

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, September 20, 2018  
Swampscott, MA 01907**

*ATTENDANCE: Selectmen Naomi Dreeben, Chair Peter Spellios, Vice Chair Pat Jones, Selectmen Don Hause, Town Administrator, Sean Fitzgerald*

*Pledge of Allegiance 7:05 pm*

*Resident Comment:*

*No Resident Comment*

*Chair Report:*

*There was a joint meeting on Monday 9/17/18 with FINCON and the CIC. The committees discussed how the committees can continue to work collectively. Conversation included streamlining budgeting process and exploring better ways of applying efficiencies. Action point that came out of this meeting is there will be a meeting in the future with BOS, CIC, FINCON and School Committee.*

*Selectmen Spellios spoke more about a community forum that would include ideas, initiatives and wants. The forum would focus on hearing ideas from the resident. Potential date is Saturday November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Location and details to be forthcoming. Asking for the Boards input on breakout sessions.*

*Selectmen Dreeben likes the idea of using some of the projects already being initiated such as the Swampscott for all Ages and The Harbor and Waterfront.*

*Some Topic sessions include Waterfront, culture and beatification, our taxes, downtown, Seniors, and Kids.*

*Feel free to send suggestions to the Town Administrator.*

*Recommendations for Employment Contracts:*

*Town Accountant- Cheryl Herrick-Stella*

*Building Inspector- Max Kasper*

*Town Administrator spoke of having the pleasure of working with Cheryl and Max. They have both shown a tremendous level of commitment to public service. Cheryl was key to the level of detail to this year's budget. Building a budget of transparency and efficiencies. Budget is less than a 1% increase. TA recommending a 2-year contract.*

*Max has been working for the town of Swampscott for 3 years. He has a background that helps with the construction trade. He is working on his law degree. Recently passed his test for MA building officials and works closely with the school dpt. He has recently been appointed to the School Building Committee.*

*TA is recommending a 3-year contract.*

*Selectmen Spellios feels having these two individuals is a win win for the town. They are the fuel of the engine. He appreciate all they have done and feel that the town got the better part of the deal.*

*Selectmen Hause is thrilled to offer the extension and more thrilled Cheryl and Max are accepting it. Town truly benefits that the two of them are here.*

*A motion was made by Selectmen Hause to follow the recommendation of the Town Administrator and re-appoint Cheryl Herrick Stella to the position of Town Accountant for a two-year contract and appoint Max Kasper to the position of Building Inspector for a 3-year contract. The motion was seconded by Selectmen Jones all BOS members were unanimously in favor.*

*Motion made to move into public hearing by Selectmen Dreeben and seconded by Selectmen Hause- all BOS members were unanimously in favor.*

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

*Continued Public Hearing from 9/5/18 for Earth Removal Permit for 71 Greenwood Avenue, Swampscott, MA*

*TA spoke about working carefully with Groom Construction and outlined the details of the permit. Gino Cresta spoke on the impact this project has been to the residents and thanked the contractor for working on every issue that has been brought to their attention and the issues being immediately addressed. Not much can be done about the noise, but the dust issue has been kept to a minimum with the help of the water.*

*Fire Chief, Gino, Max, Mr. Picariello, and Sean have met and all concerns were addressed appropriately. Groom addressed the crushing machine- won't start crushing till 8:00 a.m. and stop crushing at 3:45p.m.*

*Maximum of 5 trailers per day- to bring out the bigger rocks.*

*Crushing will stop on September 21<sup>st</sup>.*

*Crusher will be removed from the site on Monday.*

*Tom Groom passed handouts with updated information and showed a topo of the ledge.*

*Mr. Groom reviewed the information on the handouts, updating the BOS.*

*After crushing the remainder will be hauled off site. Selectmen Dreeben asked how long it will take to haul off the rest? Mr. Groom said a week to two.*

*Mr. Groom updated the BOS and stated that they installed a Crush Stone Basin to catch debris off the tires. Mitigated sound to be bearable and now the sound is not of crushing but a motor. He has been in continuous contact with the neighbors. Running 2-3 hoses steadily all day to control the dust. 25 Neighbors were identified as most impacted, and Groom Construction have delivered to each of these neighbors as part of the mitigation package 5 car washes, power washing of their home as they desire, when they desire and a \$100 Gift certificate to Mission on the Bay and a letter thanking them for their patience.*

*TA stated town staff have been up to the site.*

*Gino stated there are 3 rocks that are too big to load on a truck so a hydraulic hammer will break those down. This will be quick and not a long drawn out hammering process.*

*The hopes is to have the foundation start by next week.*

*Gino also stated that the hauling trucks will seek an alternate route from Hadley during the hours of 7:45 a.m.-8:30 a.m. and 1:45-2:30 p.m.*

*There will be no hauling during Holidays.*

*Selectmen Jones asked about the route and hours and the congestion on some of the streets. There is also a discussion on no idling of trucks. He also asked who determines if a road was damaged and the determination is done by the DPW. Selectmen Jones stated that today showed a new standard on what is expected when applying for an ERAC permit and thanked Groom Construction for their hard work.*

*Selectmen Hause suggested putting updated information on the town website to let residents know of the hauling schedule.*

*Chief Breen stated although mitigations are not perfect, Groom Construction is doing a good job.*

*Selectmen Spellios asked for a few additions/ changes in the ERAC permit:*

*Insert 1450 cubic yards and the wording amount can be exceeded by 10% at the discretion of the DPW director*

*Make clear the body of the permit is the controlling document*

*Include Route plan in the permit*

*Upload this to the Greenwood project site on our webpage*

*Selectmen Spellios would like to thank Groom Construction on the concise information that was presented, and thanked Town hall's staff focus on this and balancing the need of moving the project forward but working with the neighbors.*

*Selectmen Jones made a motion to favor approval of the ERAC permit File# 18-ERAC-1 Fisherman's Watch Condominiums, LLC 71 Greenwood Ave. motion was seconded by Selectmen Dreeben all BOS members were unanimously in favor.*

*Gino thanked Dan Cobbett- said he is the neighborhood liaison and has spent a lot of time up in the area.*

*Permit will be updated tomorrow so that the BOS can sign.*

*Selectmen Spellios made a motion to approve granting Massachusetts Electric Company Electric Easement at 601 Humphrey Street – Pole 126 may be on the other side to keep the landscaping attractive. Motion was seconded by Selectmen Dreeben all BOS members were unanimously in favor.*

*Town Administrator and the Town Accountant gave a review of Fiscal year 2018*

*There were some challenges with the budget but instilled some fiscal discipline between the town and the school and ended up with a surplus of 2.1 million dollars for FY 18 ½ made up of revenue overages- and ½ expense side- appropriation vs actual spent- first time in four years school came in on budget. Good healthy balances on other accounts.*

*TA said we need to think of the tax Levey when budgeting revenue.*

*Some Key area overages*

*- motor vehicles excise tax 375k*

*- Fees 137k*

*- licenses and permits- 184k*

*- investment income- 106k*

*-Information technology- 104k*

*-Human resources- 213k*

*-Solid Waste and recycling- 166k*

*-Police – 116k*

*- Fire- under by 16k*

*Everyone worked hard to really hone in on spending and the town accountant really appreciate that Selectmen Spellios asked for the Town Accountant to clarify employee benefits over by 853k. Benefits line has always been way over budget- it is census driven. TA said now that we have a shared service with the school in the HR service, so we can be better with this.*

*There was a discussion on water and sewer rates. Gino, Cheryl and Gino's team are working hard on evaluating rates and having a presentation at a future board meeting that will include recommendation of rates.*

*Selectmen Jones spoke about percentages vs. numbers and looking at percentages closer to see what the trend is.*

*Selectmen Spellios stated that the TA and Accountant are looking at different dashboards to show how the community receives their money and spend their money. Working on a Citizen transparency on our website and Sean will be sharing that information with the board in the near future.*

*In the next 60 Days-*

*The Town Accountant will be closing the books/free cash certification / audit/ and a recap*

*Selectmen Spellios would like to invite the Assessor and principle consultant to discuss what they are seeing in the market.*

*New and Old Business:*

*List of Selectmen Liaison for 2019*

*2019 Affordable Housing Trust Representative: Selectmen Hause*

*2019 Andrew's Chapel Representative: Selectmen Jones*

*2019 Athletic Field Advisory Representative: Selectmen Jones*

*2019 Board of Appeals Representative: Selectmen Hause*

*2019 Board of Assessor's Representative: Selectmen Spellios*

*2019 Board of Health Representative: Selectmen Dreeben*

*2019 Board of Library Trustees Representative: Selectmen Spathanas*

*2019 Capital Improvements Committee Representative: Selectmen Hause*

*2019 Commission on Disabilities Representative: Tentatively Julie Delillo (HR Director)*

*2019 Conservation Commission Representative: Selectmen Spathanas*

*2019 Council on Aging Representative: Selectmen Dreeben*

*2019 Cultural Council Representative: Selectmen Dreeben*

*2019 Earth Removal Advisory Representative: Selectmen Spathanas*

*2019 Finance Committee Representative: Selectmen Spellios*

*2019 Harbor Advisory Waterfront Committee Representative: Selectmen Hause*

*2019 Historic District Commission Representative: Selectmen Jones*

*2019 Historical Commission Representative: Selectmen Jones*

*2019 Housing Authority Representative: Selectmen Dreeben*

*2019 Local Emergency Planning Committee Representative: Selectmen Dreeben*

*2019 Municipal Design Committee Representative: Selectmen Spellios*

*2019 Open Space and Recreation Committee Representative: Selectmen Jones*

*2019 Planning Board Representative: Selectmen Dreeben*

*2019 Rail Trail Design & Construction Advisory Committee Representative: Selectmen Spellios and Spathanas*

*2019 Recreation Committee Representative: Selectmen Spathanas*

*2019 Renewable Energy Committee Representative: Selectmen Spellios*

*2019 Retirement Board Representative: Selectmen Hause*

*2019 School Committee Representative: Selectmen Spathanas*

*2019 State Legislators Representative: Selectmen Dreeben*

*2019 Veterans Representative: Selectmen Hause*

*2019 Zoning Board of Appeals Representative: Selectmen Hause*

*2019 Article 6 Committee*

*The Town/School HR director may be assigned to the Commission of Disability as the AD coordinator.*

*This will be taken up at a future BOS meeting when the HR director can attend.*

**CONSENT AGENDA- VOTES OF THE BOARD**

*Appointment of Amy F Faeskorn to the Swampscott Cultural Council*

*Appointment of Jason Baletsa to the Swampscott Cultural Council*

*There was a motion to accept the consent agenda above by Selectmen Dreeben, the motion was seconded by Selectmen Jones all BOS members were unanimously in favor.*

*Town Administrator gave a week in review along with department head updates.*

**SELECTMEN TIME**

*Selectmen Dreeben for send best wishes for those who celebrate Rosh Hashanah and Yon Kippur.*

*Selectmen Jones spoke about the meeting on 10/15/19 where the school committee will meet with MSBA on the first steps of the long process of the feasibility study- to discuss enrollment projections.*

*Selectmen Spellios said the town received a letter from Marion Cronin from Fitchburg, MA to commend Detective Delano, Officer Pierce and Officer Bowden for their professionalism and compassion on a situation that happened in January. The BOS thanked the detective and two officers. Selectmen Hause made a motion to adjourn the meeting the motion was seconded by Selectmen Jones all BOS members were unanimously in favor.*

