



# **Town of Bellingham**

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

10 Mechanic Street

Bellingham, Massachusetts 02019

Tel: 508-657-2800 \* 508-966-4425

March 1, 2021

The Selectboard meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Michael Connor. All Board member were in attendance and participating in the Arcand Meeting Room with the exception of Mrs. Kelly Grant who was participating via Zoom. Also actively participating in the meeting was Town Administrator Denis Fraine and Administrative Assistant Hilarie Allie. The remote portion of the 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 any member of the public would be permitted at this meeting. This meeting was accessible to the public via the Zoom online option.

### Norfolk County Sheriff Patrick McDermott

Sheriff McDermott introduced himself to the Board and stated he is a long time resident of Quincy. He has been practicing law for 20 years and has spent the last 18 years with the registry of probate in Canton. His goal is to bring a new prospective of public safety and serve as a public safety resource. He plans to expand programs and community outreach by focusing on juveniles and the seniors in each community. He understands each community in the Norfolk County is unique and would encourage Bellingham to contact him with any specific needs.

Mr. Connor stated that the Board would be continuing their procedure of conducting interviews for open positions on the Town's various Boards and Committees.

### Lynn Roy – Board of Tax Assessors

Ms. Roy stated she has lived in Bellingham since 2013. She started her career in a Town Clerk's office and worked her way through various departments including the assessor's office as an assistant tax assessor. She moved to Bellingham to be close to her mother and would like to give back to the community with her skill set. The Board agreed her resume is impressive and would be a great fit on the Board of Tax Assessors.

### Dave Dunbar – Council on Aging

Mr. Dunbar stated he has lived in Bellingham since 2014. His background is in newspaper publishing going back 50 years. He currently works at the senior center receiving a stipend to edit their monthly newsletter and decided he wanted to be more involved. He stated he believes our seniors need to be protected, informed and cherished and his goal is to do just that. The Board members all stated they have seen first-hand how involved he is at the senior center and how much he cares about our seniors. Kay Page, current Chairwoman of the Council on Aging, stated there are 4 open positions and 4 incumbents

but they would be happy to have Mr. Dunbar on their board as a nonvoting associate member.

Mr. Connor stated the details of this position would be worked out at the March 15<sup>th</sup> Selectboard meeting.

Liz Devlin – Devlin's Patio Expansion

Ms. Devlin stated she had come before the Board this evening with her final plans for the patio at Devlin's Tavern. Per the Board's request last summer she will construct a fence around the area enclosing the tables so there could be no access from the parking lot. Mr. Aicardi, Building Inspector, stated he and Deputy Milot had gone out to look at the plans and stated Ms. Devlin plans to have 10 tables up on the sidewalk in front of the unit. He stated the ABCC had already been out last summer and approved her plans without a fence and that a fence is not required. Mr. Connor stated this has been the Town's approach when businesses have come before the Board requesting outdoor seating and he thinks the fence will improve the aesthetics of the whole area. The intent is to block alcohol from being passed to anyone in the parking lot. Mr. Martinis stated he is fine with Tim's recommendation and the ABCC but appreciates Ms. Devlin putting in the effort and thinks it's going to look wonderful and is very much in favor of it. Mrs. McNulty stated she has invested a lot of money in this fence and wanted to publicly thank her for all she does for the veteran's in our community as well as all the residents in Bellingham.

On a McNulty/Martinis motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve the permanent fencing and ten tables with seating up to sixty.

On a McNulty/Spencer motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve the Seasonal Restaurant All Alcohol, Common Victualler, and Weekday/Sunday Entertainment Licenses for New England Country Club, 180 Paine Street, as submitted.

On a Spencer/McNulty motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0-1 with Mr. Connor abstaining to appoint Sharon Blanchard to the Bellingham Cultural Council.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Fraine stated that police and fire had been working hard at filling the open positions and that he and Beth would be reaching out to the departments about getting the Selectboard 5 year succession plans.

On a McNulty/Martinis motion, the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Hilarie J. Allie  
Administrative Assistant