

## **SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**DECEMBER 04, 2023, AT 6:00PM**

**LEICESTER TOWN HALL, LEICESTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01524**

Chair Rick Antanavica, Vice Chair Dianna Provencher, Selectman John Bujak, Town Administrator David Genereux, and Grants Manager Samantha Chatterton were in attendance.

### **ATTENDANCE:**

#### **Select Board**

Chair Rick Antanavica	Present
Vice Chair Dianna Provencher	Present
Kevin Menard	Present
John Bujak (Arrived Mid-Meeting)	Present

#### **Administrators:**

David Genereux, Town Administrator	Present
Samantha Chatterton, Grants Manager	Present

### **1. SCHEDULED ITEMS**

#### **a. 6:00pm - Pole hearing – Installation of 1 JO pole between 12 and 13 Blueberry Lane (National Grid)**

Mr. Antanavica announced the pole hearing and stated National Grid was present on GoTo meeting to answer questions.

Mr. Genereux introduced Connor Reynolds to the board.

Mr. Antanavica read the news posting from the public announcement.

Mr. Reynolds stated the pole was for a new homeowner.

Mr. Antanavica asked if the homeowner was aware of the location of the pole because the service was being installed underground to link to the home.

Mr. Reynolds confirmed he believed the homeowner was notified.

**Ms. Provencher made a motion to approve the new pole number 7 in front of 13 Blueberry Ln. Seconded by Mr. Menard. Motion Carries 3-0-0, Mr. Bujak absent for motion.**

#### **b. 6:05 – Pole hearing – Installation of 1 JO Pole at the intersection of Sunrise Ave and Stafford Street (National Grid)**

Mr. Antanavica read the public announcement regarding the Stafford Street pole hearing and asked if the property belonged to National Grid.

Mr. Reynolds confirmed it was for temporary power to power a substation.

**Ms. Provencher made a motion to approve the pole in the area of 408 Stafford Street for temporary power. Seconded by Mr. Menard. Motion carries 3-0-0, Mr. Bujak absent for motion.**

**c. 6:15 - Valley Gas – Liquor License**

**Ms. Provencher made a motion to continue the liquor license as the business owners were not present to the following meeting at 6:15. Seconded by Mr. Menard. Motion carries 3-0-0, Mr. Bujak absent for motion.**

**d. 6:30 – Deer Pond Auto – Vehicle License**

Mr. Antanavica inquired about the number of towing companies under the business establishment.

The owner explained the separate businesses providing different services including auto services and towing.

Mr. Genereux stated the license was a long-awaited process and this would cover them through all of December before the normal licensing procedure would take effect.

Mr. Antanavica read the building commissioner's report that deemed the business as a continuation of use with no changes. He clarified all the information had been filled out by different departments.

Mr. Jason Radzevich stated he was happy to answer any and all questions regarding the business.

Mr. Genereux stated there was a question if splitting the parcels changed the potential use, but it did not and that no complaints had come in during the year they had owned it.

**Motion to approve the license made by Mr. Bujak. Seconded by Ms. Provencher. Motion carries 4-0-0**

**e. 6:40 - Steve Dodge – Maple Hill Disc Golf Update**

Mr. Dodge handed out fliers to the board and staff. He gave praise to the police chief for previously working with the disc golf course. He further discussed the 2024 MVP Open at Maple Hill and mentioned anticipated turnout from visitors from all over the country and in 10 other countries.

Mr. Bujak brought up the different forms of golf in other countries including foot golf.

Mr. Dodge discussed the amount of parking spots and discussed the economic impact of his events including gas purchases from Leicester vendors, local shopping and restaurants, overnight stays including online rentals/hotels and car rentals.

He estimated the economic impact of his business on Leicester is approximately \$800,000. He expressed some areas to improve including better signage, more parking, practice fields, shuttles, better cell

service, food options, affordable places to stay, additional spectator areas with wood chips and more trash cans.

The board recommended food truck vendors in Leicester who could assist at the next disc golf event.

Mr. Dodge asked if the town would assist in delivering woodchips.

Mr. Genereux stated the issue is public dollars being utilized for staff and trucks to assist in private events.

The board recommended food truck vendors in Leicester who could assist at the next disc golf event.

Mr. Dodge expressed concerns for the Thursday before the next tournament event and the issue of parking since town offices were open on Thursday.

Mr. Antanavica clarified one of the buildings on Winslow Ave was now being used for educational purposes and parking would be more difficult.

Mr. Messier suggested utilizing local churches and the Knights of Columbus for additional parking options.

Ms. Provencher asked if he considered having an Olympic style event at Maple Hill.

Mr. Dodge stated he had considered it but because PGA takes the spotlight; there is little benefit to holding the event for the business owner but in 2028 he would hold the world championship.

## **2. RESIGNATIONS & APPOINTMENTS**

None discussed.

## **3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Mr. Antanavica asked for public comment; received no response.

## **4. CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**a. Saturday, December 9th Fill a Cruiser/Shop with a Cop Walmart Plaza 8:00 – 4:00 pm**

**b. Saturday, December 9th 9:00-3:00 PM- Leicester Girl Scout Troop 64656 2nd Annual Craft Fair at the Leicester Senior Center**

**c. December 16th – Santa Run**

Mr. Antanavica discussed the events within Leicester in December including the Fill a Cruiser events and the craft fair which had been moved to Leicester High School as opposed to the senior center. He stated on December 16th the Santa Run could be seen online.

## **5. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **a. Tax collections policy**

Mr. Genereux announced the Treasurer/Collector was in attendance for a tax collection policy.

Mr. Nick George, Treasurer/Collector discussed the tax collections policy included in the packet which covered Mass General Law regarding how the town pursues collection. He said the policy covers how bills are sent out, when demands are issued and when liens are established. The policy outlines timeframes of when those processes occur and when the town is able to foreclose on a property for failure to pay.

**Ms. Provencher made a motion to approve the collection policy documentation. Seconded by Mr. Menard.**

Mr. Antanavica asked if personal property was included in the policy.

Mr. George stated personal property was different as no liens could be placed on businesses and small claims would be an option under that tax. He clarified the businesses in town have been consistent in paying taxes.

Ms. Provencher asked about personal property in deteriorating condition.

Mr. George clarified the options for tax disputes pertain to the appellate tax board.

Mr. Genereux advised the group to take the policy under advisement to discuss further at the next meeting.

**Ms. Provencher withdrew her motion and Mr. Menard withdrew his second.**

### **b. Financial Workgroup Discussion**

**Mr. Menard made a motion to not move forward with the financial workgroup. Seconded by Ms. Provencher.**

Mr. Antanavica stated he had an issue with volunteer people doing the work involved from the accountability standpoint of the group.

Mr. Cusolito stated there were no volunteers on the board and the goal was to develop long range financial policies.

**Mr. Antanavica discussed the motion on the floor, motion passes 3-0-0 Mr. Bujak absent.**

**6. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Mr. Bujak moved to enter into executive session. Seconded by Ms. Provencher. Roll call 4-0.**

- a. To consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body pursuant to. c.30A, § 21(a)(6) – Russell House purchase**