

DRAFT

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Swampscott, MA 01907

Attendance: *Chairman, Naomi Dreeben, Vice Chair, Laura Spathanas, Selectman Patrick Jones, Peter Spellios, and Town Administrator, Sean Fitzgerald.*

Resident Comment:

Mr. Mark Shilo, Swampscott Pack 55 Cub Master looking for permission from the Board of Selectman to proceed to install the new roof on the Girl Scout Hut and to perform other items such as cleanup for use of the proposed site.

Selectman Jones commented he would like to eliminate parking on Foster Road, and requested that the Conservation Committee and Open Space Committee be involved in the making of any plans at the location.

The Board voted on a motion by Selectman Spathanas to give Sean Fitzgerald, Town Administrator the authority to negotiate on behalf of the Board for a lease and a plan of the renovations for the Girl Scout Hut for community programs including follow up with the Building Inspector, seconded by Selectman Jones.

Resident Mr. Richard Feinberg suggested naming rights to Blocksidge Field for Mr. Peter Sak and Mr. Roger Voke for their many years of service to the Town. Mr. Feinberg requested a recognition of both individuals at a future football game. Chairman Dreeben stated these requests would be taken under advisement. Mr. Richard Feinberg suggest that a topic of pit bulls be added to a future agenda.

Resident Mr. Tom Palleria spoke on the following topics: transparency of ownership of the proposed property of the Rail Trail, eminent domain, best interest of the Town to do a title search going back to the 1800's, clear title along the corridor, spending tax papers money on a title search, information that the Town has is protected by law, suggest the Board not willing to share information with the public regarding ownership of the rail trail property, asked where the Town stands now on clearing the title along the corridor.

Town Administrator, Sean Fitzgerald spoke on the following:

- *New Budget format / changes*
- *Overview of the last 10 years of budgets*
- *Tax growth*
- *Future revenue / choices / exemptions*
- *Small commercial exemptions*
- *Quarterly reports / Munis reports year to date.*
- *Revenue reports*
- *Quarterly Reports*
- *Manage Fiscal responsibility*
- *Metric of budgeting*
- *Addition of eight liquor licenses / Selectman Spellios spoke on geographically best use of these licenses when they become available.*
- *Dog issues in Town -enforcement, citations, majority are great dog owners some dog owners not picking up after their dogs.*
- *Attended "Walk in their shoes" program about Dementia & Alzheimer's -great program.*

Selectman Spellios spoke on end of the month reports given to the Board and to the Finance Committee, prefer to set a date of when this will be done, communicate with the Finance Committee to see what they would like on these reports.

Selectman Jones suggested a monthly expenditure report might not be feasible, but a quarterly discussion would also be agreeable.

Selectman Spellios spoke on his ideas about a Town Meeting discussion on the budget, suggested a 15-20 presentation at Town Meeting on setting the tax rate, options that the Board has for setting the tax rate, general overview, tax growth, fiscal year tax rate FY 18, choices and the future of taxes-possible questions / answer time.

Selectman's Time:

Selectman Dreeben asked the Board for their input on possibly meeting on a Saturday with Departments or keep the discussion at a scheduled meeting.

Selectman Spellios would prefer a night meeting with Town Departments, budgets more pressing, topic items for future agendas to be determined.

Selectman Dreeben recognized Andrew's Chapel and their members including the support from the DPW Department and Gino Cresta, DPW Director on receiving the Statewide Preservation Award from the state.

Selectman Spellios spoke on streets not being safe, speed a factor, extra wide corners, softer turns onto to side streets, slip lanes, example Nason Road has a lot of children -straight shot cut through road, suggestion to explore permanent traffic measures that can be done, Walker Road near Paradise Road / Stetson Avenue near Norfolk , Farragut & Walker Road, just to name a few, worth us having a dialogue / traffic study –not a long discussion -obvious needs work to be done now -merits the Town attention.

DPW Department and Gino Cresta, DPW Director was recognized along with his Department for their current and up to date Suggestion to have Gino Cresta, DPW Director to work with Pete Kane from the Traffic Study -an extra eye on the roads.

Selectman Jones suggested an action plan going forward.

Sean Fitzgerald, Town Administrator spoke on pedestrian safety being a priority.

Selectman Dreeben suggested this subject could be on a future agenda.

Adjournment:

The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Selectman Spathanas to close meeting seconded by Selectman Jones.

True Attest:

*Maureen Shultz,
Administrative Assistant*