

Board of Selectmen

March 12, 2019
Executive Session 6:45pm

Present: Mr. Paul Healey, Ms. Karen Johnson, Mr. Tom Mayo, Town Administrator, Ms. Michelle Monsegur, Assistant Town Administrator.

Ms. Power was absent from the meeting.

Call to order

The Chair States: the purpose for tonight's executive session is to consider the purchase of real estate at 29-31 Rhodes Circle, Hingham, MA pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(6) because holding this discussion in open session would have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Town. The Board will reconvene in open session at the conclusion of the executive session.

ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor, 2-0.

Return to Open Session 7:00pm

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Healey made a motion to approve the minutes dated February 28, 2019. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 2-0.

Mr. Healey made a motion to approve the minutes dated March 5, 2019. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 2-0.

Public Comment

None.

29-31 Rhodes Circle

Tim White – Chair, Affordable Housing Trust, present.

The Board had questions and comments concerning the purchase of 29-31 Rhodes Circle and thanked Mr. White for his diligence in obtaining this property for the Affordable Housing Trust program.

Mr. White stated that the purchase of this property is pending septic inspection and sewer.

Mr. Healey made a motion that in accordance with Section 2(a)(17) of Article 39 of the General Bylaws, the Board approve the expenditure of funds by the Affordable Housing Trust for the purchase of the property of 29-31 Rhodes Circle pursuant to an offer to purchase dated March 7, 2019. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 2-0.

Reserve Fund Transfer Request

Ken Corson, Harbormaster and Police Chief Glenn Olsson present.

Mr. Corson and Chief Olsson provided background on the need for this reserve fund transfer. Current Harbormaster truck deemed totaled by large construction truck that was towing an excavator. These funds will be necessary to purchase a replacement truck (this purchase is for a replacement truck not an upgrade). The insurance company is awarding \$22,093 for the totaled truck.

Mr. Healey made a motion to recommend a transfer from the Reserve Fund to the Hingham Police/Harbormaster Capital Outlay-Motor Vehicle Account in the amount of \$65,012.90.

Votes

Mr. Healey made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to forward the "Request for Response to the Town of Hingham's Ascertainment for Cable Television Renewal License" to Comcast. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 2-0.

Mr. Mayo stated that this is a procedural vote.

Mr. Healey made a motion to approve the issuance of a Special (One Day) Wine and Malt Beverages license to Jeff Chisolm on behalf of Hingham Youth Hockey for the Hingham Youth Hockey Social to be held at the Hingham Community Center on Saturday, March 23, 2019 from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 2-0.

Police Chief Glenn Olsson, seated in the audience confirmed that he approved this event.

Mr. Healey made a motion to approve the third annual Spring Children's Craft Market to be held in Downtown Hingham on the Tunnel Cap on Sunday, June 2, 2019 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 2-0.

There were questions from the Board. Police Chief Olsson addressed accordingly.

Mr. Healey made a motion to authorize the Chair to execute and submit to the Department of Housing and Community Development an application to become designated as a Housing Choice Community. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 2-0.

Appointments

No appointments

Selectmen/Town Administrator Reports

Ms. Monsegur – Nothing to report.

Mr. Mayo – Congratulated Michelle Monsegur and announced that she has become a member of the Women Leading Government Committee (WLG) which was established by the Massachusetts Municipal Management Association (MMA).

Ms. Johnson – Stated that she is impressed with the hard work by the multiple of Boards and numbers of volunteers in preparation for the Town Meeting. Their efforts show a testament to the commitment of both the professionals and volunteers of this town. She is proud to be a part of it.

Congratulated the Hingham Girl's Ski Team who qualified for State Championship. Tough but great season.

On Friday, our own, Clark Ricciardelli of Thaxter Street was honored at the Reggie Lewis Arena for the NCAA Division III Indoor Track Championships. Clark came in 2nd in the nation in the 5,000K. He led the race for 20 of 25 laps. Very impressive! We salute you, Clark!

Mr. Healey – Followed up on what Ms. Johnson had stated about volunteerism in the community. He thanked his colleagues Mary Power and Karen Johnson for the work that they are doing in the water company acquisition. He stated that this is an incredible lift. The Forum on Saturday was all hands on deck. Presentation given by Karen Johnson, Mary Power as well as the Water Company Acquisition Study Committee: Jon Asher, Ed Siegfried, Josh Krumholtz, Joe Bierwirth, Bob Higgins. We had Tom Mayo and Michelle Monsegur, Sue Nickerson, Jean Montgomery, Randy Sylvester, Loni Fournier, Charlie Berry, Kerry Ryan, Susan Murphy, John Coughlin, Steve Murphy and the police. We have everyone pitching in to get the message out to the community. Buying the water company is a good deal. It is not going to cost the taxpayer a dime. We've shown and convinced skeptics that financially, we will be better off. We urge you not to be dissuaded by the rhetoric of the water company to try and convince you otherwise. We've presented evidence that shows that they spent \$2.7M in advocacy. Some would question some of the tactics that were used. He recognized Ms. McKeever who wrote a very informative article in the Hingham Journal this week about the whole issue. He appreciated the reporting.

He stated that the website is full of information. Harbor Media has been capturing it all which can be viewed on YouTube. If you watch these meetings, the public will have

full view of what is going on. Watch the meetings – you will see a thoughtful exchange. He hopes that the conclusion that you come to is that this purchase is in the best interest for the town now and well into the future. We are up against a determined opponent –Eversource is a multi-billion dollar corporation – they can hire a whole army of lobbyist, accountants, and lawyers. We are doing our thing without any public money. Thanks all for continued attention.

The next Board of Selectmen meeting will take place on March 19, 2019.

Meeting adjourned at: 7:34pm
Approved March 19, 2019

Sally Sinclair

Documents: A complete meeting packet of supporting documentation is on file and available for public review in the Board of Selectmen's Office.

