BOARD OF SELECTMENEric S. Beckerman, Chairman
Jason L. Suzor, Sr., Clerk
Steven P. Rose, Associate

Gregory S. Enos
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town of Avon Massachusetts



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2022 SEP 16 A 11: 02

BOARD OF SELECTMEN THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2022 6:30 P.M.

Members Present:

Eric S. Beckerman, Chairman

Jason L. Suzor, Sr., Clerk

Others Present:

Gregory S. Enos, Town Administrator

Shanna M. Faro, Executive Assistant Joseph S. Lalli, Esq., Town Counsel

James Delturrondo, Verizon (via teleconference)

Chairman Beckerman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Rose was absent from the meeting. He announced that this meeting of the Board of Selectmen is being conducted via a hybrid method. The public may attend the Selectmen meetings in-person or may continue to participate via remote Zoom access. Until further notice, in-person attendees, who are not vaccinated, will be recommended to wear a mask. Chairman Beckerman reminded the viewing audience that people who would like to view this meeting while in progress may do 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.

Mr. Lalli led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Participation

None

6:45 p.m. – Conduit Petition of Verizon for 25 Bodwell Street

Mr. Suzor read the Public Hearing Notice for Verizon's Conduit Petition for 25 Bodwell Street. Mr. Delturrondo introduced himself to the Board as the representative from Verizon for this project. He stated that the scope of the project would be to place 50 feet of conduit at manhole MH8621 to pole 3-5 at 25 Bodwell Street. Mr. Delturrondo informed the Board that this conduit placement is necessary for the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's Project #608086 for the improvements to Harrison Boulevard, Pond Street, and Bodwell Street. Mr. Suzor noted that the petition, Street Opening Permit Application, bond information and insurance liability forms were all included in the paperwork as required. Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the conduit petition of Verizon for 25 Bodwell Street. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the August 18, 2022 (Regular Session) meeting minutes as written. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

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NEW BUSINESS

<u>Appointment of David Golden/Regional Resource Group, Inc. as Interim Assessor & Approval of Contract</u>

Mr. Enos informed the Board that upon Paul Sullivan's retirement, he reached out to several companies to contract out and provide assessing services until the Principal Assessor vacancy is filled. Mr. Enos stated this was a difficult task as many companies are busy assisting other cities and towns. Mr. Enos stated that he and Bruce Lane have devised a plan using two outside contractors which will provide the necessary assistance for daily tasks as well as with the preparation for the upcoming Tax Classification Hearing. Mr. Enos presented the Board with a contract from Regional Resource Group ("RRG") for interim assessor services. Mr. Enos stated that David Golden from RRG will act as Interim Assessor for the town and will be in the office one full day of work per week to provide support as well as working remotely. Mr. Golden will be supervised by David Manzello, the President of RRG. Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the appointment of David Golden as Interim Assessor and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the contract with Regional Resource Group, Inc. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

In addition, Mr. Enos presented the Board with two contracts from consultants to assist with the valuations for Fiscal Year 2023. The first proposal was from Patriot Properties, Inc., which recently merged with Northeast Evaluation Group, in the amount of \$6,000. Mr. Enos also presented two General Service Agreements for Daniel Lane to serve as a consultant for personal property and real estate taxes. Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the consultant contracts from Patriot Properties, Inc., and Daniel Lane. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Appointment of Town Accountant & Approval of Contract

Mr. Enos presented an Employment Agreement for David Grab as the Town Accountant. Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Form for David Grab. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve and authorize the Board to sign the Employment Agreement for David Grab. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Appointment of Part-Time Circulation Assistant

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the appointment and Personnel Action Form of Hannah Blaisdell for part-time Circulation Assistant at the Avon Public Library for a Grade 3, Step 1 effective September 19, 2022. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Surplus Equipment Forms

Mr. Suzor made a motion to declare the following items as surplus:

- 1. 2004 Ford F-550 diesel cab and chassis from the DPW
- 2. 1978 19' Galaxy powerboat hull
- 3. One aluminum 19' single axle boat trailer

Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

One Day Special Alcohol License

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the One Day Special Alcohol Permit for the Avon Fish & Game Association for an outdoor club event on September 4, 2022. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Appointment of Animal Control Officer as a Special Police Officer

Mr. Enos informed the Board that he has requested Town Counsel review the matter of the appointment of designees as Special Police Officers and which positions are required to be appointed by law. The Board tabled this agenda item for further review.

Temporary Sign Permit Application

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the Temporary Sign Permit for Roy's Barbershop for a 20" x 34" sidewalk sign advertising the grand opening of Roy's Barbershop from September 2, 2022 through December 2, 2022 with the stipulation that the business owner obtain written permission from the landlord for the sign and submit to Ms. Faro as part of the application. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Costco Operating Hours for Columbus Day & Veterans Day Holidays

Mr. Enos informed the Board that Chief Bukunt has forwarded a request from Costco Wholesale to operate during their normal business hours of 10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. for the Columbus Day and Veterans Day holidays this year. Chief Bukunt has approved this request. Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve Costco's request to operate during normal business hours for Columbus Day and Veterans Day 2022. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Discussion of Traffic Concerns

Mr. Enos informed the Board that he has received several complaints regarding various traffic and speeding concerns. Mr. Enos met with both DPW Director William Fitzgerald and Police Chief Jeffrey Bukunt regarding the following streets: (1) speeding on Malley Avenue, (2) parking complaints on Highland Street, and (3) speeding on Page Street and Pond Street.

Mr. Enos stated that to address the speeding concerns on Malley Avenue, effective immediately, all crosswalks and four-way stop signs on the road have been repainted. In addition, the speed radar sign will be placed on Malley Avenue. It will face one direction for two weeks and the opposite direction for two weeks to collect data on the traffic and speeding patterns. Police patrols will also be conducted on that street. Mr. Enos requested installing "slow down" signs on both directions of the street. Mr. Enos

stated the long-term plan for this problem may include the installation of more signs including additional stop signs, reducing the speed limit, and a potential blinking light on Feeley Street.

Mr. Enos stated that he has received complaints about cars parking on Highland Street for patrons of the Miller-Tracy playground which has no parking accommodations. Mr. Enos recommended moving the "no parking" sign on Highland Street back about 10-15 feet to allow 2 or 3 cars to park before the first driveway on Highland Street. The DPW Director has also suggested to paint the existing asphalt berm curbing yellow to indicate that no parking is allowed. The longer-term plan would include a crosswalk at the corner of Highland and Page Street with solar signage. They will also have further discussions with the school to allow for playground parking at the school after the hours of school operation.

Finally, Mr. Enos stated that he has received speeding complaints on Page Street and Pond Street as well as trucks using the HCVE route. Mr. Enos stated he will contact Amazon to remind them of the truck exclusion route. The speed radar sign has also been on those streets recently and the Police Department will review the data as well as patrol the area.

Mr. Enos informed the Board that he has also received a recent complaint regarding the Champion City trash transfer station in Brockton and debris from trucks traveling to that facility littering Harrison Boulevard. He will reach out to DEP for enforcement.

Mr. Enos requested the Board approve the immediate remedies to the traffic and speeding issues by repainting crosswalks and placing up traffic signs that the DPW currently has in stock in the areas of concern. Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve this request. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Announcements

Chairman Beckerman announced that the State Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Mary McDermott room of Avon Town Hall. The final day for Early Voting will be on Friday, September 2, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Enos informed the Board that the website updates are underway. The website pages have been given a facelift and should be easier for viewers to find the information and materials they need to access. Mr. Enos thanked Ms. Bessette and Ms. Faro for their contributions on this project.

Mr. Enos informed the Board that the Constellation contract will end in December and with the utility prices skyrocketing, he will most likely recommend renewing the electric supply agreement and aggregation plan.

Town Counsel's Report

Mr. Lalli has reviewed all the contracts that were presented at tonight's meeting prior to approval by the Board. He is also working on several matters which will be heard before the Board soon.

Adjournment

At 7:15 p.m., Mr. Suzor made a motion to adjourn the regular session and 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, Call Firefighters) or litigation as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's bargaining or litigating position. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Shanna In Faro

Shanna M. Faro

Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

- 1. September 1, 2022 Meeting Agenda
- 2. August 18, 2022 Meeting Minutes
- 3. Conduit Petition of Verizon for 25 Bodwell Street
- 4. Contract for David Golden
- 5. Contract for Regional Resources Group, Inc.
- 6. Personnel Action Form for Town Accountant
- 7. Employment Agreement for Town Accountant
- 8. Personnel Action Form for Part-Time Circulation Assistant
- 9. Surplus Equipment Forms for Ford F550 and abandoned 1978 Galaxy boat and trailer
- 10. One Day Special Permit Application for Fish & Game Association
- 11. Temporary Sign Permit for Roy's Barbershop
- 12. Request from Costco to Operate on Normal Business Hours for Columbus Day and Veterans Day 2022
- 13. Memo from Town Administrator to Board of Selectmen regarding traffic concerns