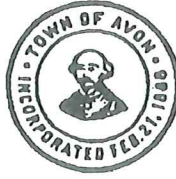


BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Steven P. Rose, Chairman
Eric S. Beckerman, Clerk
Jason L. Suzor, Associate

Gregory S. Enos
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town of Avon Massachusetts

Town Offices
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TOWN OF AVON
2021 JAN -8 A 9:58
TOWN CLERK

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2020
6:30 P.M.

Members Present: Steven P. Rose, Chairman
Eric S. Beckerman, Clerk (via videoconference)
Jason L. Suzor, Associate (via videoconference)

Others Present: Gregory S. Enos, Town Administrator
Shanna M. Faro, Executive Assistant (via videoconference)
Joseph S. Lalli, Esq., Town Counsel (via videoconference)
Fire Chief Robert Spurr (via videoconference)
Kathleen Waldron, Health Agent (via videoconference)
William Fitzgerald, DPW Director (via videoconference)
Laurie Muncy, Old Colony Planning Council (via videoconference)
Mary Waldron, Old Colony Planning Council (via videoconference)
Joanne Zygmunt, Old Colony Planning Council (via videoconference)

Planning Board: Charles Comeau, Sr., Chair, Planning Board (via videoconference)
Bob Pillarella, Planning Board (via videoconference)
Charles Comeau, Jr., Planning Board (via videoconference)
Jason Suzor, Jr., Planning Board (via videoconference)

Chairman Rose announced that pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Board of Selectmen is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public was permitted, but every effort was made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order. Chairman Rose reminded the viewing audience that persons who would like to view this meeting while in progress may do so by watching local cable on Channel 9 or joining the Zoom link for the videoconference. Links to watch the recorded meeting will be available on the Avon Cable Access website www.avontv.org.

Chairman Rose called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with all members present. Chairman Rose was present in the Mary McDermott meeting room, while Mr. Beckerman and Mr. Suzor were present through the videoconference Zoom. Each Board member acknowledged their presence at the meeting by responding in the affirmative during the roll call. In addition, all anticipated speakers acknowledged their presence by responding in the affirmative when Chairman Rose called their names.

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

Public Participation

None

Public Hearing – Joint Meeting with Planning Board regarding Housing Production Plan

At 6:45 p.m., the members of the Planning Board took a roll call vote for attendance at the joint meeting. Mr. Pillarella was present. Mr. Suzor, Jr. was present. Mr. Comeau, Jr., was present. Mr. Comeau, Sr., Chairman was present.

Mr. Beckerman read the legal advertisement for the Public Hearing which was posted in the Brockton Enterprise on December 3, 2020.

Laurie Muncy, Principal Comprehensive Planner from the Old Colony Planning Council introduced herself and began a Powerpoint presentation on the Housing Production Plan for the Town of Avon.

Ms. Muncy stated that the Housing Production Plan (HPP) presented tonight has been prepared in accordance with the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development guidelines and provides a framework and strategy to increase affordable housing in Avon. The plan includes a comprehensive housing needs assessment and details housing production goals and strategies aimed at meeting these needs over the course of five years. Ms. Muncy stated that a summary of key demographic, housing stock, and housing affordability data from the comprehensive housing needs assessment, as well as the plan's goals and strategies have been detailed in the HPP.

Ms. Muncy stated affordability is defined as a household who spends less than 30% of their total income on housing. Any household that spends 30% or more of their total income on housing is considered cost burdened. Ms. Muncy stated that the average median income for Avon is \$69,709. Ms. Muncy stated that 68% of households in Avon are comprised of families while 17.2% of households consists of seniors aged 65 or older, many of whom rely on Social Security. Ms. Muncy stated that 39% of homeowners for the town are cost burdened. Ms. Muncy stated that 11% of homeowners are considered low-income earners.

Ms. Muncy stated that another key finding in the HPP is that the number of family households is increasing in the Town. The housing demand is growing in a very tight market. The HPP found that the most significant need in Avon is the need for rental housing. Ms. Muncy stated that the Town must address unmet housing needs. Avon will need an additional 106 units to achieve the MGL Chapter 40B requirement of 10% of the year-round housing inventory designated for households earning at or below level incomes. Ms. Muncy stated that by adopting the Housing Production Plan, a comprehensive plan will be strategized and implemented to create and maintain the level of affordable housing units in the Town to satisfy the 10% requirement as mandated by the State.

Chairman Comeau informed the Board that the Planning Board voted to adopt the Housing Production Plan. Planning Board member Mr. Pillarella made a motion to recommend the Housing Production Plan for the Town of Avon as outlined to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Suzor, Jr. seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Pillarella voted aye. Mr. Suzor, Jr. voted aye. Mr. Comeau, Jr. voted aye. The Chair voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve and adopt the Housing Production Plan for the Town of Avon as outlined by the Old Colony Planning Council with the stipulation that the plan will be updated with the most recent members of the Boards and Committees involved in the plan. Mr. Suzor seconded the

motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

At 7:34 p.m., Chairman Comeau of the Planning Board made a motion to adjourn the joint meeting of the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Comeau, Jr., seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Pillarella voted aye. Mr. Suzor, Jr. voted aye. Mr. Comeau, Jr. voted aye. The Chair voted aye. The motion carried.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of December 3, 2020 (Regular Session) as written. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COVID-19 Updates & Update on Town Offices Opening Plan

Ms. Waldron informed the Board that as of December 15, 2020, Avon currently has 53 positive COVID-19 cases, which is higher than the numbers reported last spring. Ms. Waldron stated that although it will be difficult, she strongly urged residents to stay home for Christmas as holiday gatherings are still not recommended and highly discouraged to stop the spread of the disease. Chief Spurr stated that Avon now has had a cumulative 194 cases. Nationally, there are a reported 200,000 new infections of coronavirus daily. Chief Spurr stated that the good news is that the Pfizer vaccine has been approved and the Moderna vaccine is expected to be approved tomorrow. Chief Spurr stated that he is working with Brockton Hospital to get his staff vaccinated as soon as it becomes available. Ms. Waldron informed residents that if you are experiencing symptoms to please get tested. There are testing sites available in Randolph. Mr. Enos informed the Board that due to the increasing number of positive COVID-19 cases he does not recommend opening Town Offices to the public at this time. All town buildings are to remain closed and open by appointment only.

NEW BUSINESS

Jacobs Driscoll Engineering, Inc. Agreement

Mr. Enos informed the Board that the intent with the presented contract is to hire Jacobs Driscoll Engineering to monitor soil testing to be performed at the site of the Joanna Hills Estates 40B project. Chairman Rose asked how the town would be getting reimbursed by hiring this company to which Mr. Enos replied that the developer would reimburse the town for the costs. Chairman Rose stated that he did not see a rate schedule in the proposed contract. Mr. Enos stated that the contract would not exceed \$10,000. Mr. Enos stated that the developer was seeking to move forward with this project immediately following the holidays. Mr. Beckerman was concerned with the language listed in paragraph three of the provisions for agreement stating that Jacobs Driscoll Engineering is the sole responsibility of signatory of the agreement and is not subject to third party agreements. After a brief discussion and with some unanswered questions, Mr. Beckerman made a motion to table the Jacobs Driscoll Engineering, Inc. agreement until the meeting of January 7, 2020. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Harrison Boulevard/Pond Street Land Donations

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that tonight he will request that the Board declare an Order of Taking pursuant to the Harrison Boulevard/Pond Street land donations as required by the state prior to beginning the \$5 million dollar project. Mr. Fitzgerald informed the Board that there are three remaining parcels of land to be donated prior to the start of this project which will be presented at the Board's January 4, 2020 Workshop Meeting regarding this matter. Chairman Rose read the Order of Taking.

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Avon in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting under the authority of a vote of the Avon Special Town Meeting pursuant to Article 3 of the annual town meeting held on February 24, 2020 and in accordance with Chapter 79 and 82 of the General Laws of said Commonwealth, and acts in amendment thereof and in addition thereto, has determined that it is necessary and essential as a matter of public necessity and public welfare to widen a portion of Pond Street and Bodwell Street in said Town of Avon and that the public interest and convenience requires the acquisition of title in fee and permanent and temporary easements in certain properties abutting said Pond Street and Bodwell Street; and

WHEREAS, said Board of Selectmen did, on October 15, 2020, vote to acquire easements necessary to widen a portion of said Pond Street and Bodwell Street, and to accept the gift of fee and easement property interests represented in Certificates of Donation, in accordance with the Federal Right of Way Process and in conjunction with MassDOT Right of Way process; and

WHEREAS all other conditions precedent have been complied with;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Avon, duly elected and qualified, acting in compliance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 79, does hereby take those titles in fee and easements which are shown on a plan, signed by the individual members of said Board and entitled:

*“Harrison Boulevard at Pond Street, Avon, MA,
Easement Plan”
Dated December 16, 2020.*

The parcels of land included in the Order of Taking are as follows:

<u>Parcel No.</u>	<u>Supposed Owner</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Book</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Award</u>
B4-9-2	T.L. Edwards Inc.	1,827 sf	37274	335	\$0
B4-9-3	Terry L. Edwards and Katherine E. Edwards, Trustees of 297 Pond Street Rear Realty Trust	739 sf	33067	532	\$0
C4-2-1	T.L. Edwards Realty LLC, Trustee of 269	3,685 sf	19425	564	\$0

	Pond Street Realty Trust				
C4-2-2	Bodwell Street Realty Trust	2556 sf	19425	511	\$0
C5-1-8	257 Pond Street Realty Trust	4,123 sf	19426	12	\$0
C5-1-9	Roger H. Vaughan, Jr. and Helen F. Vaughan	275 sf	4985	335	\$0
C4-3-21	Donald C. Delaney and Gail Davidson-Delaney	770 sf	24728	250	\$0
C4-3-23	Janet M. Mullally Life Estate	1165 sf	22948	427	\$0
C4-3-24	Michelle Maas and Justin J. Dunn	646 sf	33663	454	\$0

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Order of Taking as presented. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

GCG Contract for the Complete Streets Prioritization Plan

Mr. Fitzgerald informed the Board that if the Complete Streets Prioritization Plan is finalized by the spring of 2021, the town is eligible for up to \$400,000 in state funding through the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. The Complete Streets Prioritization Plan, which will cost \$30,800 must be developed first. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the plan will list up to fifteen (15) priority projects eligible for state funding. Mr. Fitzgerald will coordinate the Complete Streets Prioritization Plan to see if it can align with the Pavement Management Plan. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the contract with GCG for the Complete Streets Prioritization Plan, contingent on the execution of the contract between the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the Town for the plan grant funding. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

ANNUAL LICENSE RENEWALS FOR 2021

Liquor Licenses

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the liquor license renewals for Ben's Pour House (All Alcohol – Restaurant), Avon Post #8892, V.F.W., Inc. (All Alcohol – Club), and Mainha Restaurant (Beer & Wine – Restaurant). Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Entertainment Licenses

Mr. Beckerman made the motion to approve the entertainment license renewals of the Avon Post #8892, V.F.W., Inc. for one video entertainment machine (juke box), one pool table license and one Public Entertainment license. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the entertainment license renewals of Ben's Pour House for one touch tunes juke box and a Public Entertainment license. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the new pool table license for Ben's Pour House. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Class II Licenses

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the following Class II license renewals: Cycle Performance Auto Body, Avon Auto Brokers on 109 Memorial Drive and Avon Auto Brokers on 159 Memorial Drive. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Common Victualler's Licenses

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Common Victualler's license renewals for Ben's Pour House and Geri's Pizza. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Common Victualler's license renewal for Subway and Avon's Best Pizza with the stipulation that all unpaid taxes be paid by 4:30 p.m. on December 22, 2020. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Application for Change of Name on Livery Licenses

The Board reviewed an application for a name and address change on the livery licenses of Taz, Inc., formerly located at 185 Main Street to Charles P. Marinelli, now located at 340 East Spring Street in Avon. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the name and address change for the nine (9) livery licenses for Charles P. Marinelli, two (2) of those nine (9) licenses are for a handicap van. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Credit Card Policy Revisions

The Board reviewed a request from Treasurer/Collector Deb Morin to increase the limits of the Rockland Trust credit card from \$5,000 to \$10,000 as occasionally there are insufficient funds during the end of a billing cycle. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the request from the Treasurer/Collector and to increase the credit card limit from \$5,000 to \$10,000. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

The Board reviewed a request from Treasurer/Collector Deb Morin to increase the Town Hall petty cash drawer from \$25.00 to \$50.00 to lessen the use for small credit card payments. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the request of the Treasurer/Collector and to increase the petty case drawer from \$25.00 to \$50.00. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Personnel Action Form

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Form of Avon Public Library Shelver Donna Stanton for a step increase from a Grade F5, Step 2 to a Grade F5, Step 3 at the rate of \$12.22 per hour effective July 1, 2020. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Holiday Schedule – New Year’s Eve

Mr. Enos requested the Board consider closing Town Hall, the Council on Aging, and the Avon Public Library early on Thursday, December 31, 2020. Chairman Rose was hesitant that by permitting town offices to close early, it would become a past practice. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to close Town Hall, the Council on Aging, and the Avon Public Library at 4:30 p.m. on December 31, 2020 as a one-time approval for the New Year’s Eve holiday. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Announcements

Chairman Rose announced that the January meetings of the Board will be January 7, 2021 and January 21, 2021.

Chairman Rose reminded all residents that the winter parking ban is in effect and no on-street parking is allowed.

Chairman Rose wished all members of the viewing audience and Happy Hanukah and Merry Christmas.

Chairman Rose reminded all residents to do their part in stopping the spread of COVID-19.

Town Administrator’s Report

Mr. Enos informed the Board that he has heard from the Department of Revenue that the tax rate for 2021 has been approved. Mr. Enos stated that the tax bills for residents will be mailed out on December 28, 2020. Mr. Enos stated that he has begun preparing the Fiscal Year 2022 budget.

Adjournment

At 8:32 p.m., Chairman Rose requested the Board make a motion to adjourn the Regular Session and to convene in Executive Session for the review and approval of executive session minutes to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements – and more specifically the Open Meeting Law, G.L. Chapter 30A, Sections 22(f) and (g) and to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining (AFSCME, Police, Fire) as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government’s bargaining or litigating position. The Board will reconvene in open session for the sole purpose of adjournment. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to adjourn the Regular Session and to convene in Executive Session. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Rose voted aye. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Shanna M. Faro
Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

1. December 17, 2020 Meeting Agenda
2. December 3, 2020 Meeting Minutes
3. Housing Production Plan as prepared by the Old Colony Planning Council
4. Jacobs Driscoll Engineering, Inc. Agreement
5. GCG Contract for the Complete Streets Prioritization Plan
6. Liquor License Renewals (Not approved at the 12/03/20 meeting)
7. Entertainment License Renewals (Not approved at the 12/03/20 meeting)
8. Class II License Renewals (Not approved at the 12/03/20 meeting)
9. Common Victualler License Renewals (Not approved at the 12/03/20 meeting)
10. Application for Name Change on Livery Licenses
11. Request from Treasurer/Collector to Increase Credit Card and Petty Cash Limits
12. Personnel Action Form for Shelver