



Town of Bellingham

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

10 Mechanic Street
Bellingham, Massachusetts 02019
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December 7, 2020

The Selectboard meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Michael Connor. Members of the Board were participating in the Arcand meeting room with the exception of Mr. Spencer and Mrs. Grant who was participating via Zoom technology. Also actively participating in the meeting was Town Administrator Denis Fraine and Administrative Assistant Hilarie Allie. The remote meeting was being monitored by Jim Kupfer, Town Planner and Zoning Officer. It was determined by Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place that no in-person attendance of Board members or any member of the public would be permitted at this meeting. This meeting was accessible to the public via the Zoom online option.

Tax Classification Hearing Continued

Mr. Connor continued the tax classification hearing that was opened at the November 23rd Selectboard meeting. Mrs. Mary MacKinnon, CFO, informed the Board that she had been working with the Department of Revenue and tonight she would be asking the Board to affirm the factor of .89 for FY21 tax classification purposes.

With no further questions, the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to close the Public Hearing on a McNulty/Grant motion.

On a Martinis/McNulty motion, the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to affirm a residential factor of .89 for the FY21 property tax classification.

On a Martinis/McNulty motion, the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to accept an FY19 EMPG Grant in the amount of \$4,600 for the Fire Department.

On a Martinis/McNulty motion, the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to accept an FY20 EMPG Grant in the amount of \$4,600 for the Fire Department.

Mr. Connor had asked at the last Board meeting if the spring appointments and reappointments for the Town's various boards and committees could be listed as an agenda item for the purpose of knowing which positions would be open and to allow time for incumbents to decide if they would be returning. The Board along with administrative assistant Hilarie Allie reviewed the list of current members and determined that the open positions would be posted online at the beginning of January and incumbents would be mailed renewal forms with a due date at the end of January so February could be spent conducting interviews. Mr. Connor stated he would also like to discuss the necessity for a parks commission at another meeting.

Mr. Kupfer presented to the Board a brief summary on the upcoming Charter and Bylaw Review Committee selection process. He stated no action is necessary at this time but thought it would be appropriate for the Board to review the process and to consider adding this topic to a January agenda to begin to lay out a schedule and to appoint members. The Bylaws are reviewed every 5 years and the Charter is reviewed every 10 years and recommendations for changes are then made at Town Meeting. Both the Charter and Bylaw are up for review in 2021 and he and Denis thought it would make sense to form one committee to review both. The committee will be comprised of nine (9) members who will be chosen as follows: the Board of Selectmen, the School Committee, the Planning Board and the Board of Library Trustees, shall each designate one person; the Finance Committee shall designate two persons; and three persons shall be appointed by the moderator. Persons appointed by said agencies may, but need not, be members of the agency by which they are designated. Mr. Martinis and Mrs. Grant, having just been on the Master Plan committee, would both like to be a part of this committee so Mr. Fraine stated he would reach out to the moderator and let him know the Board would like him to appoint an additional Selectboard member. Mr. Connor suggested the committee meet the second Monday of the month and suggested this be told upfront so there are no conflicts with the 9 committee members.

Sunoco Update

Tim Aicardi stated the Town has entered into an agreement with Sunoco. The conditions in the agreement state they must remove the unregistered vehicles from the premises by December 14th or they will incur a fee of \$100 per day for every day there is more than 1 unregistered vehicle. If at any point they don't adhere to the conditions of the agreement they will go right before a judge. Mrs. McNulty asked if they could have more than 1 vehicle parked on the premises and Mr. Aicardi stated they could have only 1 unregistered vehicle per the Town Bylaw, but they could have as many vehicles with legitimate plates as they want. Mr. Martinis asked if the Town had verified that these plates were legitimate and Mr. Aicardi stated the police have done plate checks. Another condition in the agreement would allow for Mr. Aicardi to go and inspect the property at any given time. Mr. Connor asked if there was a time limit that the vehicles with plates could be parked on the premises and Mr. Aicardi said there was not.

The Board thanked Mr. Aicardi for all his hard work and getting this property cleaned up.

On a Spencer/Grant motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve the November 23rd minutes as submitted.

License Renewals

On a Martinis/McNulty motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve the Class II used car dealer licenses as submitted on the attached list.

On a Martinis/Spencer motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve the Class III used auto parts licenses for John's Used Auto Parts, Leo's Used Auto Parts, Copart of CT (also including their Class II and Auctioneer's license) and Bellingham Auto Sales (also including their Class I & Class II license).

On a Connor/McNulty motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve the Bulk Storage permits on the attached list.

On a Martinis/Spencer motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve Countryside Motel's Motel License, Trudel's Auction Gallery's Auctioneer License and it's Permit to Operate and the Second-Hand Dealers Licenses on the attached list.

On a Martinis/Spencer motion, the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve the Common Victualler licenses on the attached list.

On a Martinis/McNulty motion, the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve, given all outstanding requirements are submitted, the liquor licenses and all other licenses associated with Pete's Bluebird, Vohn's, Beef Barn, Bellingham Palace Pizza, Bellingham House of Pizza & Pub, Legacy Grille (at Bungay Brook Golf Course), Pepper Dining Inc, d/b/a Chili's Grill & Bar, Uno Restaurants, LLC and Regal Entertainment.

On a McNulty/Martinis motion, the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve, given all outstanding requirements are submitted, the liquor licenses and all other licenses associated with AC Adventures LLC, d/b/a Urban Air, Outback Steakhouse, Coachmen's Lodge, Bellingham Sportsman Club, Devlin's Tavern, Hilltop Farms, Bamboo Express and Sol De Mexico Bar and Grill, LLC d/b/a Plaza Mexico.

On a Spencer/McNulty motion, the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve, given all outstanding requirements are submitted, the liquor licenses and all other licenses associated with Famous House of Pizza, PJ's Bar & Grill, Inc., Rock n Coal, Grumpy's Restaurant and the VFW.

On a Martinis/McNulty motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve the Package Store All Alcohol & Package Store Beer and Wine licenses on the attached list.

Subway, 170 Pulaski Blvd – common vic license – under discussion the Board decided to table the approval of Subway's common vic license until next meeting. According to the treasurer/collector's office the owner has been making payments on their payment agreement however terms of the agreement includes that all current bills must be kept in good standing which they are not. Mrs. MacKinnon suggested to Mr. Connor that we continue to work with them and perhaps structure some agreement with them and check back in with them in six months.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Fraine stated a company by the name of Young Green Package is looking to submit an application to the Cannabis Control Commission for a cannabis delivery license with its store front address on Farm Street in Bellingham. The host agreement would include 2 delivery vans but up to 6 vehicles spaces to include for employee parking.

The Town would be requesting 3% of their gross revenue. Mr. Fraine stated these companies look for communities that are receptive to this concept and try to avoid the red tape associated with bigger cities. They stated that it would be very unlikely that the cars would ever be parked in Bellingham and they cannot delivery to Bellingham. Most of their deliveries would be to urban areas. Mr. Fraine would recommend going forward with this agreement and would bring it to the Board once it's finalized.

On a Grant/McNulty motion, the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to accept the Deed for Monique Drive and Coryn Circle as approved at the Fall Town Meeting under Article 8.

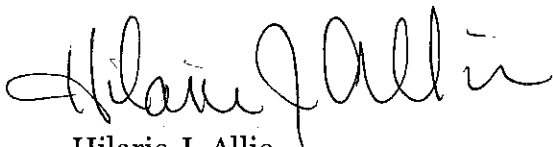
On a McNulty/Grant motion, the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to award Contract 2020-CBC, Catch Basin Cleaning to the low bidder Truax Corporation of North Attleboro, MA in the amount of \$27,600.

Mr. Martinis announced he has been in contact with Greg the manager at the Amazon facility in Bellingham and they have grant money for the community. \$10,000 will go to the Fire Department for equipment and \$15,000 to be used towards whatever the Town decides. After some discussion, Mr. Martinis and Mr. Fraine have decided to put \$11,000 towards a permanent outdoor structure at the Senior Center and \$4,000 towards the subsidized meals for the seniors. Mr. Martinis noted that Amazon will be giving \$25,000 or more every year to the Community.

Mr. Fraine requested an executive session to discuss the host community agreement negotiations. All members of the Board were polled with all voting in the affirmative. The Board will not return to open session after the executive session.

On a Martinis/McNulty motion, the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM with no further business to be discussed at the conclusion of the executive session

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hilarie J. Allie".

Hilarie J. Allie
Administrative Assistant