



Town of Bellingham

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

10 Mechanic Street
Bellingham, Massachusetts 02019
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November 1, 2021

The Selectboard meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Vice Chairman Don Martinis. All Board members, with the exception of Mrs. McNulty, 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. This meeting was accessible to the public either in-person or via the Zoom online option.

Public Hearing – Petition of National Grid to replace Pole 1 with 45' 2 JO Pole with 5Ft Excess to NGRID. Attach Secondary Neutral at 9.5Ft From Top of Pole, Frame New PER CS 9-412, Install New Guy Stub Pole 1-89 With Anchor Rod and 12.5M Down Guy, Install 12.5M Pole to Pole Guy From P1 to 1-89, Remove Pole To Tree Guy.

Mr. Martinis read the Public Hearing.

Mr. Al Gavin, design engineer, for National Grid stated they needed to install a support pole to support the weight and tension so there is no leaning for the resident living at 447 Center Street who will be installing solar.

Mr. Martinis asked if there was anyone present in the audience to speak at this hearing. Mr. Mark Neber stated he is a resident on Center Street and was just concerned with the location of the pole but was now satisfied and had no questions.

On a Connor/Spencer motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to close the Public Hearing.

On a Spencer/Connor motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to approve the petition of National Grid to install a new support pole, Pole #1-89 on Center Street.

Bellingham Business Association

Mrs. Sue Ranieri stated the Bellingham Business Association will be holding their annual Taste of Bellingham event. It will take place on Wednesday November 10 from 6PM-8PM. Local restaurants and liquor stores will be providing food and drink samples and they would like to request a One Day Liquor License to serve alcohol. Each vendor will provide a certificate of liquor liability insurance.

On a Spencer/Grant motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to approve the One Day Liquor License for the Bellingham Business Association for the Taste of Bellingham on Wednesday November 10th from 6PM – 8PM at F.W. Webb in Bellingham.

Covid-19 Update – Esther Martone

Mr. Fraine stated with the rising numbers in Town he thought it would be good to have Esther come in and give an update. Esther stated the numbers are on the rise and there have been some break through cases especially with individuals who were vaccinated early on as well as those individuals in high risk jobs. She also stated that there are quite a few cases with kids under 12. She stated that she has some frustration with individuals not following protocols or being untruthful when asked a series of questions. Mr. Fraine asked Esther about the severity of the side effects she is seeing and she stated that she is not seeing the severity of the side effects they had been seeing during the height of Covid.

Mr. Connor asked Esther the percentage of vaccinated individuals in Town and she did not have those numbers in front of her. Mr. Spencer asked her about the natural immunities from those previously infected with Covid and Esther stated that the research is still ongoing. The Board thanked Esther for the update.

Vijayesh Hassan – Hoysala Social and Sports Club

Mr. Martinis stated Mr. Hassan is speaking to the Board this evening for the potential of adding a cricket field in Bellingham. Mr. Hassan stated he is the Vice President of the Mass State Cricket League, founder of the Hoysala Social Club and youth coordinator for USA Cricket. His goal is to promote the game across New England and to bring in a national level youth tournament consisting of 94 teams to the state of Massachusetts. Mr. Martinis asked Mr. Hassan if there was a particular parcel in Bellingham his group was looking at and Mr. Hassan stated there was not and was hoping for the Town's help in identifying and providing the parcel of land and in doing so their private group/partnership would build the pitch. If there was land available, then purchasing the land might be an option of they could find some investors. Mr. Connor stated the land on Blackstone Street is insufficient in providing this and that as it is sports teams are sharing fields. Mrs. Grant agreed that the existing sports teams in Town are already lacking in playing areas and the Town is not in a position to be able to give up any fields right now. Mr. Hassan thanked the Board for allowing him to speak.

Larry Sposato – Town Clerk

Mr. Sposato came before the Board once again for final approval of the proposed voter precincts. The Town will now have 5 precincts and will no longer have precinct 4A. Mr. Sposato is hoping once the legislative congressional districts are assigned all will remain the same.

On a Spencer/Grant motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to accept the "Re-Precincting Plan" as presented by the Town Clerk.

Gifts/Grants Acceptance

On a Connor/Spencer motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to accept the gifts and grants as listed herein, with said expenditures to be under the direction of the parties noted:

Amount	From	For/Purpose	Spending Authority
\$55,942.00	Massachusetts State 911 Dept.	E911 Support & Incentive Grant	Police Dept.

On a Connor/Spencer motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to approve the Common Victualler license for the Fall Fair at St. Brendan's Parish, 384 Hartford Ave on November 6th and 7th.

On a Connor/Grant motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to approve the October 4, 2021 meeting minutes as submitted.

On a Spencer/Connor motion the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to approve the October 18th meeting minutes as submitted.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Fraine stated that the Town is continuing their search for a new Town Planner but in the meantime Jim Kupfer has been working remotely and continues to consult for the Town.

Mr. Fraine stated there has been an ongoing issue with Maple Street warehouses trucks going up High Street and getting stuck. He stated that Hopkinton was able to get a truck exclusion on a road similar to High Street and suggested the Town take a look into doing this as well. The Town would need to demonstrate that the trucks getting stuck are over a certain tonnage and provide for less than 5 % of the total volume on that particular street. Mr. Connor asked if we could enforce fines to the Amazon trucks taking a left out of their parking lot onto Maple. Mr. Fraine stated he would look into that. Mr. Martinis suggested the Town put up cameras to catch them making these illegal turns.

Mr. Fraine stated there was a walk through with some FinCom and CIC members at the proposed property to purchase on Depot Street and it went very well.

On a Spencer/Connor the Board unanimously voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hilarie J. Allie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "H" and "A".

Hilarie J. Allie
Administrative Assistant