

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Eric S. Beckerman, Chairman
Jason L. Suzor, Sr., Clerk

Gregory S. Enos
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town of Avon Massachusetts

Town Offices
Buckley Center 02322
(508) 588-0414
FAX (508) 559-0209



BOARD OF SELECTMEN THURSDAY, DECEMBER 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
William A. Fitzgerald, DPW Director
Patricia C. Bessette, Town Clerk

Chairman Beckerman called the meeting to order at 6:30 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.

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

Chairman Beckerman called for a Moment of Silence for William Comeau, father of Charles P. Comeau.

Public Participation

None

APPOINTMENTS

6:45 p.m. – Town Clerk Discussion of Annual Town Election – Early Voting Options

Mr. Suzor read the public hearing notice to consider opting out of the vote by mail option got for the Annual Town Election of April 11, 2023. Then notice was posted at the Town Clerk's office and on the town's website.

Ms. Bessette stated that pursuant to the VOTES Act that was signed into law on June 22, 2022, Early Voting by mail is required for all local elections and preliminaries, unless the town opts out. Ms. Bessette informed the Board that in order to opt out of Vote by Mail for a local election, the selectmen must hold a public hearing and public roll call vote to not allow Vote by Mail no later than 45 days before the date of the election.

Ms. Bessette stated that while the state will continue to provide the return postage fee, the Town Clerk's office is responsible for the cost of mailing the ballots to voters which is approximately \$0.86. She stated that she will need to increase postage fees in her budget should the Board decide to keep Voting by Mail as an option. Ms. Bessette stated that voting by Absentee Ballot is still an option for those that qualify. Ms. Bessette recommended that due to those reasons, she recommended that the Board opt out of Vote by Mail. Mr. Suzor made a motion to opt out of Vote by Mail for the April 11, 2023 Annual Town Election. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion passed.

Ms. Bessette reminded the Board and audience members that the Special Town Election will be held on Saturday, December 10, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the vacant Selectman position.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the November 17, 2022 (Regular Session) meeting minutes as written. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the November 22, 2022 (Workshop Session) meeting minutes as written. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of Budget Preparation for Fiscal Year 2024

Mr. Enos informed the Board that budget preparation is slightly behind schedule due to software issues. However, each Department Head was given their budget spreadsheets to work on. Mr. Enos will have a Department Head meeting on Monday to review the Fiscal Year 2024 budget expectations with the staff. Mr. Enos stated that overall, the Fiscal Year 2024 budget may have some excess capacity. State revenue has increased due to the town's population size expanding. Mr. Enos will also have to review with the Board short-term and long-term planning, and staffing issues to be considered in the proposed budget. Mr. Enos informed the Board he plans to have a draft of the preliminary budget soon.

Appointment/Reappointment of Constables

Mr. Suzor made a motion to appoint Matthew Pauliks as a Constable, term to expire, December 31, 2023. Mr. Pauliks has taken over the duties from David Asiaf who has retired. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to reappoint David DiCenso, Adam Loomis, and Harold March as Constables, term to expire December 31, 2023. 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 a club event on December 10, 2022. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Street Opening Permit Application

Mr. Suzor made a motion to waive the fee and approve the Street Opening Permit Application of Northern Drill Service, Inc. for two pavement cores, each measuring 4' diameter and 10' deep located at 150 East Spring Street and 118 West Spring Street. Mr. Fitzgerald explained to the Board that Street Opening Permit Application is in conjunction with the MassDOT Project #611979 to make safety and traffic improvements on Route 28 at the intersection of Harrison Boulevard, East Spring Street, and West Spring Street. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

AFSCME Memorandum of Agreement

Mr. Enos presented the Board with the AFSCME Memorandum of Agreement. He informed the Board that the Town and the Bargaining Unit were able to reach a fair and equitable agreement for all parties. Mr. Enos requested the Board ratify the contract and authorize the Town Administrator to sign the agreement. Mr. Enos stated that he has reached out to the Town Moderator for dates for a Special Town Meeting in January as the funding mechanism for the new AFSCME contract. Mr. Suzor made a motion to ratify the AFSCME Memorandum of Agreement and authorize the Town Administrator to sign accordingly. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ANNUAL LICENSE RENEWALS

Liquor License Renewals

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the following Liquor License Renewals for 2023.

1. Shooters, Inc., 36 East Main St., (All Alcohol – Restaurant)
2. Avon Post #8892, V.F.W. Inc., 263 East Main St., (All Alcohol – Club)
3. Avon's Generations, 81 Memorial Drive, (All Alcohol – Restaurant)
4. A-1 Market, Inc., 85 East Main St., (Beer & Wine – Package Store)
5. Big Jim's Liquors, Inc., 155 East Main St., (All Alcohol – Package Store)
6. Costco Atlantic Liquors, Inc., 120 Stockwell Drive, (All Alcohol – Package Store)
7. Avon Food Mart, Inc., 17 North Main St., (Beer & Wine – Package Store)
8. Wine.Com, 33 Wales Ave., (Beer & Wine – Package Store)
9. Mainha Restaurant, 160 Memorial Drive, (Beer & Wine – Restaurant)

Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the liquor license renewal of Ben's Pour House, 39-43 East Main St., (All Alcohol – Restaurant) with the stipulation that the TIPS certification be updated for David Benvissuto and Melissa Statkus. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Class One License Renewals

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the following Class One License Renewals for 2023.

1. Ballard Mack Sales and Service, Inc., One Mack Drive
2. New England Truck Solutions of Avon, 11 Ledin Drive
3. Unbreakable, LLC, 105 Memorial Drive

Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Class Two License Renewals

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the following Class Two License Renewals for 2023.

1. George's Garage, Inc., 340 East Spring St.
2. Mr. Steven DeAcetis Avon Auto Center, Inc., 104 Memorial Drive
3. Robert Nicholson D/B/A Brittanic Motors, 110 Memorial Drive
4. Brian G. White d/b/a Cycle Performance Auto Body, 271 East High St.
5. Robert Sneider, 21 Ledin Drive
6. C.N. Wood Co., Inc.
7. Avon Gas & Service, Inc., 284 East Main St.
8. Roger Gordon Adjusters d/b/a B&C Motors, 491 West Main St.

Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Class Three License Renewals

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the following Class Three License Renewals for 2023.

1. George's Garage, Inc., 340 East Spring St.

Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Common Victualler's License Renewals

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the following Common Victualler's License Renewals for 2023.

1. Costco Wholesale Corp., 120 Stockwell Drive
2. Avon House of Pizza, 163 Main Street
3. New England Authentic Eats LLC, 600 Page St.
4. Café Management Associates, LLC D/B/A Dunkin Donuts,
5. 600 Page St.
6. WB Donuts, LLC D/B/A Dunkin Donuts, 20 Memorial Drive Avon
7. Linda D. Lewis Martin D/B/A Shooters, Inc., 36 East Main St.
8. David Benvissuto D/B/A Ben's Pour House, 39-43 East Main St.
9. JLW Donuts, LLC D/B/A Dunkin Donuts, 5 Stockwell Drive
10. WB Donuts, LLC D/B/A Dunkin' Donuts, 30 Memorial Dr.
11. Sulamita Figueiredo D/B/A Mainha Restaurant 160 Memorial Drive
12. NN Business Development, LLC 5 Stockwell Drive
13. Abdo Amazing Pizza LLC, d/b/a Geri's Pizza 147 Main St.
14. A-1 Nivniva Corp. D/B/A A-1 Market 85 East Main St.
15. Avon's Generations, Inc. D/B/A Generation 81 Memorial Drive
16. TamBo's Kitchen, 490 West Main Street

17. Avon V.F.W., Inc., Post #8892, 263 East Main Street

Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Livery Licenses

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the following Livery License Renewals for 2023.

1. Charles P. Marinelli, 340 East Spring St., (seven livery licenses)
2. Charles P. Marinelli, 340 East Spring St., (two handicap van licenses)

Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Entertainment Licenses

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the following Entertainment License Renewals for 2023.

1. **Avon V.F.W. Post #8892. 263 East Main Street**
 - One (1) Video Entertainment Machine License (license for one (1) juke box)
 - One (1) Pool Table License
 - One (1) Public Entertainment License for one (1) juke box to include karaoke and a live band.
2. **Shooters, Inc., 36 East Main Street**
 - Three (3) pool table licenses
 - Two (2) automatic amusement device licenses (includes license for one (1) juke box)
 - One (1) Public Entertainment License for one (1) juke box
3. **David Benvissuto D/B/A Ben's Pour House, 39-43 East Main Street**
 - One (1) Touch Tunes Juke Box
 - One (1) Public Entertainment License for one (1) Juke Box to include live bands, singers, and comedy acts.
 - One (1) Pool Table License
4. **Generations, 81 Memorial Drive**
 - One (1) Public Entertainment license for 2023

Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Announcements

Chairman Beckerman announced that the Winter Parking Ban is in effect from November 15, 2022 through April 15, 2023. No overnight parking is allowed on the streets. Residents are asked to remove items such as basketball hoops and any other hindrances to the snowplows. More information can be found on the town's website.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Enos stated that there is a survey being conducted by the Old Colony Planning Council on the town's website regarding improvements to D.W. Field Park.

Mr. Enos stated that as part of the Community Compact grant, the Town of Avon was awarded with a regional grant in the amount of \$197,585 for a DEP compliant cybersecurity project for the town's IT for the water systems such as SCADA. Mr. Enos stated that the Town Administrator typically signs the contracts for these grant awards if the Board has no objection. Mr. Suzor made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the contract for the Community Compact Efficiency and Regionalization Grant for cybersecurity of the town's water systems. Chairman Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Enos informed the Board that he has consulted with the Civic Association and the Holiday Celebration will still take place on December 3, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. despite the forecast of rain. Blanchard's Tavern will be hosting indoor activities such as pictures with Santa.

Mr. Enos stated that town has received some reimbursement from the Community Development Block Grant program that ended a few years ago. Mr. Enos will participate in a call with the Treasurer/Collector regarding disbursement of these funds. The Health Agent has identified a resident that could use some funding as a loan for improvements to her house.

Town Counsel's Report

None

Adjournment

At 7:20 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. Chairman Beckerman voted aye. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Shanna M. Faro

Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

1. December 2, 2022 Meeting Agenda
2. Public Hearing Notice for Early Voting Options for Annual Town Election
3. November 17, 2022 Meeting Minutes
4. November 22, 2022 Meeting Minutes
5. Appointment/Reappointment Letters of Constables
6. One Special Alcohol Permit for Avon Fish & Game Association
7. Street Opening Permit Application of Northern Drill Service for MassDOT Project 611979

8. AFSCME Memorandum of Agreement
9. Liquor License Renewals
10. Class I, II, III License Renewals
11. Entertainment License Renewals
12. Common Victualler's License Renewals
13. Livery License Renewals