



**Town of Swampscott**  
**Select Board Meeting Minutes**  
March 24, 2021 – 6:00 PM  
Virtual Meeting

**SELECT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Peter Spellios (Chair), Polly Titcomb, Neal Duffy, David Grishman

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Don Hause

**TOWN STAFF:**

Sean Fitzgerald, Town Administrator; Allie Fiske, Director of Communications; Police Chief Ron Madigan; Police Capital Joe Kable

**POLICE INVESTIGATION REPORT**

Police Chief Ron Madigan spoke briefly to provide context to the external review. He stated that he accepts the results of the review. He introduced Alan Gould, President of Municipal Resources, Inc. the agency that conducted the investigation. Chief Gould provided background information about MRI which has completed police projects for more than 30 years. MRI is comprised of lead investigator and 3 peer reviewers. The lead investigator is Andy Lavoie, Senior Police Consultant.

Chief Gould provided a recap of the incident on December 12, 2020. MRI reviewed related documents and reports, videos, and conducted interviews. He reviewed the key findings stated in the report as well as the conclusion. He then reviewed recommendations. These included implementing Body Worn Cameras; provide for audio and video recording of the booking room at the police station; refresher training on topics such as interview & interrogation, report writing, and Swampscott Police Department policies related to these topics; and use its “Special Events Planning Policy” when preparing for events.

Town Administrator Sean Fitzgerald reflected on the review and several of the findings. The Select Board was invited to present questions to MRI regarding the report. There was a discussion about the role race played in the arrest and how the investigation addresses this question. There was also a discussion about the lack of a statement gathered from the individual arrested. The Select Board talked about accreditation and the Swampscott Police Department’s policies and the importance of following them along with post-incident reviews.

The Select Board discussed at length the lack of investigation and how this impacted the direction of the legal case. There was a discussion about probable cause as a mechanism for the arrest.

Chief Madigan was asked to elaborate on whether or not findings in the investigation have impacted mitigation efforts. He stated that body cameras will be implemented and they are looking into funding for in-car video as well. He is also investigating case management software so cases are assigned and tracked.

Town Administrator Fitzgerald emphasized that regardless of the report, that race continues to be an issue that needs to be faced and discussed. Chief Madigan spoke about the commitment of the Police Department to bring in training and education about race and antiracism.

On **MOTION** (Grishman) and **SECONDED** (Duffy) it was **VOTED** by roll call to open and continue the following hearings:

- 6:30 PM Public Hearing: Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at 6:30 P.M. on Zoom (info below) during the Select Board meeting for all parties interested in an application for an Alteration of Premises request from G Restaurant, LLC located at 254-256 Humphrey St. Swampscott, MA 01907.
- 6:40 PM Public Hearing: Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at 6:40 P.M. on Zoom (info below) during the Select Board meeting for all parties interested in an application for a Section 15 Off-Premises Retail Wines and Malt Beverage Package Store license request from Little G Provisions LLC located at 250-252 Humphrey St. Swampscott, MA 01907.

Roll call: Grishman (YES) Titcomb (YES) Duffy (YES) Spellios (YES)

On **MOTION** (Grishman) and **SECONDED** (Duffy) it was **VOTED** by roll call to adjourn the meeting. Titcomb (YES) Hause (YES) Grishman (YES) Duffy (YES) Spellios (YES)

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM

True Attest,



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Allie Fiske, Assistant to the Town Administrator

*Minutes APPROVED by vote of the Select Board 4/21/21*