

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
Eric 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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TOWN OF AVON  
2022 OCT -7 A 10:48  
TOWN CLERK

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2022**  
**6:00 P.M.**

**Members Present:** Eric S. Beckerman, Chairman  
Jason L. Suzor, Sr., Clerk  
Steven P. Rose, Associate

**Others Present:** Gregory S. Enos, Town Administrator  
Shanna M. Faro, Executive Assistant  
Joseph S. Lalli, Esq., Town Counsel  
Fire Chief Robert Spurr  
Police Chief Jeffrey Bukunt  
Town Clerk Patricia Bessette  
Officer Stephen Stenstrom  
Call Firefighter Joseph Aiello  
Call Firefighter Jeffrey Tibnam  
Representative William Galvin  
Senator Walter Timilty  
Senator Michael Brady  
Matthew Porter, Esq., Vieira DiGianfilippo (via teleconference)  
Peter Patel, A-1 Market (via teleconference)

Chairman Beckerman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with all members present. 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 so by 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](http://www.avontv.org).

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

**Public Participation**

None

### **Pinning Ceremonies**

Police Chief Bukunt was pleased to announce that Officer Stephen Stenstrom recently graduated the Police Academy. The Board extended their congratulations to Officer Stenstrom. He was pinned by his fiancé.

Fire Chief Spurr appeared before the Board to announce the promotion of two officers of the Call Fire Department who have moved up the ranks due to a recent retirement. Chief Spurr stated that first ceremonial pinning is for Call Firefighter Jeffrey Tibnam who has been promoted to Lieutenant. The Board extended their congratulations to Lieutenant Tibnam. He was pinned by his son.

Chief Spurr was proud to announce that the second ceremonial pinning is for Call Firefighter Joseph Aiello who has been promoted to the position of Captain. The Board extended their congratulations to Captain Aiello. He was pinned by his son.

### **Retirement of Selectman Steven P. Rose**

Chairman Beckerman announced the retirement of Selectman Rose on September 16, 2022. Chairman Beckerman read Mr. Rose a Citation on behalf of the Board and thanked him for his many years of service to the Town. Chairman Beckerman also presented Mr. Rose with a Citation from the Norfolk County Commissioners. Representative William Galvin also presented Mr. Rose a citation for over 30 years of service to the Town. Over the years, Mr. Rose served on multiple Boards and Committees including the Official Weighers/Bituminous Concrete, the Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee, a Special Police Officer, the Industrial Development Committee, Bylaw Committee, Library Trustees, Board of Appeals, Planning Board, and the Board of Selectmen. Senator Timilty and Senator Brady also issued Mr. Rose a Citation upon his retirement. Mr. Rose was honored to receive each proclamation. He stated that over the years he was committed to serving the community and doing what was in the best interest for the Town of Avon. The Board presented Mr. Rose with a commemorative plaque as well.

At 6:21 p.m., the Board unanimously voted to take a short recess until 7:00 p.m. for a brief reception at the Council on Aging.

At 7:05 p.m., the Board reconvened in Open Session.

### **Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the September 1, 2022 (Regular Session) meeting minutes as written. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Informational Session for A-1 Nivniva Corp. d/b/a A-1 Market**

Matthew Porter from the law firm of Vieira DiGianfilippo introduced himself to the Board as the attorney representing Mr. Patel. Mr. Enos stated that the purpose of tonight's informational session is to address some concerns the Board has regarding the Section 15 Package Store license of A-1 Nivniva Corp. d/b/a A-1 Market prior to setting a hearing for the transfer of the license application. Chief Bukunt asked Mr.



Porter if he was familiar with the case at Stoughton District Court regarding A-1 Market. Mr. Porter replied in the affirmative that he was familiar with the case. Chief Bukunt informed Mr. Porter that he and the Board are extremely concerned that the clerk involved in this case is continuing to work at the store due to his egregious offense. Mr. Porter agreed with Chief Bukunt. He stated that although it is difficult because the store clerk was a family member, he has since been terminated as an employee and will no longer be working at A-1 Market in any capacity. Mr. Porter stated as the Store Manager, Mr. Patel will be at the store at least 40 hours per week. The only employees of the store are Mr. Patel, his wife, and a new employee recently hired. Mr. Porter stated that the transfer application is for estate planning as Mr. Patel is transferring the license over to his wife. Mr. Porter assured the Board that the former clerk is no longer working at the store. Mr. Lalli requested that Mr. Porter provide the Board a written statement confirming the termination of the store clerk. Mr. Porter had no objections to this request. Mr. Porter stated that he will provide the Board a written letter by next week. Mr. Enos stated that the Board is seeking assurance that the former clerk will not return to the store as an employee in any capacity. As the Board was satisfied with the results of the informational session, Mr. Porter and Mr. Patel departed the meeting.

### **Discussion of Special Election**

Ms. Bessette approached the Board to discuss holding a Special Election to fill the vacant spot on the Board of Selectmen due to Mr. Rose's retirement. She stated that by law, the Town Clerk's office needs a minimum of 64 days from the date of Mr. Rose's resignation to prepare for the Special Election. Ms. Bessette stated that she has reviewed the dates and deadlines to organize the Special Election and proposed the date of Saturday, December 10, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Ms. Bessette informed the Board that they need to call a vote to hold the Special Election. Mr. Suzor made a motion to hold a Special Election on December 10, 2022. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the hours of the Special Election on December 10, 2022 as 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried. Ms. Bessette informed the Board that nomination papers can be made available either Monday, September 26, 2022 or Monday, October 3, 2022. Mr. Suzor made motion to approve making nomination papers available to interested candidates on September 26, 2022. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed. Ms. Bessette reminded the Board that the Special Election is to fill Mr. Rose's unexpired term until April 8, 2025.

### **DeMarco Park Permits**

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the DeMarco Park Permit Application by the Avon Civic Association for the Oktoberfest celebration on October 1, 2022, with a rain date of October 2, 2022) and to waive the permit fee. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the DeMarco Park Permit Application by Vanessa Ortiz for a general reveal on October 9, 2022. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **One Day Special Alcohol Permits**

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the One Day Special Alcohol Permit for Black Hat Brew Works for Oktoberfest on October 1, 2022 at Blanchard's Tavern and to waive the permit fee. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the One Day Special Alcohol Permit for Avon Fish & Game Association for an outdoor club event on October 2, 2022. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Request to Display Political Campaign Signs**

Mr. Rose approved the request of Lori Prew from the Committee to Re-Elect Michael D. Brady to display 50 political campaign signs on private properties throughout the Town for the November State Election. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **Fire Station Fence Procurement**

Mr. Suzor explained in detail the proposals for the fence around the Fire Station. Mr. Suzor stated that the Designer Selection Committee reached out to eight different fence companies and only two companies solicited responses. Mr. Suzor stated that SecurityWorks, Inc. quoted a price of \$103,371.70. Premier Fence, LLC quoted a price of \$56,133.48. Mr. Suzor stated that the Designer Selection Committee voted to award the bid to Premier Fence, LLC. However, since the price was over \$50,000, the quote was forwarded to the Town Administrator acting as the Chief Procurement Officer for his review and approval to ensure the correct procurement procedures were being followed. Mr. Suzor stated that there will be three different types of fence surrounding the Fire Station. There will be a 6' commercial grade solid white vinyl privacy fence along one side of the building. There will be a 6' poly coated black extruded resin chain link fence around the back of the building and along the East High Street side to detract from drivers using the Fire Station as a cut through from Main Street to East High Street to avoid the traffic light. Finally, there will be a 3' solid white vinyl post and rail fence along the front of the building on the Main Street side. Mr. Rose asked where the funding was coming from for the fence project. Mr. Enos stated that there are still funds available in the Fire Station Renovation Project article. Mr. Rose asked why this project was being sent to the Board for approval if it is under the jurisdiction of the Designer Selection Committee. Mr. Enos stated that it was sent to him as the Chief Procurement Officer for approval under the procurement laws and was placed on the agenda for informational purposes for the Board.

### **Personnel Action Form**

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Form for the Executive Assistant/Human Resources Coordinator Shanna Faro for a step increase upon her anniversary date. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Street Opening Permit Applications**

Mr. Suzor made a motion to table the Street Opening Permit Application by Eversource Gas to remove and replace a transition cap on the plastic gas main for Wales Avenue for further clarification as the chart was incorrect and listed a TL Edwards Drive. There is no such street in the Town of Avon. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the Street Opening Permit Application by Eversource Gas to install new gas service at 208 South Street with the stipulation that the Assistant DPW Director Brian Martin ensure that the trench is rehabilitated properly upon completion of the job as South Street is in good condition. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Announcements**

Chairman Beckerman announced the October meetings of the Board as October 6, 2022 and October 20, 2022.



### Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Enos informed the Board that there are two external emergency exit stairs at the library that need repair and the estimate is approximately \$20,000. Mr. Enos stated that this may be a capital project that will need approval by the Board.

Mr. Enos informed the Board that he will apply for two grants offered through the Community Compact Best Practice grant. He will focus on assistance especially for the Finance Department.

Mr. Enos informed the Board that Ms. Faro has been busy conducting interviews this week for the Assistant Treasurer position and the Town Hall Administrative Assistant position.

### Adjournment

At 7:50 p.m., Mr. Rose 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. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Rose voted aye. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Shanna M. Faro  
Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator

### LIST OF DOCUMENTS

1. September 15, 2022 Meeting Agenda
2. September 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes
3. DeMarco Park Permit Applications (Oktoberfest on 10/01/22, Gender Reveal on 10/09/22)
4. One Day Special Alcohol Permits (Black Hat Brewery on 10/01/22, Fish & Game on 10/02/22)
5. Request from Committee to Re-Elect Michael D. Brady for Political Campaign Signs
6. Fire Station Fence Proposal Documents
7. Personnel Action Form for Executive Assistant/Human Resources Coordinator
8. Street Opening Permit Applications from Eversource Gas (Wales Avenue, 208 South Street)