

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

Francis T. Crimmins, Jr.
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town of Avon Massachusetts

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2016 7:30 P.M.

Members present:

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

Others present:

Francis T. Crimmins, Jr., Town Administrator
Shanna M. Faro, Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator
Joseph S. Lalli, Town Counsel
William Fitzgerald, DPW Director
Gene Mazzella, COA Director
Karen Johnson, Library Director
Raymond Guarino, Senior Transportation Planner, OCPC
Stanley Usovich, Government Affairs, Verizon
Gregory Franks, Comcast

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

Executive Assistant Shanna Faro led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Rose made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday, July 7, 2016 (Regular Session) as read.
Chairman Hegarty seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Rose made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday, July 7, 2016 (Executive Session) as read.
Chairman Hegarty seconded the motion. The motion carried.

7:45 p.m. – Raymond Guarino, Senior Transportation Planner for Old Colony Planning Council

Raymond Guarino appeared before the Board at 7:45 p.m. to discuss a Route 28 Corridor Study which he has been working on to flag problem intersections and advise the Board of some recommendations from his study. Mr. Guarino informed the Board that the most problematic intersections for the Town are the East Main Street (Route 28)/East Spring Street/West Spring Street intersection. There were a number of issues identified and discussed at the Road Safety Audit ("RSA") regarding traffic operations and safety, which included: unclear lane usage, sight distance and roadway geometry limitations, worn pavement markings, limited pedestrian accessibility, worn and/or limited signage, congestion and driver frustration and heavy vehicle activity. Mr. Guarino informed the Board that the RSA included a number of recommendations to alleviate some of these problems such as: full signalization of the intersection, evaluate the feasibility and appropriateness of adding street lighting, improve visibility, reevaluate the

crosswalk locations at the intersection, replace the damaged guide signs, consider adding a "No U-Turn" sign, and finally having Mass DOT explore the potential for grant opportunities through the Executive Office of Public Safety to fund the use of a speed trailer to monitor and focus on speed enforcement. After his presentation, Chairman Hegarty commented to Mr. Guarino that unfortunately the Town receives little help from the State and Mass DOT on funding for our problematic roads such as Harrison Boulevard and Route 28. Chairman Hegarty stated that stretch of the road in which Mr. Guarino did a study on has seen many fatalities over the years, including pedestrian fatalities. Chairman Hegarty thanked Mr. Guarino for his efforts and advised him to keep working on the project as he would love to see it come to fruition one day.

8:00 p.m. – Discussion Regarding Status of Double Poles with Verizon and Comcast

Stanley Usovicz of Verizon and Gregory Franks of Comcast approached the Board at 8:00 p.m. Chairman Hegarty expressed his concern about the number of double poles and the process of getting all the wires transferred to one pole. Chairman Hegarty informed Mr. Usovicz and Mr. Franks that according to Joseph Cardinal of National Grid, the latest wire transfer count is 9 poles remaining needing wire transfers from National Grid, 16 poles for Comcast and 182 poles for Verizon. Chairman Hegarty asked each gentleman how we can go about completing this project in a timely manner. Mr. Usovicz spoke first, introducing himself as the Government Relations Specialist for Verizon. Mr. Usovicz stated that the Verizon strike which lasted almost 50 days has really put his company behind on this project. Mr. Usovicz informed the Board that his company will begin working in mid-August on the transfers. Chairman Hegarty asked Mr. Usovicz if this project could be conceivably finished before the winter. Mr. Usovicz was not able to provide the Board with a date for project completion. Chairman Hegarty informed Mr. Usovicz that if the project is not completed before snowfall, the main impact will be on the streets where the double poles impact the DPW from plowing sidewalks. Chairman Hegarty stated that the DPW cannot remove snow in areas where there are double poles and the Town does not want to take a chance on hitting a pole causing it to become loose. Furthermore, Chairman Hegarty advised Mr. Usovicz to place priority on wherever there are double poles located within sidewalks as the Board received numerous complaints last winter from residents. Mr. Rose also expressed his desire to have this project finalized before winter due to safety concerns. Mr. Rose stated that every street in Avon is important to the Board of Selectmen and hoped that Verizon will place the Town on its top priority list.

Mr. Franks introduced himself as a Government Affairs representative for Comcast, who came in place of Avon's representative Catherine Maloney, who had a previous commitment and could not be in attendance. Mr. Franks informed the Board that with respect to the 16 poles needing transfers from his company, he plans to have those poles taken care of within the two weeks, concluding the project for Comcast.

Satisfied with their responses, Chairman Hegarty informed Mr. Usovicz that the Board will want to meet with him again in the fall to get a status report on the project.

8:15 p.m. – Columbia Gas – Street Opening Procedures and Status of Last Season's Projects

A representative from Columbia Gas failed to appear for the 8:15 p.m. hearing. Chairman Hegarty made a motion to deny all requests from Columbia Gas for street opening permits on tonight's agenda for lack of courtesy from the gas company's representative to show up to the hearing. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All were in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were no items on the agenda for Unfinished Business to be discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointments for New Employees

Mr. Rose made a motion to appoint Matthew Keenan to the position of Counselor for the Park & Recreation Commission's Summer Program at a Grade 8, Step 1 rate of \$10.26 per hour with the stipulation that Mr. Keenan meet all of the Town of Avon's pre-employment requirements. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Brady made a motion to appoint Patricia Pepe to the position of Administrative Assistant I for the Council on Aging at a Grade OAL 2, Step 1 rate of \$16.71 per hour. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mr. Crimmins informed the Board of Selectmen that Ms. Pepe was present and in the audience to which the Board personally congratulated Ms. Pepe on her appointment and welcomed her as a new employee to the Town of Avon.

Columbia Gas Requests

There were three requests on the agenda for street opening permits from Columbia Gas for the following addresses: (1) 58 Robbins Lane; (2) the intersection of Robbins Lane and High Street; and (3) 20 East Main Street. Chairman Hegarty made a motion to deny all requests from Columbia Gas for street opening permits on tonight's agenda for lack of courtesy from the gas company's representative to show up to the hearing. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Appointment of Election Workers for Fiscal Year 2017

The Town Clerk requested the following people be appointed as Election Workers for Fiscal Year 2017.

Jean Kopke, 48 Page St. (U)	Warden
Charles J. Vuytowecz (U)	Deputy Warden (Presidential)
Faith Simon, 1 Park Hill Rd. (U)	Checker
Carol Geary, 325 East Main St. (D)	Checker
Joanne Grenham, 86 Pond St. (U)	Checker
Julia Fasano, 16 Freeman St. (U)	Checker
Margaret Cain, 250 Pond St. (D)	Checker
Margaret Rudy, 20 Fletcher St. (D)	Checker
Patricia Olson, 184 East Spring St. (D)	Checker
Linda Chute, 17 South St. (D)	Checker
Alison Ferro, 20 School St. ((D)	Checker
Carla Costa	Office, Relief, Count
Sally Theil	Office, Relief, Count
Doreen Gouthro	Office, Relief, Count

Mr. Brady made a motion to appoint the above-named individuals as Election Workers for the Fiscal Year 2017. Mr. Rose seconded the motion with discussion. Mr. Rose questioned whether we need to follow some percentage of the parties for the upcoming elections. Chairman Hegarty replied in the negative for poll workers, however, that requirement is needed for the Registrar of Voters. The motion carried.

State Primary Warrant

Mr. Brady made a motion to sign the warrant for the State Primary on September 8, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Chairman Hegarty advised residents that this election will be held on a Thursday instead of a Tuesday, which is the typical day of the week for elections.

County Tax for Norfolk County

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the County Tax for Norfolk County in the amount of \$39,050.82 for Fiscal Year 2017. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. Chairman Hegarty recused himself from voting. The motion carried.

Correspondence

Mr. Crimmins stated to the Board that he received correspondence early this morning from Tracy Self on behalf of the Designer Selection Committee submitting the detailed Request for Proposal ("RFP") for selecting an Owner's Project Manager for the new Police Station. Mr. Crimmins informed the Board that Ms. Self stated in her e-mail that the goal was to get the RFP in the Central Register by August 1, 2016. Mr. Crimmins stated he put this item on the agenda tonight so that Town Counsel will have an opportunity to review the RFP. Chairman Hegarty suggested Town Counsel review the RFP and consult with the Chair of the Designer Selection Committee so that this project can keep moving forward. Mr. Rose made a motion for the Town Administrator and Town Counsel to review the Request for Proposal with the Designer Selection Committee Chair and have the proposal prepared for publication on August 1, 2016. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Hegarty acknowledged correspondence from Marc J. Goldstein of Beveridge & Diamond dated July 1, 2016 regarding Motions for Reconsideration and to Reopen Record regarding TLA-Holbrook LLC Municipal Waste Transfer Station.

Chairman Hegarty acknowledged several letters from the Building Inspector regarding several residences and local businesses in violation of the Town's bylaws.

Approval of Vouchers for the Payment of Bills

Mr. Rose made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Announcements

Chairman Hegarty announced the August meeting of the Board will be held on August 18, 2016.

Chairman Hegarty announced that Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito will be coming to Avon Town Hall on Tuesday, July 26, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. to sign the Community Compact Agreement, which will allow the Town to qualify for grant money. Chairman Hegarty invited residents to attend on Tuesday.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Crimmins informed the Board that the Summer 2016 Newsletter has been a big hit. He has heard from numerous people that they like the new full color version of the newsletter. Mr. Crimmins stated that he received a call from a reporter from the Boston Globe who read the newsletter and wanted more information on the Town's new recycling program. Mr. Crimmins thanked Shanna Faro for her work on the newsletter.

Mr. Crimmins informed the Board that his office has also been busy dealing with numerous Human Resources issues. Ms. Faro is working on getting all the Human Resources files in one central location and facilitating new hiring forms.

Department of Public Works – Bill Fitzgerald was here tonight to address the number of street opening requests.

Treasurer/Collector – Deb Morin provided the Board with an update on the property now owned by the Town at 29 Memorial Drive. The locksmith has installed new locks and keys for the property. There are no longer any tenants in the building. Assistant Assessor Paul Sullivan will be providing the Board with an assessment of the property at the next meeting.

Town Accountant – Shannon MacKenzie is currently working on determining the free cash amount and setting the tax rate.

Town Clerk – Patricia Bessette reminds Boards and Committees to post agendas and file minutes with the Town Clerk's office. Her office then posts all agendas and minutes online. The Town's website will be getting a facelift and Ms. Bessette is in the process of starting that project. The Town Clerk's office will also be dealing with the new "Early Voting" for this coming election season which will require ballots at the ready, a place for residents to vote and a secure place to hold those ballots.

Board of Assessors – The Board of Assessors held a meeting tonight. Paul Sullivan has been very helpful with various projects such as the property at 29 Memorial Drive.

Building Inspector – Bob Borden has been very busy with code enforcement lately and sending out letters to residents and businesses in violation.

Board of Health – Tara Tradd reports that the recycling program is off to a great start. The newsletter addressed many questions from residents about the new program.

Library – Karen Johnson will be entering a new phase in her life shortly and there will news of a function shortly to celebrate her years of service.

Council on Aging – Gene Mazzella is doing some great things at the Council on Aging. The Council on Aging has had more meetings in the past few months than they have had in years. Mr. Crimmins thanked Jean Kopke for all of her assistance prior to Mr. Mazzella being hired as the new Director.

IT – Geno Gingras played a great part in getting the Community Compact Agreement signed. Mr. Crimmins thanked him for all of his help.

Town Counsel – Mr. Lalli informed the Board that he is working on a couple of ongoing contracts with vendors that need to be corrected. He has made a change in some agreements due to liability.

Reconvene and Adjournment

At 8:50 p.m., Chairman Hegarty requested the Board enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation, Collective Bargaining with Union Bargaining Units such as AFSCME, Police, and Fire, and Employment Agreements with Non-Union Personnel, all of which could prove detrimental if discussed during Open Session. The Board would reconvene in Open Session to confirm any pending action as a result of actions in Executive Session. Mr. Rose made a motion for the Board to enter into Executive Session. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All were in favor.

A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Brady voted aye.

Mr. Rose voted aye.

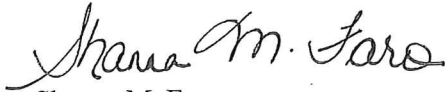
Mr. Hegarty voted aye.

At 11:45 p.m., Mr. Brady made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene in Open Session. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Rose made a motion to ratify the vote made in the Executive Session for Chairman Hegarty to sign and execute the letter notifying Chief Spurr of the Town's ninety (90) day notice of termination of his Employment Agreement. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried

At 11:47 p.m., Mr. Rose made a motion to adjourn the Open Session. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shanna M. Faro". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Shanna M. Faro
Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator