

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

Francis T. Crimmins, Jr.
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town of Avon Massachusetts



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2015 JAN 23 AM 10:24
TOWN CLERK

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2015 7:30 p.m.

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

Others present: Francis T. Crimmins, Jr., Town Administrator
Joseph Lalli, Town Counsel

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

Selectman Rose led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Brady made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday, December 18, 2014 (Regular Session) as written. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All were in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chairman Hegarty asked if there was any Unfinished Business to come before the Board. Town Administrator Crimmins reported there were two items. Town Administrator Crimmins asked the Chairman if he was in possession of the Call Firefighters contract with the Town of Avon. Chairman Hegarty replied "yes" that he has the original. The second item is the signing of a Settlement Agreement and General Release of Claims regarding a construction case with the Town where two changes in language were made.

Mr. Brady made a motion to sign an agreement between the Town of Avon and the Avon Firefighter's Relief Association for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS – ANNUAL REAPPOINTMENT OF CONSTABLES TO 12/31/15

The following individuals submitted the proper forms for reappointment as a Constable in the Town of Avon with a term to expire of December 31, 2015:

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Mr. David Asiaf | 1135 N. Main Street | Brockton, MA 02305 |
| 2. Mr. Jerold Loomis | 2 Chestnut Lane | Holbrook, MA 02343 |
| 3. Mr. Harold March | 10 Seminole Rd. | Canton, MA 02021 |
| 4. Mr. David DiCenso | 9 Lydon Lane, Unit C-1 | Halifax, MA 02338 |

Mr. Brady made a motion to appoint the above mentioned individuals as previously read as a Constable for the Town of Avon, with a term to expire of December 31, 2015.

APPROVAL OF GIFT ACCEPTANCE TO THE AVON PUBLIC LIBRARY

A gift was received from the McElaney Scholarship Fund to the Avon Public Library in the amount of \$4,550 to benefit all the citizens of the Town of Avon.

Mr. Brady made a motion to accept the gift from the McElaney Scholarship Fund to the Avon Public Library in the amount of \$4,550. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Chairman Hegarty stated he would like a letter drafted to Mr. John B. McCann, Jr. for his generosity in donating funds to the Avon Public Library.

A gift was received from Theodore Lang to the Council on Aging in memory of Peg Meninno.

Mr. Brady made a motion to accept the donation to the Council on Aging in memory of Peg Meninno, who served on the Old Colony Elder Services Board of Directors for many years. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

A request for a temporary sign permit was received from Jordan's Furniture advertising the "Enchanted Village" through March 1, 2015.

Mr. Brady made a motion to approve a temporary sign permit for Jordan's Furniture through March 1, 2015 advertising the "Enchanted Village." Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

A request for a temporary sign permit was received from Christmas Tree Shops advertising a "Clearance Sale" through January 31, 2015.

Mr. Brady made a motion to approve a temporary sign permit for Christmas Tree Shops advertising a "Clearance Sale" through January 31, 2015. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Hegarty reported a Class II license holder, Brian White, D/B/A Cycle Performance, at 271 East High Street, requires the Board's vote to extend his Class II license to December 31, 2015, instead of February 3, 2015. Mr. White's bond has now been posted through the end of this year.

Mr. Brady made a motion to extend the Class II license for Brian White, D/B/A Cycle Performance through December 31, 2015. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All were in favor.

7:45 p.m.—Public Hearing to discuss the progress of the FY 2013 Community Development Fund I grant and the Town's proposed application to the Mass. Dept. of Housing and Community Development for funding from its FY 2015 CDF Program; request for two (2) single case waivers

Chairman Hegarty read the Notice of Public Hearing for the FY '13 CDBG report and the FY 2015 Massachusetts CDBG Program grant application.

Ms. Kathleen Kelleher, representative of the Avon Office of Community Development, appeared before the Board. Ms. Kelleher had three (3) items to discuss with the Board.

1. Report on the FY '13 Community Development Fund I Grant

The Town of Avon and West Bridgewater joined together to establish a Regional Housing Rehabilitation Program which would rehabilitate approximately 13 units of housing in each Town (26 in total). Assistance would be provided to low and moderate income households in the form of 0% deferred payment loans. The Town of Avon received \$809,000 for the FY 2013 Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant Program. The Avon-West Bridgewater regional grant also received support of a public social service activity that funds additional Councils on Aging outreach staff time in both Avon and West Bridgewater. The grant award is being split 50-50.

Ms. Kelleher reported the grant runs through June 30, 2015. Currently, there are 35 applicants on a waiting list.

Ms. Kelleher explained the income guidelines to be eligible for housing assistance.

2. Proposed New FY '15 Community Development Block Grant with West Bridgewater

Ms. Kelleher reported the new grant application would have two components; one would be housing rehabilitation and the other component would be staff support for the COA Outreach Worker. The grant would consist of less than 26 units; the new grant would allow approximately ten (10) units per Town. The grant would not exceed one million dollars. The application is due on Friday, February 13, 2015.

Chairman Hegarty asked "can we assist the Avon Housing Authority if funding is available"? Ms. Kelleher responded that in 2010 there was a window of time where the State allowed CDBG funds to be used for public housing. She informed that Board that she would look into the matter.

Ms. Kelleher proceeded to speak about the grant application, the community development strategy and sustainable development principles. Avon may apply for up to one million dollars as a CDF I community in a regional grant with multiple activities.

Town Administrator Crimmins informed the Board that he has spoken with David Gagne, Town Administrator of West Bridgewater, and has had outstanding feedback on Ms. Kelleher and the administration of the current grant.

Mr. Rose made a motion “to authorize the Town of Avon to submit a FY 2015 Community Development Block Grant Community Development Fund I joint application with the Town of West Bridgewater, with Avon as the lead community. The grant is not to exceed \$1 million dollars.” Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

3. Request for a single case waiver—Avon case #49

Ms. Kelleher reported there originally was a request for two single case waivers. However, one was taken care of.

Ms. Kelleher is asking for the Board’s approval for a single case waiver. A single case waiver is required for a housing rehabilitation project where the budget exceeds the \$35,000 per unit spending cap.

Ms. Kelleher explained there was a mitigating drainage issue that required an additional \$5000 above the cap.

On December 29, 2014 the Avon-West Bridgewater Community Development Advisory Committee, made up of two Avon and two West Bridgewater residents, unanimously voted to recommend granting the Single Case Waiver.

Mr. Brady made a motion to grant the waiver to \$40,000 for Avon case #49. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The Board thanked Ms. Kelleher for her presentation.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The spring burning season is in effect. Residents may register online at www.avonmass.org without having to contact the Avon Fire Department.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Mr. Crimmins notified the Board to review the handout given to them regarding a Settlement Agreement with the Town of Avon and a construction company.

Mr. Crimmins reported there are many “hits” on our website www.avonmass.org.

Town Accountant Shannon MacKenzie is very busy with budgets! Ms. MacKenzie reported the IRS rates are out and set at 57.5 cents per mile for employees.

Police Chief Martineau has asked for some assistance to formulate a posting for the MMA to advertise for a patrolman.

The Public Safety Building Committee met and presented the Board with a Power Point presentation. The Committee is looking at the Crowley School site for a new public safety building.

DPW Director William Fitzgerald has informed the public about the National Grid project on Harrison Blvd.

Treasurer/Collector—reported tax bills are out and due on Monday, February 2nd.

The Board of Assessors is working on 2015 exemptions. The Assessors recently met with Attorney Ellen Hutchinson and the Appellate Tax Board.

Town Clerk Patricia Bessette has been busy with nomination papers, the State's Conflict of Interest Law, vital statistics and preparation of a "Candidates Guide" handout. Census materials have been mailed.

Building Inspector Borden is working on an estimate to complete the work in Town Hall. Thank you for his assistance in the renovation. Mr. Crimmins notified the Board that he will be requesting authorization to transfer from the Reserve account funds to pay invoices from the Town Hall renovation that were unable to be paid due to lack of funds.

Kudos to Tara Tradd for her Title V Certification. Ms. Tradd does an excellent job informing employees of wellness program information and handouts like the "Healthy Heart through Kindness Challenge" program.

Library Director Karen Johnson wanted to notify the public that books can be delivered to those individuals who are house bound and cannot get to the Avon Public Library.

Council on Aging—Director Jane Hanley was interviewed on "Around the Cracker Barrel." The Outreach Coordinator has been busy. SHINE counseling is available through the COA. Outreach distributes information and referral on a variety of needs including fuel assistance, home delivered meals, personal emergency response systems, transportation, home repairs through Community Development, legal counseling and Old Colony Elder Services information.

Town Counsel Lalli reviewed the proposed language for the septic proposal in the Avon Industrial Park.

Finance Committee—Budgets are due to the Finance Committee by Friday, January 30, 2015.

DPW Director Bill Fitzgerald appeared before the Board. Mr. Fitzgerald stated there are two sanders to cover the entire Town. He is requesting the Board's approval to use Chapter 90 funds to upgrade the \$125,000 truck approved in last year's budget.

After some discussion, Mr. Rose made a motion to allow the DPW Director to do the necessary paperwork to MASS DOT to use Chapter 90 funds to upgrade the truck from an existing article. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT—TOWN OF AVON AND PAOLINI CORPORATION

Mr. Brady made a motion to sign the Settlement Agreement and General Release of Claims between the Town of Avon and Paolini Corporation. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

At 8:45 p.m., with all business completed, Mr. Brady made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Miriam Rothstein
Secretary