

DRAFT

BOARD OF SELECTMENS

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 20, 2016

Swampscott, MA 01907

Called to Order: *A meeting of the Swampscott Board of Selectman was held at the Swampscott High School, 200 Essex Street, Swampscott, Mass at 7:00P.M.*

Attendance: *Chairman, Naomi Dreeben, Vice Chair, Laura Spathanas, Selectman John Callahan, Peter Spellios, and Thomas G. Younger, Town Administrator.*

Presentation:

Selectman John Callahan presented the Poet Laureate plaque to Stephen Iannaccone

Tree Hearing Appeal: The following tree removals were discussed:

- *Maple Tree @33 Farragut Road, Maple Tree @ 45 Andrew Road, Maple Tree @ 28 Norfolk Avenue, Cherry Tree @7 Railroad Avenue, Maple Tree @ 40 Hillside Avenue, Maple Tree @ 143 Aspen Road, Maple Tree @ 12 Curry Circle, Maple Tree @ 29 Eureka Avenue, Maple Tree @ 27 Crosman Avenue, Maple Tree @ 33 Crosman Avenue and the Maple Tree @ 15 Palmer Avenue.*

DPW Director, Gino Cresta, spoke on the above trees that were to be removed as part of the MassDOT Transportation Project. A number of residents opposed the tree removals. The Town hired a certified arborist to evaluate the twelve trees in question of being removed.

Selectman Dreeben requested that the Municipal Design Committee and Open Space Committee to take a look at the trees in question.

Selectman Callahan asked if the residents who are opposed to the removal of the above trees pay for the Arborist.

The following residents spoke:

Mr. William Jones, 45 Andrew Road, Swampscott, Mass requested the removal of the tree in front of his home.

Ms. Patricia Jones, 25 Farragut Road, Swampscott, Mass –oppose the removal of a tree in front of her home.

The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Selectman Strauss to remove the following trees located at 33 Farragut Road, 40 Hillside Avenue, 143 Aspen Road, 15 Palmer Avenue, 12 Curry Circle, 7 Railroad Avenue, seconded by Selectman Spellios.

Appointment:

The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Selectman Strauss to appoint Steven Alex, 39 Pond Street, Beverly, Mass to the position of Mechanical Equipment Operator for the Town of Swampscott subject to CORI certification and pre-employment physical effective February 1, 2016, seconded by Selectman Spellios.

Board & Committee Re-appointments

The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Selectman Strauss to create the Communications Committee as prescribed with the following members appointed with staggered terms, Amy Dragani, Jennifer Nisbet, Diane O'Brian, Glenn Paster and Amy Sessler Powell, seconded by Selectman Spathanas, seconded by Selectman Spathanas.

The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Selectman Strauss to appoint Jim Potts as a non -voting member of ERAC, seconded by Selectman Spathanas.

The Board voted on a motion by Selectman Strauss to re-appoint all current members of the Harbor and Waterfront Advisory Board, seconded by Selectman Spathanas.

The Board voted on a motion by Selectman Spellios to re-appoint Rick Rawlins, John McLaughlin and Sue Balleza to the Municipal Design Committee, seconded by Selectman Callahan.

Selectman Callahan gave his recommendation to reappoint Sylvia Belkin and two new members to the Historical Commission and Jean Reardon and Kim Barry as alternate members.

Member Sylvia Belkin was in attendance and stated she wants to be re-appointed to the Historical Commission.

The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Selectman Strauss to re-appoint Sylvia Belkin as a regular member and Jean Reardon and Kim Barry as alternate member of the Historical Commission, seconded by Selectman Spathanas.

Selectman Strauss commented that he would not vote to not re-appoint a long standing member of any Board and or Committee. Selectman Strauss felt that not re-appointing members is not a very nice thank you for their years of commitment on any Board or Committee. Selectman Strauss suggested the Board have a policy put in effect on re-appointments such as when members don't fill their obligations.

Selectman Spellios spoke on term limits, changing the Town Charter to have the Town Administrators do the appointments to Boards and Committees.

Member Jean Reardon of the Historical Commission spoke before the Board on her committee position which she was planning on stepping down but has since changed her mind and would like to be considered to stay on as an alternate member. Ms. Reardon spoke that she would like to see other Boards be in communication with the Historical Commission and believes the commission needs a watchdog at their meetings.

Open Discussion:

Atlantic Crossing extension of Tri Parte Agreement / Extension of Land Development Agreement: The following were spoken of:

- *Attorney Mr. Bill Luster spoke on outstanding taxes owed to the Town.*
- *Three foundations left to do at site. The Board was asked for a twelve month extension.*
- *Bank developer and Town asking for some direction.*
- *Atlantic Crossing will pay for streetlight in front of 848 Humphrey Street not in the complex and a LED bulb will be used.*
- *Closing on one on the properties on Friday will pay taxes owed on Monday.*
- *Selectman Dreeben wants the project to be completed, and asked about the landscaping of the properties, commented that she has seen the homes and they are beautiful.*
- *Selectman Spellios commented on his disappointment with the area being under planted, landscaping sparse, no trees being planted.*
- *Selectman Strauss also commented that he would like to see the project completed.*
- *Selectman Callahan questioned if a 12 month extension is going to be enough time.*

The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Selectman Strauss to approve the extension of the Tri Parte Agreement and Land Disposition agreement for Atlantic Crossing LLC as presented, payment for streetlight totally \$650.00, Occupancy Certificate not to be issued, all outstanding Municipal payments are paid, seconded by Selectman Spellios.

Votes of the Board:

Selectman Strauss to approve a Class II Car Dealers renewal for NJM, LLC /Michael Pergola, 221 Essex Street, Swampscott, Mass to expire January 1, 2017, seconded by Selectman Spathanas.

The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Selectman Callahan to approve a one day liquor license request from the Recreation Department for a sip wine education seminar to take place on Monday, March 4, 2016, to be held at the Swampscott Town Hall, seconded by Selectman Spathanas.

The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Selectman Strauss to approve a common victuallers permit for Swampscott Pizza and Grill, 197 Essex Street, Swampscott, Mass including four outdoor tables, four adjourning umbrellas, four chairs per table per the ZBA permit pending all fees paid to the Town and approved by the Health Department, seconded by Selectman Spathanas.

The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Selectman Callahan for approval of the Bond Anticipation Note / Sewer in the amount of \$969,490 to Eastern Bank as presented seconded by Selectman Spathanas.

Open Discussion/ Article 6 Committee:

Chairman, Michael McClung of the Article 6 Committee presented the Collins Report to the Board. Mr. McClung happy with the report and spoke of three points , delivery of services, more services for less, reduction points of failure with certain positions. The Collins Report has not been approved by the Article 6 Committee at this time.

- Outsourcing benefits
- Payroll processing
- Long term-school and town consolidation of business offices.
- Long Term-Planning Department, Building and Assessors all one office.
- Open the first floor conference room to improve Town flow in the building.
- Administrative support staff –adding no new positions.

Selectman Spellios commented this is an opportunity for Thomas Younger, Town Administrator to come back to the Board in time to inform the Board of these changes.

Selectman Strauss thanked the Article 6 Committee and commented that consolidating the Town with the School Business office is dear to his heart and encouraged the Town Administrator and the School Superintendent in completing the first few steps suggested in the Collins Report.

School Committee member Suzanne Wright spoke on the school side with technology is soft and looking to have the Collins Report back on the school side.

Member of the Article 6 Committee, MaryEllen Fletcher suggested that amount of people in and out of Town Hall should be on the report.

Selectman Dreeben thanked the Article 6 Committee for their report.

Mr. Thomas Younger, Town Administrator spoke on the recommendations of moving departments might not always seem like a cost saving's, website design and IT Director.

The FY2017-2021 Financial Forecast

The Town's Financial Forecast was given by Mr., Thomas G. Younger, Town Administrator.

New & Old Business:

Selectman Spellios requested that State Representative Laurie Erlich be called for a follow up regarding the status of the Town Charter that was filed five months earlier. Selectman Spellios suggested that in the future of agenda's that the scheduling of important and or residents issues be at the beginning of each agenda.

Town Administrator's Report:

Thomas G. Younger, Town Administrator spoke on the following items:

- Municipal Design Committee
- Financial Forecast will be added to the Town's website
- Swampscott Public Library/ request for new lights.

Selectman's Time:

Selectman Dreeban spoke of the upcoming MMA Conference.

Selectman Strauss spoke of resident Joe Valley and his new album.

Adjournment:

The Board voted on a motion by Selectman Spellios to adjourn the meeting seconded by Selectman Callahan.

By Attest:

*Maureen Shultz,
Board of Selectman*