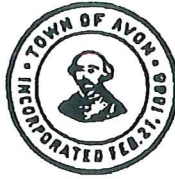


BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Steven P. Rose, Chairman
Eric S. Beckerman, Clerk
Jason L. Suzor, Associate

Gregory S. Enos
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town of Avon Massachusetts

Town Offices
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TOWN OF AVON
2021 OCT -8 A 9:23
TOWN CLERK

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2021
6:30 P.M.

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

Others Present: Gregory S. Enos, Town Administrator
Shanna M. Faro, Executive Assistant
Joseph S. Lalli, Esq., Town Counsel
Fire Chief Robert Spurr (via videoconference)
Kathleen Waldron, Health Agent (via videoconference)
Paul Chute, Avon Civic Association
Warren Bruce Lane, Avon Civic Association
Michael Viveiros, DBVW Architects (via videoconference)
Edward Cifune, DBVW Architects (via videoconference)
Jennifer Mayo, Program Director (via videoconference)

Chairman Rose 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 Rose reminded the viewing audience that people 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.

Chief Spurr led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Participation

None

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of September 9, 2021 (Regular Session) as written. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COVID-19 Updates

Ms. Waldron informed the Board that for the weeks of August 29, 2021 through September 11, 2021, there were 16 positive cases in Avon. Ms. Waldron stated that the most recent numbers for this week confirm that there are now 20 positive cases, so the numbers are steadily increasing. Ms. Waldron stated that 72% of residents have received their first dose of the vaccine, while 62% of residents are fully vaccinated. Chief Spurr informed the Board that the FDA has approved the Pfizer booster shot for those in the high-risk category. Chief Spurr stated that both CVS and the Intergenerational Center in Randolph will have booster shots available.

Update on Town Opening Plan

Ms. Waldron stated that the Board of Health will be discussing the possibility of reinstating the mask mandate at their next meeting due to the increase in COVID-19 cases.

NEW BUSINESS

Update on Town Hall Architect Study

Mr. Viveiros and Mr. Cifune appeared before the Board to discuss the progress of the Town Hall Architect Study. Mr. Viveiros informed the Board that his team has visited Town Offices, taken measurements, notes, and pictures. He stated that they also interviewed staff members and the Board of Selectmen for this project. Mr. Viveiros stated that he has prepared an existing conditions report as well as a feasibility study. Mr. Viveiros stated that after consulting the stakeholders and reviewing the buildings, his team believed that should the Town Hall be renovated, they proposed only needing an additional 1400 square feet approximately to accommodate the needs of the departments. Mr. Viveiros stated that due to the original design, age, and current state of the buildings, it was likely that a complete renovation of the building would be necessary. Mr. Viveiros asked for the goals and priorities of the Board for the renovation project. Mr. Viveiros requested guidance from the Board prior to moving forward with the next step of this project. Chairman Rose requested that Mr. Viveiros evaluate the existing building and get estimated costs for renovation. Chairman Rose stated that he would like to see if the building can be fixed without any new additions. Mr. Viveiros and Mr. Cifune thanked the Board for their guidance with this project and departed the meeting.

Street Opening Permits

Mr. Suzor made a motion to approve the Street Opening Permit Application for 3 Howard Lane for a proposed 4' x 6' road cut to replace the gas service line. Mr. Beckerman seconded the motion for discussion. Mr. Beckerman asked whether all signature pages have been signed on the permit to which Mr. Enos replied in the affirmative. Mr. Suzor expressed concern that numerous streets around town are marked up with no notice yet to the town or the residents as to why or what Eversource intends to do. In addition, Mr. Suzor requested that the DPW Director or Assistant DPW Director follow up on all the permits issued this year thus far to ensure the work has been completed pursuant to the town's trench rehabilitation guidelines. Chairman Rose requested Ms. Faro draft a spreadsheet with the status of the 2021 street opening permits and the completion date for the Board's review. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Street Opening Permit Application for 35 Rock Street for a proposed 4' x 6' road cut for maintenance on the gas main. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

One Day Special Permit for Alcohol License

Mr. Lane informed the Board that the request for a one-day special permit for an alcohol license was for the Oktoberfest event sponsored by the Avon Civic Center on October 2, 2021. Mr. Lane stated that Black Hat Brew Works is the same brewery which was used at the first Oktoberfest in 2019. Mr. Lane stated that the company is licensed and insured. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the One Day Special Permit for Black Hat Brew Works on October 2, 2021 at Blanchard's Tavern. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Enos stated that Mr. Chute has requested to use the electronic message boards to be displayed on the streets to advertise the Oktoberfest event. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to allow the Civic Association to utilize the electronic message boards to advertise the Oktoberfest event. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

New Appointments

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Form for Michele Goode as a Counselor for the Park & Recreation Fall Program at a Grade G10, Step 7 at the rate of \$14.03 per hour. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Form for Nathan Maguire as a Counselor for the Park & Recreation Fall Program at a Grade G10, Step 4 at the rate of \$13.66 per hour. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Personnel Action Form for Jannell Webb as a full-time AFSCME Public Safety Dispatcher at a Grade D-1, Step 1 for the rate of \$22.66 per hour. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion approve the Personnel Action Form for Frances Cruise as a part-time School Crossing Guard at the rate of \$16.00 per hour. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Employment Agreement

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve and execute the Employment Agreement for Deputy Police Chief Denis Linehan. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Interim Library Director

Chairman Rose reviewed the request from Joseph Molnar to extend his stipend as Interim Library Director by two weeks after the new Library Director begins for training purposes. In his request, he stated that he had the full support of the Library Trustees for the stipend extension. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the stipend extension for Interim Library Director Joseph Molnar by two weeks. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Stoughton Animal Control Officer Intermunicipal Agreement

Mr. Enos presented the Board with an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Stoughton for an Animal Control Officer. Mr. Enos informed the Board that the Animal Control Officer is currently out with an injury. In addition, she plans to retire within the next few months. Mr. Enos stated that this agreement is for 60 days and contingent upon Stoughton's approval at their next meeting of the Board.

Mr. Beckerman requested extending this agreement longer than 60 days due to the Animal Control Officer's impending retirement. Mr. Enos will contact the Town of Stoughton regarding this request. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Stoughton for an Animal Control Officer and authorize the Town Administrator to sign and execute the agreement. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Avon Civic Association Request to Use DeMarco Park

Mr. Chute requested permission from the Board for the Avon Civic Association to use DeMarco Park to display 40 American flags as part of the Flags for Heroes program for the upcoming Veteran's Day holiday on November 11, 2021. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the request of the Civic Association to use DeMarco Park for Flags for Heroes for the Veteran's Day holiday. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Chute requested permission from the Board for the Avon Civic Association to use DeMarco Park on December 4, 2021 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for the Holiday Festival. The proposed rain date would be December 5, 2021. Mr. Chute stated that activities will include a horse and carriage ride, a train ride for children, raffle prizes, and food and refreshments sold by the local churches. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the use of DeMarco Park for the Holiday Festival on December 4, 2021. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Surplus Form

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to approve the request of the Interim Council on Aging Director to surplus one broken round table. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Announcements

Chairman Rose announced that Oktoberfest will be held on October 2, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. in DeMarco Park. Blanchard's Tavern will open at 2:00 p.m. where Black Hat Brew Works will be serving ale for the 21+ crowd.

Chairman Rose announced the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House for the newly renovated Avon Fire Station on October 3, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

Chairman Rose announced that the Park & Recreation Commission will be hosting an Outdoor Movie Night on October 9, 2021 at Sylvester field. The gates will open at 5:00 p.m.

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

Appointments – Park & Recreation Director Jennifer Mayo

Ms. Mayo informed the Board that following the success of the Summer Program, the Fall Program is ready to begin with hosting afternoon recreational activities at the Civic Center on half-days from school. Other activities being planned for the Fall Program include as many outdoor events as possible such as archery and skateboarding classes.

Ms. Mayo stated that the field permits are coming in and STOYAC is using the high school gymnasium for basketball games. Ms. Mayo stated that there will be an adult craft night on September 28, 2021. The Outdoor movie night will be held on October 9, 2021 and will include food truck vendors. Ms.

Mayo stated that the Park & Recreation Commission will be hosting a “Cookies with Santa Claus” at the Butler Elementary School on December 11, 2021.

Finally, Ms. Mayo stated that the online registration forms were a huge success for the Summer Program this year with residents avoiding waiting in line and paying by credit card. The Board requested that Mr. Enos check with other department managers to see if they too, could benefit from online forms and payment. Mr. Beckerman made a motion for the Town Administrator to research other departments and which forms can be permitted online and to follow up with the Board in one month. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Town Administrator’s Report

Mr. Enos informed the Board that two new community compact grants have recently become available, and he would like to apply for these grants. The first grant is for IT services such as document scanning for records retention. The second grant focuses on fiscal policies.

Mr. Enos stated that he attended the retirement party today for Head Cook Cindy Seely at the Council on Aging. He said it was a great event and he wished Cindy best of luck in her retirement.

Adjournment

At 8:05 p.m., Mr. Beckerman made a motion to adjourn the regular session and to convene in Executive Session to review and approve executive session meeting minutes to comply with 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, and Call Firefighters) or litigation as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government’s bargaining or litigating position; and to conduct a strategy session in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel. 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. September 23, 2021 Meeting Agenda
2. September 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes
3. DBVW Feasibility Study Report
4. Street Opening Permits (3 Howard Lane & 35 Rock Street)
5. Black Hat Brew Works Special Permit for One Day Alcohol License
6. Personnel Action Forms for Fall Counselors
7. Personnel Action Form for Dispatcher
8. Deputy Police Chief Employment Agreement
9. Memo from Interim Library Director regarding Stipend Extension
10. Personnel Action Form for School Crossing Guard
11. Stoughton Animal Control Officer Intermunicipal Agreement
12. Letter from Civic Association requesting to use DeMarco Park
13. Oktoberfest flyer