



Town of Bellingham

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

10 Mechanic Street

Bellingham, Massachusetts 02019

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

May 3, 2021

The Selectboard meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Michael Connor. All Board members were in attendance and participating in the Arcand Meeting Room. 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.

Public Hearing – On the application of Thai Chada Corporation d/b/a Thai Chada, Chanhthi Briddell Mgr. for a Restaurant All Alcohol and Common Victualler License. Premises located at 52 Pulaski Blvd.

Mr. Connor read the Public Hearing.

Ms. Chanhthi Briddell introduced herself to the Board and stated she is applying for a new All Alcohol Restaurant and Common Victualler license at 52 Pulaski Blvd. The location was previously occupied by Vohn's Restaurant and most recently by Lao Thai Café. This is a new license not a transfer. Ms. Briddell has been working in the restaurant industry since 1998 and has owned a catering business since 2019 and is excited to open her own restaurant. She has completed her TIP certification. The Board discussed restaurant hours and the following was decided:

Monday – Thursday 11AM – 1AM (Kitchen will close at 9PM)

Friday – Sunday 11AM – 1 AM (Kitchen will close at 10PM)

Mr. Connor asked if there was anyone on the Zoom call to speak on behalf of the Public Hearing. With no response the Public Hearing was closed on a unanimous motion by McNulty/Spencer.

On a McNulty/Grant motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve the Restaurant All Alcohol and Common Victualler License for Thai Chada Corporation d/b/a Thai Chada, Chanhthi Briddell Manager. Premises located at 52 Pulaski Blvd.

Mary MacKinnon – CFO, Borrowing Authorization and Signing

Mary MacKinnon stated on April 28th the Town issued a statement to permanently finance bond anticipation notes in the amount of \$5.6M and issued \$2.5M of new money for projects that were approved previously. The Town went out to market with this and received 6 competitive bids. The winning bid was from Morgan Stanley with a net interest rate of 1.1%, the lowest interest rate the Town has ever seen on debt proceeds that they have issued.

On a Grant/Martinis motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to authorize the sale of general obligation bonds, as outlined in the document entitled "Vote of the Board of Selectmen", as prepared by bond counsel and provided to each board member. (Please see attached) Further, to authorize all related documents as presented and waiving full reading of these documents.

On a Martinis/McNulty motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to recommend the fire alerting system in the amount of \$88,000 for capital requests over \$50K. This has also been approved and recommended by both the Finance Committee and Capital Improvements Committee.

On a Spencer/Martinis motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve the end of fiscal year 2021 budget transfers in the amount of \$153,042 as presented by Mary MacKinnon, CFO.

On a Martinis/Spencer motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve the gifts and grants with said expenditures to be under the direction of said parties as presented by Mary MacKinnon, CFO (please see attached).

Water Abatement Request

Mr. Fraine presented a water abatement request for 149 Patricia Road. The resident is selling his home and has accumulated 11 penalty charges over the past two years for failing to respond to request by the DPW to replace the water meter. The first nine charges have been liened and will be assessed at time of closing. He is requesting an abatement for penalties ten and eleven.

On a Martinis/Spencer motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to abate penalties ten and eleven, or the last two penalties, as requested.

On a Spencer/Grant motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to approve the decision letter regarding the denial for the change in ownership and beneficiary interest for Shoppes Liquors, LLC.

On a Grant/McNulty motion the Board unanimously voted 5-0 to award Contract 2021-SWMP, South Main Street Water Service Replacement plus other buried infrastructure to the low bidder KJS, LLC from Walpole, MA in the amount of \$654,946.54.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Fraine reported that the Annual Town Meeting will take place on Wednesday May 26th in the High School Auditorium and that amendments have been made to the budget based on the contracts that were negotiated last week.

Mr. Fraine stated there is a warehouse distribution project on the corner of Maple Street and Route 140 that will be going before the Zoning Board this week. The parcel is split zoned, and they will be asking for a variance. Mr. Kupfer stated if approved next step would be the Planning Board but wanted to mention they have been very easy to work with and are making efforts to make that corner look appealing as you drive into Bellingham.

Mr. Connor asked about the Curtis apartments and Mr. Kupfer stated they would be starting some site work this week.

Mr. Connor also stated that Bonvie mislead the Board the last time he was in as he stated he would be starting with Conversation and it has been over a year and nothing has been done. Mr. Fraine confirmed that they did do some preliminary work with Conservation and they are technically in phase 1 but it is slow going. Mr. Connor stated he would like to rescind the things they agreed to and Mr. Fraine stated that would be difficult as things have been recorded on deeds.

Mr. Fraine stated they are in the works of putting together a vaccination clinic at the high school for any students that would be interested in being vaccinated and this would be in conjunction with the regional clinic in Uxbridge.

On a Spencer/Grant motion the Board unanimously voted to close the meeting at 7:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hilarie J. Allie', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Hilarie J. Allie
Administrative Assistant