

The Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 beginning at 7:00pm in the Main Meeting Room of the Town Hall. The following members were present.

Eric Kraus, Chairman
Nancy Mackenzie, Clerk
Mark Gallivan
David Salvatore

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

Mr. Kraus called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPOINTMENTS

1-11 Appointment to COA, Linda Winslow

Mr. Kraus thanked her for seeking to join the Council on Aging. Ms. Winslow stated she is a retired registered nurse. I feel proud to be a resident of Walpole and it has been ideal for growing my family. My contribution can be done in this way by becoming a member of the COA. Looking forward to the new facility.

MOTION moved Mrs. Mackenzie moved to appoint Linda Winslow to the Council on Aging to fill an Unexpired term until April 1, 2018, seconded Mr. Salvatore, VOTED 4-0-0

1-12 Appointment to COA, Dorothea Atallah-Hanes

Mrs. Hanes spoke of living in town for 25 years. After her husband died she came to the senior center and joined it. She was a Medical technologist by trade retired.

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to appoint Dorothea Atallah-Hanes to the Council on Aging as an Associate member for a term until April 1, 2018, seconded by Mr. Kraus, VOTED 4-0-0

1-13 Appointment to Board of Health, Stephan Schaub

Mr. Schaub started his life in Walpole and then moved to Medfield. He moved back to Walpole four years ago. He went to school for environmental health and safety. He has been working as an Environmental, Health & Safety professional for over 10 years. He wanted to become involved with the Board of Health. He is seeking an appointment as an associate member.

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to appoint Stephan Schaub to the Board of Health as an Associate member for a term until April 1, 2018 seconded by Mr. Gallivan VOTED 4-0-0

1-14 Appointment to Adams Farm Committee, Wayne Ellis

Mr. Ellis is a lifelong resident of Walpole. Adams Farm is in his neighborhood and would like to know what is happening with it. He is very familiar with the property. He runs Pioneer Farms on Fisher Street. He is seeking to fill the unexpired term.

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to appoint Wayne Ellis to the Adams Farm Committee to fill an Unexpired term until April 1, 2019, seconded MG 4-0-0

1-15 Walpole Elder Service and Veteran Work Off Tax Credit Program, Amendment

Mr. Cogan has been doing this program for the last 4 years. Not a lot of increase in Social Security. A lot are just living off their Social Security income I am asking to raise the amount a resident can make from 750 to 1,000.

Mr. Johnson recommends Favorable Action.

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to approve the request to increase the work off program credit from \$750 to \$1,000 for both the Elder Service and Veteran work off Tax Credit Program, seconded by Mr. Gallivan VOTED 4-0-0

1-20 Appointment of Paul Henneberry as Walpole Police officer

With the retirement of Lt. Leland back in October there is an opening for a Lieutenant on the police force. This Police officer position would be vacant once a current Sgt. is made a Lt. and an officer is made the Sgt. There is an academy beginning in March and they would like to send Paul subject to him meeting conditions. They are hoping to have the new Lt and Sgt. appointed prior to the Academy.

Chief Carmichael spoke about this appointment. He would go to Academy in March in Quincy. Paul is a longtime WA resident. Attended Mass Maritime Academy. We found he was ready and able to go into the Police Academy. He told us how important it was for him to finish. He made school his priority. We do an extensive background on our people and everyone we talked to highly recommend him for this position. He really did have all the qualifications and character we look for, great addition to the Police Dept.

Paul Henneberry graduated from Walpole High School in 2008. His long time girlfriend and he are engaged to be married, purchased their first home in Walpole. We are routed in Walpole. He was a police Intern, Administrative Assistant to the Project officer in Somerville and was responsible for budgeting and assisting in the planning of logistical portion of implementing a new Marine patrol unit within the department. He enjoys golfing.

Mr. Gallivan you were an intern at Somerville PD. Mr. Henneberry explained it wasn't for the typical police officer duties. They are looking for more force with the casino. Different experience than I thought, It was helpful. It was neat to see different aspects of policing. It lacked that real Police officer training that I was hoping for.

Mr. Salvatore, you started off in criminal justice, when you went to Mass Maritime, you went in a different direction. Mr. Henneberry explained he always wanted to be a police officer; Emergency Management is an important part of our society. I have always known that Mass Maritime was a prestigious school. When I saw they had an Emergency Management program I wanted to go. Mr. Salvatore did you cover what police are doing in Emergency preparedness. Mr. Henneberry stated no, more FEMA, one of our Professors was a Police Officer, and I did get some insight into that.

Mr. Kraus, fast forward a year from now what are your accomplishments. Mr. Henneberry being an active member of the community. I like community policing and to be involved in your community, I would like to be a part of that aspect. Talking to residents and storeowners.

Mr. Kraus what is the biggest issue in this town? Mr. Henneberry stated the common ongoing drug crisis, major problem, not only Walpole but other communities. On the news they have talked about Candy Marijuana being ingested by children.

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to offer Paul Henneberry a conditional appointment as a Walpole Police Officer 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.
NOTE: Per HRD rules, if you fail the first PAT test, you have a right to take it one additional time. You will be required to take the test to meet the Town’s hiring and training schedule. If you fail the test a second time your name will be removed from consideration.
4. Successful completion of the recruit academy
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 3-0-1(Mrs. Mackenzie abstained)

NEW BUSINESS

1-19 Walpole Fire and Rescue Station, Affidavit and Declaration of Restriction

Mr. Johnson explained they are looking to have the Chief sign an affidavit that only Walpole Fire Department employees will be allowed on the second floor. The second floor of the new station will house the living quarters, employee restrooms and will only be accessed by Employees. The Affidavit will be filed with the Registry of Deeds. Mr. Salvatore wondered what if you have an administrative employee who is in a wheelchair or requires use of an elevator. Mr. Johnson explained that Town counsel provided this language. This is what they provided, we are mindful of what you are saying. Mr. Salvatore, so it is Firefighters only.

Mr. Johnson is asking the Board to vote the declaration of restriction for the Fire Station not having an elevator to the second floor.

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to sign the Declaration of Restriction on the Fire Station that the second floor at 20 Stone Street will not be open or used by the public at any time as reference in letter December 29, 2016 from Fire Chief Bailey, document 1-19, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 4-0-0

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

MOTION moved by Mr. Salvatore to approve the following consent Agenda Items as listed

1. Request from League School of Greater Boston to hold annual 5k Road Race and 1 Mile Walk on April 1, 2017. (1-16)
2. Request from the Norfolk County Agricultural School to have a bonfire during their Winter Carnival on January 28, 2017 (1-17)

Seconded by Mr. Gallivan VOTED 4-0-0

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

Community Development Block Grant for the COA- The town is working on the grant application. The town will be required to hold multiple public hearings on this matter. The first hearing will be held on January 31 and the second for February 21. Both of these will take place in the library. Mrs. Mackenzie suggested that one of the meetings be held during the day.

Budgets-Cindy has begun the process of putting the budget books together. He is working on his budget message which will be delivered on February 2nd at the library.

Vehicle Maintenance Facility-The bids to design the facility are due back in January. There is currently a placeholder on the warrant for this matter.

MINUTES

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to approve the minutes of December 6, 2016 seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 4-0-0

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to approve the minutes of December 20, 2016 seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 4-0-0

7:30PM **OPEN FORUM**

As we now turn to Open Forum, I would like to preface people's comments with a few points. There are a number of folks who want to comment on the vote this Board took at our last meeting regarding single-stream recycling.

While the topic was being discussed at that time, I tried to ensure that everyone who wanted to comment got a chance to do so. Unfortunately, I missed a couple of people who raised their hands. This was by no means intentional and I have since apologized. I was asked if people could speak tonight, and I had no issues with the request because it is the right thing to do.

As I mentioned at the start of that discussion two weeks ago ... the Board Selectmen had received more than 100 emails and phone calls regarding the subject, and there were as many folks in favor of the recycling change as there were people against the change. I spent a great deal of time researching the topic, speaking with other towns and evaluating the options. And, I know my three colleagues on this Board did the same.

I mention this because our vote against the change was not made in haste or because a disproportional number of people on one side of the topic spoke at the meeting. Our decision was made based on a number of factors.

That said, going forward, our Town Administrator has assured this Board that discussions on hotbed issues ... and this is one of those issues ... will not be discussed at the eleventh hour but rather well before a respective contract is up for renewal.

One last point ... I know that there has been some discussion regarding the Board reconsidering its vote. Unfortunately, under Open Town Meeting Law, given that this is not on tonight's agenda, we cannot do that this evening. That said if a majority of the three Selectmen who voted against single stream at the last meeting want to make a motion for a reconsideration vote, Cindy will ensure it gets on the agenda for the next meeting.

We now will begin the Open Forum session. Because this is in Open Forum please remember to keep your comments to three minutes, and I will do my best to ensure that anyone who wants to speak gets the opportunity.

7:35pm Jennifer Geostis, 140 Endean Drive, resident for 9 years last 5 years on S. Committee informed the Board and audience that she is a member of the Walpole School Committee. Walpole is doing more for less this is the message I have heard on the School Committee. Overhaul the SPED transportation, a different way and we can save \$100,000 if we go with Single Stream, later we can see subsequent savings of around \$800,000. She did not think that

number has been discussed. Stay with our luxury trash system. There is no place for this where Walpole does more for less. Environmental impact, trash tonnage is going up. Recycling is made difficult but making people separate items. Don't like being forced to divide items into different bins. Simplify the process. RC got a grant. The BOH was willing to work with residents regarding their concerns. Walpole does not embrace change and I learned that when I ran for School committee. I had someone holding a sign for me and someone else holding one up for another individual. They said to her sorry your friend will not win she is not from Walpole. I am glad to have proven that sentiment wrong. It seems to me that people are afraid of change. But change is good when it comes to trash disposal. Just ask are neighboring towns of the savings by going to single stream recycling. She feels the residents can learn the new system just like our neighbors. Walpole learns from other towns, as a Board member I benchmark how we consider how we spend taxpayer's money. Talked about other towns generating less trash than Walpole. If other towns can figure how to move to single stream Walpole can. Lack of education, can bet to the same level of savings if we promote recycling. Simplifying process it what gets you the reduction. Would like to go to single stream and educate more and make fun. Maybe we can get our recycling rates close to neighbors. We should make those that are not recycling pay the fees. The average household can get by with one trash 94 gallon. She encourages the Board to hold off signing the 5 year contract. Suggested a household survey and the Board should have held with the Board of Health an information meeting. She is looking for Board to grant a 1 year contract. Thinks they can do better as a town. It can free up cash for other uses. She asked for them to reconsider their vote.

Ally Hamilton, 20 Pilgrim Way has a petition for the Board. Thank you for the opportunity to talk to this a bit more. The current rate of 17% recycling is far less than most communities, appalling that we do not recycle more. Trash is sent to an incinerator. Many towns have found the ways to control cost. She is supportive of a Stream Line recycling. Disappointed that we do not single stream trash removal in town. Has a petition signed by residents. We had over 385 people sign that they want single stream.

1730 Washington St. The tipping fee is \$25. Mr. Kraus we can not engage in conversation. Talked about 2013 report on trash. The MASS DEP has not received an application for a new landfill. Talked about instate capacity for trash landfills. Talked about the increase in the fee to use landfills. This will cost more for disposal. No single stream is perfect. This is not a PILOT program; we have many data points on the impact on city and towns. Staying status quo might be the most convenient. Asking residents to bear some responsibility for their trash. As a former resident of Norwood who sees how this work and ask you to reconsider your vote.

Jim Taylor-Every year we have a budget in the town. Water Department sticks to their budget. The schools are always looking for more money. What is in their budget is it. They should not get any more money for their budget. I was in Norwood and there were a number of barrels in the street that cars were hitting. Leave it as it is, it is working fine.

Bill Hamilton, precinct 5 in history when the market bottomed out we have curbside and Wheelabrator, rather holding on to recycling. Considering a savings is some wishful thinking it

depends on the recycling market. Talked about why the town has 2 separate trucks. They take our trash and recycling and turn it into power.

Ken Guyette, precinct 6. There was a question about what is the recycling rate in the contract. It is zero and under the new contract we would pay \$25 to \$40 per ton in the first 5 years. When you talk about savings, if the recycling market is below our fee, we have to pay the loss. Playing the market makes any revenue from this not dependable. You can put everything in one bin. Paper goes in one bin and every other item in another. In his opinion, we have a two stream system when I drive down the street and see separated. Two stream and educate more people on that. You could save \$68 a ton. Talked about the fees, the tipping fees are going to vary.

Mr. Salvatore does not see any need to reconsider their vote and Mrs. Mackenzie agrees. We already have the opportunity to decrease our tonnage. We can bring down the tonnage, nothing stopping anyone buying 2 big barrels, paint them. You can make it better. All of us could educate neighbors. I feel it is irresponsible to lock this town into recycling, if we can do it at no cost we can bring down our tonnage. I appreciate that people are passionate about recycling.

Mr. Kraus, unfortunately there is not a majority for reconsideration. There is not a fear of change. We embrace change. That is not why I voted No It was based on a number of factors potential savings. Not guaranteed, Costs associated with going with this. I do not like the program as presented. I have grave concerns lack of penalty. There is limited policing of what goes in the barrels. It is deplorable the rate of recycling today. He feels that education is placed at a premium. As long as I serve on this Board there will never be a hotbed issue handled this way. The worst time to make decisions is when you have to make decision. There are a number of critical decision we have to make and we need to do a better job of getting input. The feedback is valuable. There are people in favor and not in favor of this. We do not have a majority or any chance to reconsider this vote.

Mr. Gallivan I was for the change in the plan, they are not going to reconsider and I cannot make the motion as I did not support it. More education, get people to recycle more. I do think there were good comments, those of you interested in doing more recycling. Better education. I think that would be a good thing. 17% is a very low rate. Maybe we can increase that. Give it some thought and some good can come out of this.

Mark Price 120 Polley lane. Nancy said we could use big bins but the policy said we can only use small bins. If we can get that policy changed that could work. Mrs. Mackenzie looking at the policies written up. I purchased a large bin. There is a lot we can do with what we have to work with.

Mr. Hamilton explained there is only one driver that is why there is small bin. There are limitations on the recycling truck.

1-18 Award of Contract 2017-14, Russell Disposal

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to award contract 2017-14 to Russell Disposal and to sign such contract, seconded by Mr. Salvatore, VOTED 3-0-1(Mr. Gallivan Abstained)

MOTION moved by Mrs. Mackenzie to adjourn at 8:20pm, seconded by Mr. Gallivan, VOTED 4-0-0

Respectfully submitted
