Constables for the Town of Avon have returned their paperwork acknowledging receipt of the Constable Policy for the Town, adopted in 2011.

General Electric has donated partitions to the Town. Some of them can be used at Town Hall.

Chairman Hegarty asked Mr. McCue to place an advertisement in the newspaper acknowledging the Town's "sting" policy. A copy of the advertisement must be sent to all liquor license establishments in the Town.

NATIONAL GRID—JOSEPH A. CARDINAL, MANAGER, COMMUNITY AND CUSTOMER MANAGEMENT

The following individuals were in attendance to discuss a Harrison Blvd. Substation and Tap Line Project for National Grid:

Chris Novak, Legal Counsel for National Grid
George Maaximovich, Project Manager for National Grid
Sue Scarcella, Stakeholder Relations, National Grid
Chris Jayavendra, Lead Engineer, National Grid
Joe Cardinal, Community Manager, National Grid
Ken Caputo, Caputo PDS Corp.
Richard Lewis, Coneco

Attorney Novak presented the Board with a project description. National Grid is proposing to construct a Harrison Blvd. substation and Tap Line Project.

Attorney Novak reported the new substation will be a 34,500 square foot open air secure facility with a small control house and related electrical equipment. The new substation would be unmanned and therefore would require minimal use of municipal resources and services while

providing additional tax revenue to the Town of Avon. The new substation would address high load growth areas in Avon such as the Avon Industrial Park and Merchants Park through the addition of new distribution feeders. Company vehicle trips to the new substation will average approximately one per week.

An additional part of this project will convert the 4kV distribution area near West Main Street and Memorial Drive to 13.8 kV. This conversion will support further business development in these areas and improve reliability.

Mr. George Maximovich, Project Manager for National Grid, discussed the anticipated permits and approvals that would be necessary, such as an Order of Conditions from the Avon Conservation Commission, special permit from the Avon Zoning Board of Appeals, site plan review approval from the Avon Planning Board, Building permits, etc.

At 9:00 p.m. all attendees for the National Grid proposed project departed.

At 9:05 p.m., Mr. Rose made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss ongoing litigation. Mr. Brady seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Rose voted aye

Mr. Brady voted aye

Chairman Hegarty voted aye

The Board would not reconvene in Open Session.

Chairman Hegarty announced that on February 23rd the Town of Avon would be kicking off its 125th Anniversary Gala at the Shaws Center. Tickets are available at Town Hall and the Avon Public Library.

Respectfully submitted,



Miriam Rothstein

Secretary