

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Francis A. Hegarty, Chairman

Steven P. Rose, Clerk

Robert F. Brady, Jr., Associate

Michael McCue, Town Administrator

# Town of Avon Massachusetts

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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2014  
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.

Police Chief Warren Phillips led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Brady made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday, February 20, 2014 (Regular Session) as submitted. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Brady made a motion to approve the minutes of Monday, March 3, 2014 (Workshop Meeting) as written. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Brady made a motion to approve the minutes of Monday, December 2, 2013 (Joint Meeting Avon and Holbrook Boards/School Committees) as submitted. Chairman Hegarty seconded the motion. Mr. Rose abstained from voting. The motion carried.

At 7:35 p.m. State Representative William Galvin appeared before the Board. Senator Brian Joyce was unable to attend the meeting. Representative Galvin reported that Senator Joyce was still at the State House finishing the Transportation Bond Bill this evening.

Chairman Hegarty stated that there are several important issues facing Avon and asked for Representative Galvin's assistance wherever possible. Chairman Hegarty asked for Representative Galvin's support in Chapter 90 funding for the Town. Chairman Hegarty reported there is funding waiting to be released by the Governor. If there is anything he can do to expedite the release of these funds, it would be greatly appreciated.

Chairman Hegarty explained that Avon receives very little state aid due to the local aid formula. The formula as it is now is hurting the Town.

Chairman Hegarty discussed the Chapter 70 formula and feels the state is not giving Avon a fair shake in Chapter 70 funding.

OPEB was discussed. Chairman Hegarty reported the state has to do something to provide cities and towns with some relief for retirees' benefits.

Chairman Hegarty brought up the issue of MASS DOT with Representative Galvin. The Town could use some assistance with Harrison Blvd., especially at the intersection of East Main and Harrison Blvd. The Town needs help cleaning up the brush in that area. Trucks pull off the road dropping debris. Chairman Hegarty asked if there is any way Mass. Highway can block off that area. Trucks should not be allowed to stop there.

A discussion followed regarding the unbearable amount of traffic on Harrison Blvd. where residents on the side streets cannot get out of their street.

The Board discussed the Holbrook Transfer Station and its concern with truck traffic. There is enough truck traffic in the Town and the Board does not want any other truck traffic through the Town of Avon.

Chairman Hegarty mentioned the cost of public safety where Avon services Route 24 as first responders to accidents.

Representative Galvin stated he would look into all the matters presented this evening and would get back to the Board. At 8:10 p.m. Representative Galvin departed.

**POLICE CHIEF WARREN PHILLIPS AND HIGHWAY FOREMAN PETER MARINELLI**

Mr. Rose opened up the discussion commenting what a terrific job the Highway Department did on the roads this winter.

Chairman Hegarty stated a situation exists after a storm where sidewalks are impassable by private plows or the homeowner. Snow is being thrown on to the sidewalk. How do we attack this problem?

Mr. Marinelli stated he ran into difficulty plowing sidewalks around West High Street where telephone poles are in the way. Sidewalks are cleaned around the Avon schools first so that school can first.

Police Chief Warren Phillips reported that we should educate the public about the sidewalks and keeping them clear of snow. He believes communication is the key to this issue.

Chairman Hegarty mentioned using Virtual Town Hall which has the capability for public announcements for those who sign up.

Town Administrator McCue reported a spring Newsletter will be coming out as an insert to the "Moneysaver" next week. The front page of the newsletter can place in bold any announcements that residents must know about or if something is happening such as Town Election, Town Meetings, etc.

The Board also agreed to notify AIPA regarding plowing of parking lots in the Industrial Park. Any business that does not comply would be subject to warnings/fines for snow removal violations.

Chief Phillips and Mr. Marinelli departed at 8:30 p.m.

A request for a one-day special permit was received from Avon Fish & Game Association for Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the one-day special alcohol permit for Avon Fish & Game Association for Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> and the license is valid from March 14<sup>th</sup> through March 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All were in favor.

A request for a temporary sign permit was received from Affordable Furniture at 75 Stockwell Drive to display two (2) banners advertising a "March Madness" sale from March 14<sup>th</sup> through April 6<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the temporary sign permit for Affordable Furniture to display two (2) banners from March 14<sup>th</sup> through April 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Rose made a suggestion to request Affordable Furniture to get an up to date authorization letter from the landlord. The last authorization letter was dated October 25, 2013. The Board agreed.

On the recommendation of Town Administrator McCue, Mr. Brady made a motion to hire Stephen Smith to the position of Water Department Laborer at Grade PW1, Step 1, at \$19.77 per hour, contingent upon successful fulfillment of the Town of Avon hiring policies. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

A resignation letter was received from Arthur Dramin, Outreach Coordinator for the Council on Aging, effective March 14, 2014.

Mr. Brady made a motion to accept Mr. Dramin's resignation as Outreach Coordinator for the Council on Aging with regret. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

On a motion made by Mr. Rose, seconded by Mr. Brady, it was unanimously voted to approve all vouchers for the payment of bills as submitted.

At 8:40 p.m. Mr. Rose made a motion to convene in Executive Session for the purpose of collective bargaining and the AFSCME Union to discuss strategy with respect to litigation as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body, so declared by the Chair. 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.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Miriam Rothstein".

Miriam Rothstein

Secretary