

Board of Selectmen

April 2, 2019
Regular Session 7:00pm

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Healey made a motion to approve the minutes dated March 6, 2019. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Healey made a motion to approve the minutes dated March 13, 2019. Ms. Johnson seconded. Ms. Power abstained as she was not present at the March 13th meeting. In favor, 2-1.

Mr. Healey made a motion to approve the minutes dated March 20, 2019. Ms. Johnson Seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Healey made a motion to approve the minutes dated March 21, 2019. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Healey made a motion to approve the minutes dated March 26, 2019. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Public Comment

No comments

Kelly Miller Circus

Steve Dempsey, member of the Historical Commission, provided history and introduction to the Kelly Miller Circus. This idea is early in the planning process. Date when event may take place is uncertain at this time. There were questions and comments from the Board. This might be a good event for high schoolers needing community hours to participate in. Ms. Johnson thanked Mr. Dempsey for his historic signs around town. The Board thanked Mr. Dempsey for coordinating this potential event.

Introduction of the Water Company Acquisition Transition Team and Preliminary Transition Plan

Mr. Mayo provided an Introduction to Robert (Bob) Golledge, Principal, Golledge Strategies & Solutions LLC and Andrew Gottlieb, Executive Director of the Association to Preserve Cape Cod.

Mr. Golledge provided background and bios on himself and Mr. Gottlieb. Both started on the same day at DEP in 1988. Mr. Golledge did a walk-through of the preliminary transition plan.

Mr. Golledge stated that the Town should have great confidence in the Selectmen and Advisory effort put forth to-date - thorough and professional work. He noted short-term and long-term challenges with water quantity and quality are commendable.

Have been working with/opened up lines of communication with the AG, Mass DEP, Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs. The due diligence on Financial and Planning is very impressive. Can we afford to do this? Yes, we can afford. Town can't afford not to.

Mr. Gottlieb addressed process questions – what happens after the acquisition? Regulation – maintaining quality water that meets drinking water standards.

- DEP – proper notice
- Period of time post vote Town takes ownership
- Closing – take over ownership
- Transfer drinking water number
- Transfer of water rights
- Planning documents – rules & regulations, rates & charges – will have time and ability to make changes/tweak.

- Upon closing – fully responsible owner – comply with regulations.
- Use transition period (after Town meeting vote) to find long-term operator – there are five contract operators in the southeast region, alone.
- Good opportunity for financial assistance – government 2% loans available to municipalities (run on a calendar year). Solicit late spring/early summer for January 1, 2020 source of capital.

Mr. Golledge:

- Emphasized that RFP effort is critical
- Town is well positioned – expressed gratitude towards volunteers who have put in thousands of hours.

Mr. Gottlieb:

- RFP – expectations need to be made clear to operator.
- Municipal interest
- Vast majority of water companies are municipal owned.
- Water quality protected
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There were comments and questions from the Board which were addressed accordingly by Mr. Golledge and Mr. Gottlieb.

Public Comment:

Jim Ohare, 11 Heron Way

John Walsh, Vice President Operations, Aquarion

Joe Connor, for Aquarion (Legal Counsel, Kerry Ryan and Andrew Gottlieb addressed question accordingly).

Discussion with Hingham Maritime Center regarding conceptual plans for building on Barnes Wharf

Present: Nancy Kerber and Logan Greenlee.

Ms. Kerber provided an update on conceptual plan changes. Scaled back on the size of the boat house, reduced the number of variances.

Ms. Johnson stated Board of Selectmen promote to next phase – second floor.

Ms. Power thanked Ms. Kerber and Mr. Greenlee for coming back with new conceptual changes.

There were comments and questions from the Board. Susan Murphy, Special Real Estate Counsel, addressed accordingly.

Ms. Power made a motion: The Board hereby approves the Conceptual Plans entitled “Hingham Maritime Center Boathouse”, dated April 2, 2019, pursuant to Section 8.4 of the Lease between the Town and Hingham Maritime Center, subject to the following conditions:

1. In no event shall the Board of Selectmen’s review and approval of the Conceptual Plans be a determination of compliance with zoning, including sufficiency of parking, the state building code, or any other federal, state or local building or land use laws or regulations, nor shall the Town be responsible or liable therefor;
2. The exterior materials and finishes for the Building shall be consistent with those set forth in the original Concept Design, dated March 21, 2018, prepared by Peterson Architects for Hingham Maritime Center;
3. Hingham Maritime Center may modify the Conceptual Plans as necessary to achieve compliance with, and/or obtain relief from, the zoning bylaw and other applicable bylaws and regulations, without further review of the Board of Selectmen, provided that (a) the Building complies with minimum specifications of the second paragraph of Section 8.4 of the Lease by including Public Access Restrooms, a Team Room, and secure lockers or other secure storage areas for the HHS Teams during practices and competitions and (b) all modifications to the Conceptual Plans are submitted to the Town Administrator simultaneously with submission to the applicable permitting boards. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Votes

Mr. Healey made a motion to approve the issuance of a Special (One Day) Wine and Malt Beverages license to Ellen Bernstein on behalf of Congregation Sha'aray Shalom for "Dancing Under the Stars" to be held at Congregation Sha'aray Shalom on Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 7:30 pm to 11:00 pm. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Healey made a motion to approve the issuance of a Special (One Day) Wine and Malt Beverages license to Maryann Blackmur on behalf of the Hingham Community Center for Craft Beer Tasting to be held at the Hingham Community Center on Friday, April 26, 2019 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Healey made a motion to proclaim April 22, 2019 to be "Earth Day" in Hingham. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Mr. Healey made a motion to proclaim April 26, 2019 to be "Arbor Day" in Hingham. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 3-0.

Appointments

No appointments.

Selectmen/Town Administrator Reports

Michelle Monsegur – Announced Green Communities Event, April 9th at 9:30am at Town Hall. Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources/DOER Commissioner Judith Judson will recognize Hingham's designation as a Green Community.

Tom Mayo – Nothing to report.

Ms. Johnson – Nothing to report.

Ms. Power – Gave a shout out to Harbor Media. They have been televising and recording all of the public meetings in relation to the purchase of the water company. Joe Collymore conducted interviews for segments called: Close Ups. Interviewed Jonathan Asher, Ed Siegfried, Tom Mayo, Paul Healey, Karen Johnson and myself with regard to the purchase. Available on YouTube.

There will be a Water Company Acquisition Public Information meeting on Saturday, April 6, 1-3pm at the Hingham Middle School.

Mr. Healey – Struck by what Mr. Gottlieb said tonight with regard to protecting the water source aquifer – we have been doing this, instinctively, all along. Look at what the current owner of the water source has done. Comparison is stark.

Sergeant David Horte will be retiring tomorrow, April 3, 2019. He will work his last midnight to 8am shift.

Congratulations to Lt. John William Beal, son of Robert and Brenda Beal. Hingham High School grad. Commanding Officer and Plank Owner of a new Coast Guard cutter commissioned Friday, March 22nd in San Pedro, CA.

Meeting adjourned at: 9:07pm

Approved April 22, 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.

