

MINUTES

Board of Selectmen Meeting

REMOTE PARTICIPATION ONLY

February 23, 2021

Present: Chairman Jason Balboni, Selectmen Gail Barmakian, Gregory Coogan, Brian Packish, Ryan Ruley. Also present: Town Administrator Robert Whritenour, Executive Assistant Alice Ryan Butler.

Meeting called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Public Announcements

Selectman Balboni announced that an RFP is being created for Affordable Housing at the Southern Tier Housing Site next to the Ice Rink.

Minutes

February 2, 2021

Selectman Coogan motioned to accept the Minutes of February 2, 2021, seconded by Selectman Packish. Vote was:

***Chairman Balboni Aye
Selectman Barmakian Aye
Selectman Coogan Aye
Selectman Packish Aye
Selectman Ruley Aye***

Appointment

Request for re-appointment as the Town Accountant. Deborah H. Potter

Selectman Barmakian motioned to re-appoint for three years Deborah H. Potter as the Town Accountant, seconded by Selectman Packish. Vote was:

***Chairman Balboni Aye
Selectman Barmakian Aye
Selectman Coogan Aye
Selectman Packish Aye
Selectman Ruley Aye***

Old/New Business

Discussion and possible vote on a modification to the existing Land Bank Old Holmes Hole Road Trail Management Agreement. Bill Veno

Mr. Veno explained the meaning of the Trail Management Agreement that leads up to Hidden Cove Community. The Agreement will be re-worked.

Selectman Packish motioned to accept the modification to the existing Land Bank Old HolmesHole Road Trail Management Agreement, seconded by Selectman Ruley. Vote was:

- Chairman Balboni Aye***
- Selectman Barmakian Aye***
- Selectman Coogan Aye***
- Selectman Packish Aye***
- Selectman Ruley Aye***

Request for permission to engage Town Counsel regarding the cutting down of a tree in Ocean Park. Park Commissioner Amy Billings.

A seasonal resident cut down a tree in Ocean Park. Park Commissioner Billings needs some advice on how to proceed, Small Claims Court, Criminal Court or Superior Court. The Selectmen suggested the person responsible should have been arrested, at least should be fined at the largest amount possible.

Selectman Barmakian motioned to allow Park Commissioner Billings to seek legal counsel, seconded by Selectman Ruley. Vote was:

- Chairman Balboni Aye***
- Selectman Barmakian Aye***
- Selectman Coogan Aye***
- Selectman Packish Aye***
- Selectman Ruley Aye***

Town Administrator's Report

(attached)

Public Hearing

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 138, Section 12 the Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. **Remote Participation Only** regarding an application for a new seasonal, all alcohol license for Flavors MV, Inc. dba Flavors MV located at 11 Circuit Avenue, Oak Bluffs, MA This application is on file in the Selectmen's office for review Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Selectman Brian Packish recused himself as a direct abutter

This restaurant was formerly the “Island House”. The new owner is the son of the former owner. The restaurant will stay essentially the same. There will not be dancing. The name change is to modernize it a little.

No one spoke in favor or opposition.

Selectman Ruley motioned to close the Hearing, seconded by Selectman Coogan. Vote was:

**Chairman Balboni Aye
Selectman Barmakian Aye
Selectman Coogan Aye
Selectman Packish Aye
Selectman Ruley Aye**

Selectman Coogan motioned to grant a new seasonal, all alcohol license for Flavors MV, Inc. dba Flavors, MV, seconded by Selectman Barmakian. Vote was:

**Chairman Balboni Aye
Selectman Barmakian Aye
Selectman Coogan Aye
Selectman Packish Aye
Selectman Ruley Aye**

Request from Coalition to Create the Martha’s Vineyard Housing Bank (CCMVHB) to introduce their effort and ask for representation from the Board of Selectmen. Julie Fay, Laura Silber.
This is a new effort to provide affordable housing, it was started the previous November and meetings are held every six weeks. They would like to have a Selectman represent Oak Bluffs on the Council, or someone from the Affordable Housing Trust. Enabling Legislation would provide up to 2% of Real Estate transactions funded by transfer funds.

Selectman Packish motioned to approve Selectman Barmakian to represent Oak Bluffs on the Martha’s Vineyard Housing Bank, seconded by Selectman Ruley. Vote was:

**Chairman Balboni Aye
Selectman Barmakian Aye
Selectman Coogan Aye
Selectman Packish Aye
Selectman Ruley Aye**

Review and discussion of the Fire Chief recruitment process.

There are fourteen applicants for the position of Fire Chief. The interviews will be held in Executive Session on Monday, March 1, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Discussion and possible vote on the structure of the Fire Department Civilian Technical Advisor Chief John Schilling.

Chief Schilling met with the Officers to discuss the organization of the Fire /EMS Department. There are a lot of resources, but it lacks organization. The Officers will get their resumes in order. The first objective is to hire a new Chief. There is also some concern about Titles.

Consideration will be given to the title of Ambulance Coordinator and Assistant Ambulance Coordinator. The Titles lack authority.

Selectman Ruley motioned to accept the Organization Chart with change of Titles changes, seconded by Selectman Barmakian. Vote was:

***Chairman Balboni Aye
Selectman Barmakian Aye
Selectman Coogan Aye
Selectman Packish Aye
Selectman Ruley Aye***

Selectmen's Update

Selectman Ruley congratulated Town Administrator Robert Whritenour on his new position in Yarmouth, and wished him well. He also congratulated the people running for office.

Selectman Coogan commented on the excellent job the Hospital is doing on dispensing the Covid19 vaccine. He also announced that he will not be running for a 7th term.

Selectman Packish thanked Selectman Coogan for his years of service.

Selectman Coogan motioned to adjourn at 7:30 p.m., seconded by Selectman Ruley. Vote was:

***Chairman Balboni Aye
Selectman Barmakian Aye
Selectman Coogan Aye
Selectman Packish Aye
Selectman Ruley Aye***

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Ryan Butler
Executive Assistant