

The Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 beginning at 6:30pm in the Main Meeting Room of the Town Hall. The following members were present.

Clifton Snuffer, Chairman
James Stanton, Vice Chairman
David Salvatore, Clerk
Mark Gallivan
Eric Kraus

Also present
James Johnson, Town Administrator
Cindy Berube, Executive Assistant

Mr. Snuffer called the meeting to order at 6:30pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PROCLAMATIONS

2-1 Mr. Salvatore read the announcements from the Town Clerk later in the meeting.

SPONSORED AGENDA ITEMS

2-2 Police Interviews

Chief Carmichael introduced Richard Habr candidate. Mr. Habr stated he is from Walpole but grew up in Norwood and attended Norwood HS. He wanted to be a law enforcement officer. He looked at Maine and that was the best move at the time, worked in Portland for 3 years, proactive, traffic stops etc. He was given the opportunity to become a drug recognition expert. He resigned at the end of September due to my family and worked in the family business. Looking forward a year from now he hopes to be more oriented with laws. His biggest thing is impaired driving. Respectfulness, fairness to the residents of the town. He has never testified as a drug expert. His thoughts on opioids, he is aware of people from Norwood overdosing and some passing away. Maine was just starting the process of carrying Narcam. His goal in four to five years would be to train other officers in better identifying people in other things than alcohol. Trainer, part of the DRE panel within the state, move up to rank and become a Sgt. and help the dept. move forward.

South Portland is the 4th largest city in Maine. Demographics are about the same as Walpole, one call, second shift, seen a lot of various calls. He had a two year old chocking on thumbtack, which was the toughest call. I was able to dislodge the item.

It was noted that S. Portland ethnicity is changing and his fluency in French and Arabic were helpful. He believes these skills will be most helpful. Academy trained.

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to appoint Richard Habr as a Walpole Police Officer at a Step 2 subject to the following conditions:

1. Successful completion of a pre-employment *physical* exam including drug screening;
2. Successful completion of a *psychological* exam,
3. Successful completion or “Pass” on the *Police Officer Physical Abilities Test* (PAT) administered by HRD.
4. Successful completion of the *MPTC recruit academy or MPTC waiver*;
5. Successful completion of one year of employment as a police officer - *probation*. Probation period begins AFTER you have completed the recruit police academy.

Seconded by Mr. Gallivan VOTED 5-0-0

Ms. Slavin grew up in Town, and has wanted to be an officer since she could remember. Her dad is in law enforcement in Boston and has been a huge influence. She hopes to learn from the other officers and be none in town, show people she is a decent person and approachable. Getting to know the job and the people. Step up in the community. She is an Emergency Dispatcher and talked about a call one time, with a woman whose boyfriend talked about harming himself, tried to calm her down. Work directing her out of the house. One of the more nerve racking calls she had. She sees Opioids as huge problem and they are everywhere. Narcam is a great tool, it is lifesaving. That gives people a second chance. They should have diversion program in schools starting in an early age. In the future she hopes to be in a leadership position. She would like to get into more training. How she can improve things.

Her dad told her to always keep your wits about you, think first, don't act on your first impulse. You need to think before you act, make the right decisions. Your job is holding someone's life in your hands, put yourself above others, present yourself that way.

She talked about handling calls that come in. You are the 1st responder, how do you send help. You need to get the location, idea of what is going on. You can get them talking. The first thing is the location. Everything else is secondary.

MOITION moved by Mr. Kraus to appoint Michelle Slavin as a Walpole Police Officer at a step 1 subject to the following conditions:

Successful completion of a pre-employment *physical* exam including drug screening;

Successful completion of a *psychological* exam,

Successful completion or “Pass” on the *Police Officer Physical Abilities Test* (PAT) administered by HRD.

Successful completion of the *MPTC recruit academy or MPTC waiver*;

Successful completion of one year of employment as a police officer - *probation*. Probation period begins AFTER you have completed the recruit police academy.

Seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 5-0-0

Chief Carmichael reported that on 21st January they had report from Norwood, Armed robbery; as a result, the victim was assaulted. Stole money 2 individuals notified Walpole Officer Tolland, Doherty and tried to stop the car. Ended up on Kendall Street. Once the second individual fled Officer VanNess found the \$2,000. Multiple officers there. It was a very difficult volatile situation; I am proud how they responded to this. Followed all the protocol. They are making split second decisions.

2-3 7:00pm Coffee Perch Inc. d/b/a The Ravens Vine, PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to open the public hearing for The Ravens Vine seeking a Wine and Malt Common Victualler’s license, seconded Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 5-0-0

Mark and Maura McAuliffe. Maura talked about how they came a year ago to request for options to keep their coffee shop open. Ravens Nest has been open for six years, and we love this town, invested a lot in this town and community. Our hope was to continue with the Coffee Shop. People like drive thru coffee shops. We thought it complimented that corner. We closed the doors and hopes that an article would be past in the fall for a license. Carry the rent for 12 months and utilities. The opportunity for a beer and wine license came available and it brings us back to what we hope to keep the shop alive. The concept we have now will complement the Ravens Nest, spill over space for weekends, people can have a glass of wine, cold menu, not a full kitchen. This would rotate by season, your wines and craft beers will change by season. Eating in the Ravens Nest our specials change. A cold based menu, prepped in the Ravens nest.

Mr. Snuffer pointed out so you are seeking the license for a waiting area for Ravens. Mark it will have its own identity it is not a waiting room for the Ravens nest. We will have espresso machine, desserts. Maura, we will not have the same as what we have in the Ravens Nest, we do not want it to be a place people will wait. We want people to have an alternative. We want our Main St to be alive. We had walkers come in and we want to bring that back. We cannot sustain a \$2.00 cup of coffee. Mark it has its own identity.

Phil Macchi Jr. Counsel on behalf of Walpole Cooperative Bank. We have no problem with the concept in brining restaurants downtowns. Two concerns, we have a public safety issue, the Walpole Cooperative Bank did an expansion, they put in an emergency access gate, and leave a open passage way. It is a requirement of the Fire dept. Showed the property line which is the white line on a picture which he submitted. The bank owns out to Common Street. Part of the current site plan agreed to block access, unauthorized traffic from Common Street, concern by the fire dept. they could not get to the Ravens Nest, or nail salon. The bank does everything to keep it open. Our concern with this use, the access should be unimpeded. At this point with the proposed use, you are going to bring more people in at peak times. Address that the gate is open.

The second is public health; there is a problem with the sewer behind the restaurant and the bank. I am not clear whether the applicant is having two kitchens or increasing the load on that line. That line has failed. That issue needs to be addressed. As a result of a blockage the bank needed to have their building cleaned. Phil Prescott, president of Walpole Co-op, charge of bldg. and grounds. In October 2014 sewerage backup in to the bank. The space in the basements, it is 10 years old, we finished the lower level, after the backup in 2014, we did not have use of that space for over four months, had to rent space for meetings. Around 6:30am and opened the door when I got to the basement I had a brand new pair of shoes, there was a large backup. It was a mess. I called the plumber, the police called the S&W dept. and Superintendent Rick Mattson sent a team. What I found out after they looked at the lines, there was a major sewer backup the night before. Before we could open up we had a plumber, Sewer Company. I had Sewer and Water dept. come down and we were assured they would be involved. Took a number of days, cleaners in there doing, rip out the bottom of the walls, pull out cabinets. The whole week more and more was taken out. Started the job of rebuilding, took a long time. He hired companies to look at the sewer issue. We need to protect ourselves. Number of time we find grease in the lines. He is purging them monthly.

Mr. Snuffer asked if any of those efforts determine where the source was. Where is the grease coming from? Mr. Kraus asked who owns the building that is the Ravens Nest. Mr. Kraus if this is ongoing issue, where is the grease coming from? Mr. Snuffer, the constant attention Mr. Mattson has to deal with.

Phil Prescott, in 2015, yellowish material is grease. We had another backup. The town showed us grease at the end of the line. Mr. Hockman came in and we dug up next to the bank and we put in a manhole. Tomorrow morning we are putting in an alarm in the manhole. We have invested in technology. Showed a picture of the manhole. On the right side of the picture, you can see the grease. When we looked at the manholes, came down on the 27th. All we are asking there be no grease in the lines. We have only one business, if we have another catastrophe. I do not think grease should go in the lines. All we are asking for the bank figure out what this problem is. Every morning I come, I look around and flush the toilets.

Jim Shawl, president CEO, I have listened to the owners, the viability of that restaurant it makes sense, good food, but we have been here for 100 years. We have a core base of our customers. They created the basement area and it is a viable part of our business. Consideration, we do have a grease problem, in the event it happens and we have to vacate the building we will have to

disrupt a lot of residents. There is grease coming from somewhere. Ask you to step back and try to figure this out.

Mr. Kraus noted this is not the 1st time there has been an issue, the S&W clears the line repeatedly. Step one is to figure out where it is coming from. No one questions the commitment of the bank in this town. I know you do a lot of good and I appreciate that. I am also a frequenter of the Ravens Nest. There has to be some way to figure this out.

Maura explained that grease comes from fried food, hood fans, and the Ravens Vine is not going to have any of these. This is a wine Espresso bar. No increase in grease. Mr. Snuffer questioned them if they have a grease separator? Mark explained they have Windriver come clean the traps. When this happens with the bank. I called Robin showed her the log; they clean out the grease trap.

Mr. Johnson noted that Windriver does do their inspections. What the Board can do is to get further information.

Mr. Salvatore asked the bank if there is an easement in the back. The owner has a passable easement. Mr. Salvatore, so the cars on the fence they are parked on the Banks land. Can you inform the vehicles owners they cannot park there? You would need to be vigilant. Attorney Macchi, we are not required to police the area.

Phil Macchi Sr. The issue of the passage way goes back to 2009, we submitted a memo to the owner of the property, and we told them no parking is allowed. The previous owner's attorney agreed it was a passage way only. The passage way is a legal entity owned by the bank. The purpose was for safety. When Mr. Gunny bought it, acknowledgment of it but no action taken on it. It is really a historical part of the community, difficult to say to the bank, we want you to tag every car. They posted no parking. A lot of people park in front of the gate. Phil Macchi Jr., we did not ask you not to support the license. Mr. Gunning signed the application, if you grant the license condition it or not to say to use their best efforts to not park in front of the gate. Mr. Snuffer, what I am suggesting to you I as chairman, to make a prudent decision, separate one from the other, have more time to look at the issue, to truly to find the direction.

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to continue the public hearing for a Wine and Malt Common Victualler's license application at The Raven's Vine until March 1, 2016 at 7:30pm as there issues the Board wishes to investigate further, seconded by Mr. Kraus, VOTED 4-0-1 (Mr. Salvatore abstained)

2-4 **Indie Go Public Hearing, Wine and Malt license**

The applicant did not meet the requirements of MGL C. 138 Section 15A which requires notification to abutters within 3 days of the Public hearing notice being advertised in the newspaper. He did not notify any of the abutters. The Board may not open the public hearing and requires no action. He applied for the same license as the Raven's Vine.

The applicant stated the reason for his failure, when the letter went out to him he was out of the country. All I am seeking is an opportunity is to send out the letters. He wanted to know if he

could refile his application as the Board continued the previous hearing. The Board will speak with Town counsel to determine if that is viable.

8:00PM **OPEN FORUM**

Bill Hamilton went to the Planning Board meeting regarding the Hotel. Wondering was due diligence was done. Concerned this would become a magnet for family in need may have a detrimental effect on our schools. He does not want to see the Planning Board issue Special permits. Concerned about the WRPOD.

2-5 Good Energy News

John ORourke representing Good Energy News about the town taking over the initiative of allowing their residents having more choice. Once the aggregation is implemented anyone can opt out. Increase competition to choice for residents and businesses for electrical supplier. Add more renewable energy to the fuel mix.

Good Energy LP, National leader in the municipal aggregation Mass leader in municipal electricity Aggregation. Gives people option reducing the rates for their residents, Mass leader. This is authorized by MGL Chapter 164, Section 134. As of November they have put together 24 towns. We got a bid for those communities the national grid region. In the Eversource region 1.8 cents below, saving money. Large staff, daily in the market so we know what is going on in the market. Large industrial cliental. Recognized leader best practices, brought this to Massachusetts two years ago. Excellent relationship with DOER and DPR and before our plans were submitted pre meetings with them, what they wanted in the plans, we did it within 73 days.

Develop the aggregation plan. Our staff develops the plan with approval of this Board and makes it available for public review and comment. The staff guides the plan thru the process.

DPU is concerned that the residents and businesses understand the process. Citizen can see the plan and know what it is about. Public outreach, we are available to come out and do meetings. We have television programs/radio. In Attleboro needed their info in 6 different languages. We did that, both the video and the printed material.

Has a good relationship with the Mass Energy Consumers' Alliance, the leader in the commonwealth for sourcing MA Class I renewable energy certificates.

Mr. Johnson anytime we can save the residents of the town money we should try. Eversource would continue to transmit and deliver. The only difference is the supplier. The 24 communities had a choice one year 18months 2 years. They chose a two year contract. This program is for residents and businesses; it does not prohibit the town. The town can get a better rate than the aggregate. They are a consultant and a broker. They were chosen by the MAPC.

Mr. Salvatore, you talked about 8.8cents savings, per kilowatt hour. We get solicited from suppliers, how is this different from that. About 85% have stayed with local companies. Mr. ORourke, this would protect the residents. We do not solicit people where they have already gone, some advantage that is available to the whole town. The buying power is greater than the

individual going to a supplier. Mr. Gallivan is in favor of the idea, even if they opt in the can opt out; It will lower the base rates for everyone.

2-16 **Spring T. Meeting Warrant**

Mr. Johnson asked the Board not to sign the warrant. An issue came up about Cable funds, working with counsel to try to figure this out. We could treat this similar to the ambulance fund. Want to work with the auditors. May need to add an article to the warrant.

2-7 **Primary Election Warrant, March 1, 2016**

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to open, close and Sign the Presidential Primary warrant for March 1, 2016, seconded by Mr. Stanton, VOTED 5-0-0

2-8 **A frame request, JWCW**

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to grant permission to place an A-frame on the town Common from February 24-March 9 to announce the Annual Fashion Show as requested by the JWCW, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 5-0-0

2-9 **Christine Cochrane, Historical Commission**

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to change the member of Christine Cochrane from an Associate member to a Regular member on the Historical Commission , seconded by Mr. Stanton, VOTED 5-0-0

2-10 **Numerous One Day All Alcoholic Licenses, Knights of Columbus**

MOTION moved by Mr. Stanton to grant a One day All Alcoholic Liquor license to the Knights of Columbus for the following dates: February 12th, February 19th, February 26th, March 4th, March 11th, and March 12th. Seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 5-0-0

2-11 **Use of A. Farm, Plant Swap**

MOTION moved by Mr. Kraus to grant permission to Lance Robinson to hold the annual Plant Swap at Adams Farm on June 4, 2016, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 5-0-0

2-12 **Bid Award, 2016-08, Septate receiving improvements**

Mr. Johnson explained it is a grid handling system. Takes the rocks out and recommend favorable action.

MOTION moved by Mr. Gallivan to award contract no. 2016-08 to Interstate Water & Wastewater Specialists, Windham NH for a lump sum of \$114,400.00, seconded by Mr. Kraus VOTED 5-0-0

A questioned what raised regarding how the profitability of the Grit Chamber and Mr. Johnson will check into this.

2-13 **Award of RFP Contract 2-16-12, Commercial Industrial Revaluation**

MOTION moved by Mr. Gallivan to award Contract 2016-12 to Vision Government Solutions, Northboro, MA for a cost for FY17 of \$38,400, seconded by Mr. Stanton, VOTED 5-0-0

2-14, 2-14 **Gift Acceptances**

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to accept the gift from an anonymous donor in the amount of \$200 to the Library Gift Account with much gratitude, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 5-0-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to accept the gift from an anonymous donor in the amount of \$120.65 to the Town Forest Trust Fund, seconded by Mr. Kraus, VOTED 5-0-0

TOWN ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

Budget Message was delivered last night.

Siemens Tour – If member is interested let Jim know what date and time works for them. They will have an open session for T. meeting members

Building Commissioner-started interviewing for this job and he would like to have the Board's input. Mr. Gallivan has agreed to assist him and he will be interviewing 10 candidates.

Asst. Town Acct- Susan Brown is will serve as the new Asst. town Accountant.

Mr. Snuffer noted at the MMA conference, the MMA best practices series. If you want a copy we can ask them to send us copies. The other obligation to lead, it is on the Opioid aspects. Specter Energy, keep our eyes on that.

OLD BUSINESS

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm, seconded by Mr. Kraus, VOTED 5-0-0