

**MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MARCH 3, 2014**

Chair Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Members present were Sandra Wilson, Thomas Buckley, Dianna Provencher, Matthew Dennison and Douglas Belanger. Also present was Town Administrator Kevin Mizikar.

1. Schedule Hearings

- a. New Business, 850 Main Street, "Sweet Escapes" bakery and ice cream – Application for Common Victualler's License to serve food in café. Discussion on hours of operation, the Board recommending broader hours be considered as not to have to return and ask for amendment.

Chris Sullivan spoke on behalf of applicant Rebecca Mongiat of Millbury. They have another facility in Worcester and will serve bakery products and ice cream products. They plan to do late night delivery service to local colleges after 10:00pm and until 2:00am.

After further discussion, it was agreed that the hours would be set as follows:

Monday – Sunday 6:00am – 11:00pm retail hours
Thurs/Fri/Saturday 11:00pm – 2:00am delivery service only, no retail

MOTION: Mr. Belanger moved to approve Common Victualler's License for Sweet Escapes with hours set as noted, subject to all Town permitting procedures. Mr. Dennison seconded. UNANIMOUS

- b. Charity Wine Auction – application was withdrawn by applicant. No action taken. FILE

2. Correspondence

- a. Notice from Town Clerk – Annual Town Election calendar. FILE

- b. Copy of letters from Council on Aging, noting two monetary donations; \$2060 from Greater Worcester Community Foundation for computer replacement and \$100 in memory of Jouko Salminen for general programs.

MOTION: Ms. Provencher moved to accept donations on behalf of COA.
Mr. Buckley seconded. UNANIMOUS

- c. Letter from State Library Board approving FY2014 Waiver of municipal appropriation requirement, certifying Leicester to receive FY2014 State Aid to libraries. It was noted that next year the old formula will once again be implemented, which may reduce our aid at that time. FILE

- d. Info from Mass Dept of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) regarding upcoming Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) program. Although none have been identified in our town, a project to place traps throughout Worcester county will be implemented. Maps will be supplied when finalized and reps will be in touch with further information.

Mr. Buckley raised concerns that setting traps containing the "pheromone and plant volatile lures" may attract insects to Leicester and we don't want that. TA noted that our Pest Control Officer will be made aware of this program and will assist us in this regard. He will also be in touch with DCR. PENDING

- e. (new item) Memo from Highway Supt noting current deficit in Snow & Ice accounts at \$113,552.67 as of this date. FILE

3. New Business

- a. Appointments:

- Parks & Recreation Committee – Michael Belanger application, supported by P&R, per Lucky Margadonna's report.

MOTION: Ms. Provencher moved to appoint Michael Belanger to Parks & Recreation Committee, term to expire 6/30/14. Mr. Buckley 2nd. 4-0, Mr. Belanger abstained.

- Open Space & Recreation Committee – Vaughn Hathaway had scheduling conflict, so ZBA requests David Orth serve on their behalf.

MOTION: Mr. Dennison moved to appoint David Orth as ZBA rep to OSRC, term to be adhoc until update Plan is adopted. Ms. Provencher 2nd. UNANIMOUS

- Health Insurance Advisory Committee – roster of members selected from respective employee groups, all confirming their ability to serve again this year.

MOTION: Mr. Dennison moved to appoint roster of members to HIAC, term to expire 1/31/15. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

- Full-time Police Officer – TA explained that since our previous approval to hire (1) full-timer, we had a lateral transfer of a full-timer to another community, so the Chief is requesting another full-time appointment from Civil Service process.

MOTION: Mr. Dennison moved to authorize one additional full-time officer, totaling two full-time police officers through Civil Service hiring process. Ms. Provencher 2nd. UNANIMOUS

b. Resignations:

- Board of Health/Conservation Commission clerk – letter from Eileen Dyson-Alexander effective March 6th. Mr. Belanger noted her help with transitioning into combined clerk's position and the talent she brought to the job.

MOTION: Mr. Belanger moved to accept with regret and thanks for a job well done. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

c. Request from Dianna Provencher (who removed herself from the proceedings) to amend annual Outdoor Business permit for Leicester Farmers Market to include Wednesday afternoons from 2pm-6pm with the normal time allowed for setup and breakdown of wares. It was noted this is now operated from the Castle Restaurant parking lot.

MOTION: Mr. Dennison moved to approve amendment to Outdoor Business Permit, as requested. Mr. Buckley seconded. 4-0, Ms. Provencher abstained from proceedings and vote.

d. Memo from TA Mizikar requesting an increase in spending authorization to \$35,000 on Hillcrest Revolving Account to allow for boiler replacement from lease account funds. He noted this account was established by town meeting at a not-to-exceed \$10,000 limit, but Selectmen are the authorized entity to make this proposed change. These funds would be added to portion allocated to Hillcrest Stabilization Account at recent town meeting for this specific project. In addition, we will not be reauthorizing this Revolving Account for lease payments, as those funds should be deposited in the General Fund, which was done starting July 1, 2014.

MOTION: Mr. Belanger moved to authorize \$35,000 be released from Hillcrest Revolving Fund to pay toward boiler replacement project. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

e. Request from TA Mizikar for authorization to execute Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with SJA Solar LLC with regards to renewable energy generation through development at Spencer Abby. He noted that we are not bound by this MOU, but instead, it acts as a right-of-first-refusal to be able to purchase electricity at a lower rate. Production is not expected to begin until June 2015, hitting

our electricity line items in FY2016 Budget. Mr. Buckley had concerns about pricing laid out on Page 4, which TA explained. Mr. Dennison asked about current pricing with Constellation Energy, which TA noted ends in December 2014. All agreed this solar technology is a win-win for governmental entities.

Mr. Buckley asked that Mr. Mizikar also consider a local group, Veridian, who also has energy credits to offer residents as well as businesses.

MOTION: Ms. Provencher moved to authorize Town Administrator Kevin Mizikar to execute MOU with SJA Solar LLC, as presented. Mr. Dennison seconded. UNANIMOUS

4. Discussion/Old Business

a. Policies – grinding policy, general discussion – Ms. Wilson noted that policies have been revamped and categorized, asking that members review the current format and notify TA of any concerns. This item will be up for vote at our next meeting. TA will have additional policies for consideration after completion of the reformatting of the current policies that have been adopted to date.

b. 2011/2012 Integrated contract for Police Officers Union/Local 168 – TA noted this housekeeping matter that needs Board's approval.

MOTION: Mr. Belanger moved to approve and execute 2011-2012 Police Officer's integrated contract as presented. Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Mizikar highlighted sections from his printed report (on file):

- Engine 3 Fire truck damaged in January 6th motor vehicle incident remains under discussion regarding claim and any final payout, currently set at \$54,000 by our insurance adjuster, which we have not agreed to.
- Assistant to Town Administrator job posting was advertised 'until filled' and first review of applications will be March 7th
- Has contacted union presidents to begin contract negotiations, which will be retroactive to 7/1/14 and he will be pursuing 3-year contracts.
- Hillcrest Country Club RFPs are due by March 13th. Ms. Wilson asked if any of those that took out the RFP package were in attendance at the site inspection. TA stated yes, the current lessee and another party.
- Attended Exec Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs meeting regarding grants programs targeting dam safety. We have a narrow window of opportunity, he will make application, but those with "shovel ready" plans will take score higher. He will be seeking design funds at our upcoming annual town meeting.
- Our administrative assistant noted what appeared to be an error on our workers comp audit analysis, which showed a \$9000 invoice vs the \$7000 credit we should have received, a net value to the Town of nearly \$16,000.

Board Reports

Selectman Belanger:

- Asked TA to think about PILOT payments and update the Board with progress reports in the near future.
- TA attended recent Economic Development Committee meeting with invited guests, rallying the members who were excited to think there might be some possibilities to look into. Fellow member Matt Dennison will elaborate.

Selectman Dennison:

- Rosemary Scrivens, Mass Office of Business Development, attended EDC meeting and spoke about programs that may be available to the Town for economic development. The members were very pleased to hear of these possibilities and excited to move forward in this regard. Also attending was an airport consultant who spoke of opportunities that may be available to Leicester

with regard to expansion of Worcester Airport through MassPort and FAA. He recommended we start getting more involved with plan development. A flyer has been produced, which they continue to work on, that should help interested parties with setting up a business in Leicester. Updates will also be made to the website information.

Selectman Provencher:

- Attended Worcester Airport Advisory Committee recent meeting regarding proposed changes at this facility. WAAC was pleased to hear report of 30,000 passengers since JetBlue's inception of service from Worcester.
- Last week attend Open Space & Recreation Committee meeting. Next one on March 12th.

Selectman Buckley:

- Has received several calls from residents concerned with condition of roadways during this winter season, noting the Highway Dept has done well with what they have to work with. He did agree that frost heaves this year have been extraordinary and has spoken to Supt in this regard; we all hope for a slow warming up in the weeks ahead.

Selectman Wilson:

- Advisory Board is meeting with larger departments to review 2015 Budget proposals line by line. Last meeting was Police Dept and next meeting March 10th will review both Highway and Fire Depts.

Executive Session - none was needed per Town Administrator.

MOTION: Mr. Belanger moved to adjourn.
Ms. Provencher seconded. UNANIMOUS

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan LeChasseur,
Administrative Assistant