

BOARD OF SELECTMENS
MEETING MINUTES
Swampscott High School
Monday, April 25, 2016
Swampscott, MA 01907

Called to Order: Attendance:

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

Resident Comment:

Resident Maryellen Fletcher asked Mr. Younger when and if Town Meeting members would be receiving the Town's Actuary as a supplement to the Town Meeting Warrant and asked for a reason and a future date on when the actuary will be received after inquiring about it prior.

Mr. Younger, Town Administrator explained that his Town Account, Dave Castellarin had been out of work due to a medical condition and is now back to full time status and will be working to get the actuary's completed.

Open Discussion:

Marzie Galazka, Vice Chair of the Finance Committee spoke on behalf of the Finance Committee regarding the Budget / Town Meeting.

Proclamation:

Chairman, Naomi Dreeben read aloud the Arbor and Bird Day proclamation and ceremony that will be held on Friday, April 29, 2016 at Orchard Circle, Swampscott, Mass. All invited to attend.

Open Discussion / Rockland Street / Demolition Delay:

Owner Mr. Wattendorf spoke on his concerns with the Historical Commission coming up with a new historic district to prevent him from living at 57 Rockland Street regarding the Demolition Delay.

Selectman Callahan spoke on his opinion that Rockland Street needs preservation and applauded the neighbors for their concerns of wanting to keep the neighborhood historic.

Selectman Strauss visited the Rockland Street home due to his lack of information on the home. Selectman Strauss commented the house was a wreck and would like Town Meeting to weigh in on this project. Selectman Strauss commented that maybe the Historic District can go street by street and look at different areas for a Historical District. Selectman Strauss commented if Town Meeting should every year put an article on the Town Warrant. Selectman Strauss has some doubt in the whole process and would suggest having the Article indefinitely postponed at Town Meeting.

Selectman Spathanas does not believe the process has been rushed and would like to see what Town Meeting decides on.

Selectman Spathanas spoke on the process and believes it was not rushed and is happy to bring it to Town Meeting.

Selectman Spellios agrees with Selectman Spathanas thoughts on Rockland Street.

Selectman Strauss spoke on bringing this to Town Meeting and let the voters decided.

JerJurma and Justina Oliver members of the Historical Committee and Resident Mr. Andrew Epstein supports the Demolition Delay at 57 Rockland Street.

Selectman Dreeben spoke to all in the audience and asked that everyone in the neighborhood try to work together on this common area, not everyone is happy but would like the neighborhood to be engaged in this process

Punish everyone in the street, flawed survey, selective zoning, feels they have the right to tell us what we can do, process was flawed.

There were residents who did voice their concerns for and against the Demolition Delay.

The Board voted on a motion by Selectman Strauss to in defiantly postponed Article 26 Historic District Commission / Demolition Delay, seconded by Selectman Spellios.

The Board voted three to two on a motion by Selectman Callahan to not recommend favorable action on Article 26, seconded by Selectman Spathanas. Selectman Dreeben, Selectman Spellios and Selectman Strauss opposed the motion.

Discussion:

Machon Green Wood Avenue property proposal discussion.

The Board voted 4 to 1 in favor on a motion by Selectman Spellios to designate the B'Nai Birth as the provisional developer of senior housing at the former Machon School and to approve Developer B'Nai B'rith as the designee to enter into negotiations, seconded by Selectman Strauss.

Selectman Callahan does not support the above motion.

Town Administrator's Report:

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

- *Proposed Roadways improvements.*
- *Thanked Mr. John McLaughlin on his work at Monument Avenue of flowers in the name of Swampscott.*
- *Turf Field design going forwarded.*
- *Thanked and Recognized Selectman Callahan and Selectman Strauss for their service to the Town.*

Selectman's Time:

Selectman Dreeben presented a plaque to Selectman Callahan for his three years of service to the Town of Swampscott as a dedicated member of the Board and wished him well in his future.

Selectman Callahan thanked each Board member that he has served with past and current. Selectman Callahan thanked the residents of the Town and encouraged them to be involved in the future of the Town. Selectman Callahan thanked the reporters for always showing up to meetings. Selectman Callahan recognized Thomas G. Younger, Town Administrator for his hard work on transparencies. Selectman Callahan thanked the TV Production crew.

Selectman Spathanas thanked John for his service and wished him the best. Selectman Spathanas wished Selectman Strauss good luck on the election.

Selectman Strauss commented that it has been a pleasure to serve with Selectman Callahan and thanked him for participating in great conversations. Selectman Strauss that he is re-elected which he has stated has been the greatest honor to serve the Town of Swampscott. Selectman Strauss read aloud all the past 12 members of the past Board members he has worked with which that has created friendships. Selectman Spellios thanked the Administration on the recent Racism and anti - schematic in the Town

Adjournment:

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

By Attest:

*Maureen Shultz,
Board of Selectman*