



# Town of Bellingham

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Bellingham, Massachusetts 02019  
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March 2, 2020

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Daniel Spencer with all members in attendance except for Mr. Connor.

Public Hearing – To consider the potential suspension or revocation of the Common Victualler License for Ashay Corp d/b/a Subway as a result of outstanding Real Estate taxes and Utility Charges. Premises located at 170 Pulaski Blvd.

Mr. Spencer read the public hearing notice.

Mr. Hitesh Patel came before the Board to represent Subway. He stated he is operating and managing the Subway located at 170 Pulaski Blvd. Mr. Fraine explained to the Board that Nipaben Patel owner of the building and holder of the Common Victualler license met with Paul Redmond, Treasurer/Collector last Friday and entered into an agreement and signed a payment plan. Stipulations included putting down 25% of the outstanding balance and monthly payments for the next 12 months. Mr. Martinis asked Mrs. Allie to check back in with the Board at the March 30<sup>th</sup> meeting to see if the next payment has been made.

Mr. Spencer asked if there was anyone from the audience who wished to speak. Mr. Bruce Wilson, Board of Health agent, stated his department will issue the food permit based on this payment plan but will pull the permit if they stop making their monthly payments not allowing them to continue to operate their business.

On a Biagi/Martinis motion, the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to close the public hearing and signed the Common Victualler license.

### Coronavirus Update

Bruce Wilson, Board of Health Agent, Peter Marano, Superintendent of Schools, Mike Reed, Chairman of the School Committee and Mike Soter, State Representative came before the Board to provide an update on the Coronavirus and the situation at the High School with the students and teachers who had just returned from a school trip to Italy.

Mr. Wilson stated these students had returned from a school trip to Italy a week ago and had been cleared by the airport. A few of the children were showing signs of illness and had been checked out at area hospitals. It was determined that their symptoms were not related to those signs of Coronavirus but due to the 2-14 day gestation period and the recommendation of the DPH, the BOH and Health Agent decided to air on the side of caution and have the students and teachers remain home until the 14 day gestation period had ended. All of these students and the two teachers are in touch with the Town nurse daily to discuss any symptoms and monitor temperatures. Mr. Marano stated the janitors are working vigilantly to clean the schools and are using a safe product called Lotus Pro. The Board supported this decision in acting on the side of caution but reminded residents not to panic but to listen to the facts.

Mr. Soter stated he would be attending a Public Hearing briefing from the DPH and encouraged any department or resident to reach out to him with any questions.

Historical Commission Candidates

Steven Joanis introduced himself to the Board and stated he has deep roots in Bellingham although he now lives in Franklin. Steve grew up in Bellingham and graduated from BHS and lived here for 25 years. His parents owned Carryville Garage and currently his in-laws still live in Bellingham. Steve has a strong interest in the history of Bellingham and was asked to join the committee after a current committee member heard him speak on the history of Catholics in Bellingham. He isn't clear what the Town wants from the Historical Commission nor does he know what the historical assets of the Town are as they haven't been exposed to the public, but he is anxious to learn.

Richard Marcoux introduced himself to the Board and stated he has lived in Bellingham for 48 years. Rick started his career in Bellingham in 1972 as a police dispatcher and then went on to retire in 2002 after serving 32 years as a full time firefighter. He currently serves as the firehouse chaplain. Rick is interested in bringing the history of Bellingham by way of the artifacts out to the people or by creating a Facebook page to educate the residents. He stated he is interested in learning the process of the Historical Commission as well.

On a Martinis/McNulty motion, the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to appoint Steven Joanis, Richard Marcoux and Bernadette Rivard (not in attendance) to the Historical Commission.

On a Biagi/McNulty motion, the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to approve the Seasonal Restaurant All Alcohol, Common Victualler and Weekday/Sunday Entertainment Licenses for New England Country Club, 180 Paine St, as submitted.

On a McNulty/Martinis motion, the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to approve the February 3<sup>rd</sup> & February 10<sup>th</sup> minutes as submitted.

On a Biagi/Martinis motion, the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to approve the January abatements for capital improvement charges, residential sewer, residential trash, and residential water in the amount of \$4,643.96.

On a Martinis/Biagi motion, the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to accept the gift from Middlesex Savings bank presented to the Bellingham Fire Department in the amount of \$10,000. It was noted that although there are no specific requirements with this gift, Middlesex Savings Bank asked that these funds not be utilized on personnel costs.

Mr. Fraine noted the old Dominos building now officially belongs to the Town and was purchased for the widening of the Town Center intersection. The intersection has been marked and residents can now see the markings of the curb line if they are interested. Mr. Fraine confirmed there will not be a rotary.

Mr. Fraine stated the South Main Street TIP project that is before the MPO will most likely be moved up a year and will be on the FY21 schedule thanks largely in part to Mr. Kupfer and Mr. Soter.

The article related to the renovations at the Senior Center will be tabled until the Fall Town Meeting at which time free cash will be certified and that will be a possible option in lieu of borrowing.

On a Martinis/McNulty motion, the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hilarie J. Allie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Hilarie J. Allie  
Administrative Assistant