

Select Board

July 20, 2021

Remote meeting via telephone conference call

Present:

- Select Board: Mr. Joseph Fisher (Chair), Mr. Bill Ramsey, and Ms. Liz Klein
- Ms. Michelle Monsegur, Assistant Town Administrator

7:00 PM: Call to order

Mr. Fisher called the meeting to order and read the following statement:

“This meeting is being held remotely as an alternate means of public access pursuant to an Order issued by the Governor of Massachusetts dated March 12, 2020 Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law. You are hereby advised that this meeting and all communications during this meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. If any participant wishes to record this meeting, please notify the chair at the start of the meeting in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20(f) so that the chair may inform all other participants of said recording. “

Mr. Fisher asked if any participants were recording the meeting. There were no responses.

Mr. Fisher also noted that the Select Board members who were participating remotely were Bill Ramsey, Liz Klein, and himself.

Approval of minutes

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to approve the minutes dated July 13, 2021. Ms. Klein seconded

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Klein: yes

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

To approve the issuance of a Special (One-Day) All Alcoholic Beverages license to Timothy McDonald on behalf of Father Bill's & MainSpring for the Father Bill's & MainSpring Donor Reception to be held at Hingham Shipyard on July 27, 2021 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Mr. Timothy McDonald of Father Bill's stated that they have had to cancel their annual donors reception for the past two years due to Covid-19. This year they plan to have a reception in a tent at the Hingham Shipyard behind the former Hingham Beerworks building. They plan to invite 65-75 of their supporters to come to the event. They plan to serve food from local restaurants like Alma Nove, Trident and Boathouse Bistro, as well as thank the donors for their support. They also plan to serve alcohol at a bar run by Boathouse Bistro at the event. Mr. McDonald also noted that they have been coordinating with the property owner who will allow patrons to use the bathroom facilities at the former Hingham Beerworks. Police Chief Jones stated that he has reviewed the application, was satisfied with the proposed arrangements and had no questions for the applicant.

Vote: Ms. Klein made a motion to approve the issuance of a Special (One-Day) All Alcoholic Beverages license to Timothy McDonald on behalf of Father Bill's & MainSpring for the Father Bill's & MainSpring

Donor Reception to be held at Hingham Shipyard on Tuesday, July 27, 2021 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Klein: yes

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

To approve the issuance of three (3) separate Special (One-Day) Wine and Malt Beverages Licenses to Michael Snowdale on behalf of Stellwagen Beer Company for a Sunset Picnics at Weir River Farm to be held on August 12, August 19, and August 26, 2021 from 4:30 pm to 9:00 pm.

Mr. Michael Snowdale of the Stellwagen Beer Company explained that the three requests for one-day licenses are part of the summer picnic series that has been ongoing at the Weir River Farm this summer. He said that they took part in the events held in June and have been asked to come back to the farm for three additional sates in August. It was noted that the events have been very successful so far. Police Chief Jones commented that they have had no issues with traffic with the events thus far and had no concerns with the application. Ms. Klein noted that she has heard positive feedback regarding the events and said that they have been selling out each week. Mr. Ramsey echoed Ms. Klein's comments, saying that he has heard great things about the picnics. Police Chief Jones stated that he has reviewed the application, was satisfied with the proposed arrangements and had no questions for the applicant.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to approve the issuance of three (3) separate Special (One-Day) Wine and Malt Beverages Licenses to Michael Snowdale on behalf of Stellwagen Beer Company for Sunset Picnics at Weir River Farm to be held on Thursday, August 12, 19, and 26, 2021 from 4:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Ms. Klein seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Klein: yes

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

To proclaim Saturday, August 7, 2021 as Hingham Farmers Market Day.

Mr. Mark Cullings, 44 Spring Street, President of the Board of Directors of the Hingham Farmers Market said that they are anxious to take part in the National Farmers' Market Week taking place this year. He said that they Town was gracious enough to grant proclamations in past years, with the exception of 2020. He invited the Select Board to read the proclamation at the market on August 7, 2021. Mr. Cullings noted that the Hingham Farmers' Market operates in the Station Street parking lot from May through November on Saturdays from 9 am to 1 pm. He was hopeful that the market could make the Station Street parking lot its permanent home. He commented that the location has been very successful so far and offers ample parking. The market has almost reached their current capacity of 34 vendors, as approved in their current license agreement approved by the Planning and Zoning Boards. Mr. Cullings pointed out that, during the Covid-19 State of Emergency, farmers' markets were designated essential services and Hingham's market has continued to be robust throughout the pandemic. Police Chief Jones noted that tbhey have not had any issues with the farmers' market. He said that the market has been very receptive to traffic flow suggestions from their detail officers and has been a great partner to work with. Mr. Ramsey attributed the success of the market to Mr. Cullings'

exceptional leadership for the past 15 years. Ms. Klein echoed his comments and thanked Mr. Cullings for his hard work.

Vote: Ms. Klein made a motion to proclaim Saturday, August 7, 2021 as Hingham Farmers' Market Day. Mr. Ramsey seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Klein: yes

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

The Select Board read the following proclamation:

TOWN OF HINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, His Excellency, Governor Charles D. Baker of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, has proclaimed August 1-7, 2021 to be Massachusetts Farmers' Market Week; and

Whereas, farmers' markets are essential to the vitality of Massachusetts farms and are part of the cultural tradition of the Commonwealth; and

Whereas, the Commonwealth is home to 208 summer/fall farmers' markets, which create a festive open air setting and enhance community spirit and civic pride by offering a natural place for community gathering; and

Whereas, farmers' markets help heighten public awareness of the agricultural diversity of Massachusetts and the benefits of buying local and preserving open space; and

Whereas, it is befitting for the residents of Hingham to recognize the continued contribution of farmers' markets to local consumers, as well as their positive impact on the economy of the Commonwealth; and

Whereas, Hingham's tradition of its farmers' market, now in its forty-fourth season, makes it the third oldest in the Commonwealth,

Now, therefore we, Joseph M. Fisher, William C. Ramsey, and Elizabeth F. Klein, Select Board of Hingham, do hereby proclaim August 7, 2021 to be

HINGHAM FARMERS' MARKET DAY

and urge all residents to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Dated this Twentieth day of July 2021.

Public Comment

“The Hingham Select Board encourages community engagement and welcomes questions and comments as agenda items are discussed at the meeting. In addition, we have set aside up to fifteen minutes for public comment for items that fall under the purview of the Select Board and are not already on tonight’s agenda. If any guests wish to speak, please seek to be recognized. Once recognized, state your name and address and address your comments to the Chair. Comments will be limited to three minutes per speaker and must relate to topics within the scope of the responsibilities of the Select Board. Speakers are encouraged to present their remarks in a respectful manner and not to indulge in personalities. The Public Comment period is not a time for debate by members of the Select Board. The Select Board is not adopting or endorsing any of the comments made during the Public Comment period.”

There were no comments from the public.

Town Administrator/Select Board Reports

Ms. Monsecur reported that there were eight new cases of Covid-19 in Hingham thus far in the month of July. There have been no Delta variant cases reported so far in Hingham. Approximately 68% of Hingham residents are fully vaccinated as of last week.

Ms. Klein reported that she recently attended the Hingham Unity Council’s webinar on affordable housing and encouraged residents who were unable to attend to listen to the recording. She also noted that the Hingham Housing Authority now has a new website.

Mr. Fisher reported that the Hingham Little League’s 12 year-old All Stars won the District 8 Championship for the first time in many years. He said that they won all six games in the tournament by a combined score of 59 to 5. He congratulated Head Coach Chris Taylor, the other coaches and all the players.

Mr. Fisher also reported that the School Department has been busy working towards selecting and hiring an Interim Superintendent to replace Dr. Paul Austin. He said that the process is ongoing and the School Committee has been very diligent in its work.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Klein seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ramsey: yes

Ms. Klein: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.

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