

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 APR 21 PM 3:05

TOWN CLERK

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 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
Paul Zinni, Avon School Superintendent
Avon School Committee Members

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

Town Counsel Lalli led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Brady made a motion to approve the minutes of Thursday, March 5, 2015 (Executive Session) as written. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

MEETING WITH THE AVON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

At 7:30 p.m. School Committee members Jeanne Martineau, Tracy Sheehan, Sharon Marble and Kathleen O'Reilly appeared before the Board. Also present was School Superintendent Paul Zinni. School Committee Chair Carol Marinelli was not in attendance.

Chairman Hegarty opened the meeting by stating the School Committee submitted an article to be placed on the May 5th Annual Town Meeting Warrant relative to making improvements to the Butler School Parking lot. It was the consensus of the Board of Selectmen to delete this article from the May 5th Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Chairman Hegarty explained the Public Safety Building Committee worked quickly to get their article on the warrant for a new Public Safety Building. Chairman Hegarty reported the Butler School Parking lot article had been turned down two times previously. The Board wanted the Public Safety Building Committee to present their case. The Board did not want to place two large articles on the warrant for the voters.

Mr. Brady asked the School Committee members if there was any other solution to make improvements to the Butler School Parking lot.

Jeanne Martineau, Vice Chair of the School Committee, thanked the Board for inviting the School Committee to the meeting. She stated she understood there are two important capital projects presently and one can jeopardize the other. The School Committee is very concerned with the safety of the students and the public entering and exiting the Butler School. She mentioned large potholes, traffic congestion, poor lighting and stressed what an unsafe situation exists at the Butler School in entering and exiting the building. Ms. Martineau asked the Board about the cost of the renovation of the Town Hall parking lot and wondered why the cost was so high? Chairman Hegarty responded the cost included a septic system which is attached at the front of the Town Hall parking lot.

Ms. O'Reilly stated the lines of communication need to be open with members of the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee. It has been a long time since the School Committee met with the Board. Ms. O'Reilly thanked Mr. Rose for his input regarding road improvement issues and design. The School Committee does not want to continue repairing the parking lot with band aids, but construction costs continue to rise each year. So what do they do?

A discussion followed regarding the widening of Patrick Clark Drive. Mr. Rose suggested referring the matter to our new Public Works Superintendent to see what could be done. Mr. Brady suggested knocking down the tennis courts to provide more space. Mr. Zinni responded that the berm is no good and the area is not strong enough to sustain vehicles. There are also drainage issues in that area.

Mr. Rose stated it is only recently that the Board could look at capital improvements. Historically the Town has maintained and repaired their fleet of vehicles for many years.

The Board asked Superintendent Zinni about the student enrollment at the Butler School. He reported that an extra three grades went into that building (approximately 400 students) from pre-school to kindergarten. Ms. Martineau stated there are fewer walkers. Parents drop and pick up their children, especially at the end of the day to take them to other activities. Chairman Hegarty mentioned that even though we are providing busses, parents still pick their kids up.

Mr. Brady asked if it would help congestion at the end of the day by adding a fourth bus. School committee members present did not think so.

Ms. Martineau thanked Mr. Rose and the members of the Board for their input. Ms. Martineau will contact Mr. Fitzgerald in the Public Works Department for his assistance in addressing dangerous potholes, poor lighting, etc. at the Butler School.

At 8:10 p.m., School Committee members and Superintendent Zinni departed.

NEW BUSINESS

Town Clerk Patricia Bessette is seeking permission to display 10 political signs on private property to promote her re-election for Town Clerk.

Mr. Brady made a motion to grant permission for Ms. Bessette to display 10 lawn signs on private property. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Planning Board member Robert Pillarella is seeking permission to place 8 political signs on private property to promote his re-election to the Avon Planning Board.

Mr. Brady made a motion to grant permission for Mr. Pillarella to display 8 political signs on private property to promote his re-election to the Avon Planning Board. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Police Chief David Martineau is requesting the Board's approval to hire a part-time Dispatcher to fill an existing position.

Mr. Brady made a motion to hire a part-time Dispatcher. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Hegarty announced on Saturday, May 2, 2015, the Town of Avon is hosting a Town Wide Clean Up Day. Avon residents of all ages are invited to take part in this community building event. We will meet at Town Hall at 7:30 a.m. and depart from there. Gloves and bags will be provided. Following the event, participants are welcome back to the Town Hall for a celebration cookout. If you would like to participate in the Clean Up Day, please contact Tara Tradd at the Avon Board of Health at ttradd@avonmass.org or (508) 588-0414 Ext. 1016.

Chairman Hegarty wanted to remind residents that the Annual Town Election would be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 in the Mary T. McDermott Meeting Room at the Avon Town Hall. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Kathleen Kelleher, of Community Opportunities Group, is requesting that the Town of Avon subordinate its position with regard to the two Housing Rehabilitation Program liens on case Avon FY 09 CDBG case A-09.

Mr. Brady made a motion to approve and sign the Subordination Agreement for Avon FY09 CDBG case A-09. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

DISCUSSION OF FY 2016 BUDGET

Town Administrator Crimmins reported the Annual Town Meeting Warrant was sent to the Finance Committee on March 11th. If all Annual Town Meeting articles on the warrant pass, funds will be available without going to other sources.

A discussion followed regarding the May 5th Annual Town Meeting. The Annual Town Meeting would be adjourned until Tuesday, June 9th and a debt exclusion question would be put forth to the voters regarding funding the Public Safety Building project after Labor Day.

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.

Chairman Hegarty announced that State Representative William Galvin was instrumental in having the Trash Transfer Station Bill (Bill #675) filed prohibiting DEP from licensing Trash Transfer Stations within ten (10) miles from each other. On behalf of the Board, thank you to Representative Galvin for all of his efforts.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Town Administrator Crimmins reported there is still a disparity on the fuel account amounts. He is still investigating the matter.

The next step in the Town Hall renovation project is to provide lighting in the parking lot.

The Town's website www.avon-ma.gov is up and running. The website is becoming Avon's local paper and the content of local information has become timely and informative.

Police Department—Avon's two newest part time officers have completed their Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council requirements. Soon they will be trained in patrol procedures. At the Board of Selectmen meeting of April 16th, Officer Eric Hauvuy will be promoted to the rank of Sergeant. He was the top candidate.

Fire Department—Chief Spurr reported a phone scam has been targeted for southeastern Mass. from a company asking to inspect the furnace and carbon monoxide detectors in your home. After many complaints from seniors, the Executive Office of Elder Affairs was notified. Chief Spurr indicated that only the Fire Department would issue such a call.

Department of Public Works—Superintendent Fitzgerald reported that bids for the SCADA system did get advertised and bids are due and would be opened on April 9th at 1:00 p.m.

Finance Committee—the Finance Committee has a new member; Gary F. Martin, appointment effective Monday, March 30, 2015.

Treasurer/Collector—Deb Morin submits monthly two forms; one or Local Receipts and the other form is the FY 2016 Appropriations vs. Revenue Projections.

Town Accountant—discussion of Harper's Payroll and what a bi-weekly payroll would look like.

Board of Assessors—the Board continued working on the FY 2015 Abatement applications. They granted one personal property abatement and denied two real property abatements. They

also signed one ATB settlement abatement for 55 Murphy Drive. A spreadsheet was submitted by Assistant Assessor David Wood showing the status of the Appellate Tax Board cases.

Town Clerk—Ms. Bessette reported her office has been busy with Annual Town Meeting and Town Election preparations. A copy of a “Specimen Ballot” was included in her monthly report. Avon-ma.gov is now the Town’s domain name. In the month of March we had 12,768 hits on the website.

Board of Health—a declaration of support (or no support) is requested from the Norfolk County Mosquito Control for FY 2016 funding. The declaration will be forwarded to the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board.

Library—the estimated cost of the replacement of the Library roof will be approximately \$50,000. The project will go out to bid.

Council on Aging—COA Director Jane Hanley met with a member of the Norfolk County RSVP and Grace Church to discuss volunteers and resources. All agencies utilizing volunteers are realizing the shortage. Part time positions are open for a COA Van Driver and for a paid Volunteer Coordinator position. This is a part time grant position. The Avon Cable TV Advisory Committee purchased a 70” TV for the COA for their use and for Fire Department trainings. Outreach has been assisting with Meals on Wheels delivery and visits and wellness checks.

Legal—At this point, Town Administrator Crimmins asked Town Counsel Lalli to update the Board on a Code Red Agreement.

Town Counsel Lalli was asked on February 12, 2015 to review documents concerning a Code Red Agreement for the Town. At the present time the Town of Avon uses the Norfolk County Sheriff’s Office for Reverse 911 calls. After reviewing the Code Red contract, Attorney Lalli reported he did have some concerns. Attorney Lalli wanted language in the contract whereby the Town had the right to terminate the contract. This was worked out with the company. The Town would receive software but no warranty/guarantee was given on the software. That was another concern to Attorney Lalli. The company informed Attorney Lalli that the software is delivered “as is.” In checking with Mr. Gingras, our I/T consultant, he informed Attorney Lalli that this is “industry standard.” Attorney Lalli stated it is his opinion to reap the benefit of this public safety software rather than not to have it. He feels the Board of Selectmen should consider signing the contract.

Mr. Rose questioned whether we can piggyback to the Town of Avon’s school system? Attorney Lalli responded that these are “two different systems.”

Town Administrator Crimmins interjected and stated that he received a Code Red call during one of the winter storms informing residents that heavy snow could block a gas heating system and homeowners should be aware of this.

Chairman Hegarty stated that further information is needed and the matter would be discussed with Chief Spurr. The Board would make a decision at the next meeting.

Chairman Hegarty reminded residents to vote on Tuesday, April 14th! Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

At 9:10 p.m., with all business completed, Mr. Brady made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Miriam Rothstein
Secretary