

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
JANUARY 22, 2019**

The meeting took place in the Selectmen's Meeting Room located in the upper level of Town Hall. In attendance were Chairman Carl F. Kowalski; Clerk Brian J. Bezanson; Member Randolph G. LaMattina; Member Scott J. Lambiase; and Town Administrator Francis J. Lynam. Vice Chairman Salvucci was absent. Chairman Kowalski opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Kowalski asked everyone in attendance to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Kowalski announced the meeting is being recorded and televised by WHCA.

Mr. Bezanson **MOVED** to approve bill and payroll warrants. **Second** Mr. LaMattina, **so voted 4-0.**

Mr. Bezanson **MOVED** to accept correspondence in the Read File. **Second** Mr. LaMattina, **so voted 4-0.**

Chairman Kowalski opened public forum and Shawn Kain stepped up to the podium. Mr. Kain asked about the progress of a capital plan for FY20. Chairman Kowalski advised Mr. Kain that a meeting was held between some town officials, department heads and people from the Collins Center regarding the development of a five year capital plan. Mr. Lynam stated that he will be meeting with the Finance Committee to prioritize capital requests for FY20, but it will not be a formal plan like the one Mr. Kain is looking for. Mr. Kain reminded the Board of a bylaw that was put in place in 2015 stating that a capital plan will be presented to the Board of Selectmen each year during the month of January. He then asked who he should speak to about the Board not upholding the bylaw. Mr. Lambiase stated that he is not aware of a board of appeals that would have authority over the Board of Selectmen; and suggested Mr. Kain may be able to file an injunction with the court ordering the Board to prepare a plan, but by the time that happens a plan would most likely be in place. Mr. Lambiase told Mr. Kain that he understands what he is looking for; and he feels that what Mr. Lynam and the Finance Committee come up with will be what we are going to see for a capital plan. Chairman Kowalski agreed with Mr. Lambiase and feels the plan produced by Mr. Lynam and the Finance Committee will serve as a capital plan while a more formal plan is put together by the Collins Center. Mr. Lynam advised Mr. Kain that the plan for FY20 will not be what he is looking for; and reminded him that it has been made clear to him that a grant was received by the Town to develop a long range plan with the help of the Collins Center, but it would take some time for it to be completed. Mr. Kain stated that what he is looking for is spelled out in the bylaw. He reminded the Board that he has been asking for this for several months. Mr. Lynam advised Mr. Kain that he has five pages of capital requests that total more than \$3 million, without including requests from the DPW. He went on to say that a plan will be developed but it will not address all of those requests because we do not have the revenue to do so. When asked by Mr. Lambiase what he would do, Mr. Kain recalled the Selectmen extending him an invitation to join the Buildings, Facilities and Capital Expenditures Committee and to take on the role of chairman, but he turned the offer down because the members of the committee had already established a working relationship and were used to

working with each other. He then asked when the committee met last. Mr. Lynam advised Mr. Kain that the committee met in December but did not have a quorum. Chairman Kowalski stated that Mr. Kain has been asking about a capital plan for a long time and that Mr. Kain knew the answer to his own question before he asked it again this evening. He advised Mr. Kain that he has been told that a plan would not be in place in the time that he wanted; and that a grant was applied for and received in order to fund the work being done by the Collins Center. Chairman Kowalski then stated that he feels Mr. Kain's goal is simply to embarrass the Board. Mr. Kain took his seat.

Mr. Bezanson **MOVED** to approve the Open Session minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, December 18, 2019. **Second** Mr. LaMattina, **so voted 4-0.**

At 7:10 p.m. Mr. Bezanson **MOVED** into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** in accordance with the M.G.L., Chapter 30A, Section 21a, (6) to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body. **Second** Mr. LaMattina. Roll call vote revealed: Mr. Bezanson – yes; Mr. LaMattina – yes; Mr. Lambiase – yes; and Chairman Kowalski – yes. **So voted 4-0.** Chairman Kowalski declared that holding this meeting in Open Session will have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body. The meeting will reconvene in Open Session.

At 7:24 p.m. the meeting reconvened.

## **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

### **Budget**

Mr. Lynam advised the Board that he will be meeting with the Finance Committee this evening where two budget scenarios will be reviewed. Capital requests will also be reviewed. Mr. Lynam noted that each year a budget is prepared, capital articles are requested and those requests are prioritized. This year, a tremendous amount of requests have been received. To date, some warrant articles have also been received. He then asked the Board to set their February meeting dates; and to schedule a joint meeting with the Finance Committee on February 12, 2019. The Board set their February meeting schedule for Tuesday, February 12, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday, February 26, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.

### **BUDGET REVIEW**

Mr. Lynam advised the Board that the Budget Working Group held a meeting last week where the group narrowed its focus to a process. The group will be formalizing steps for preparing and distributing a budget.

## **COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT**

### **Update re: Community Assessment Survey**

Mr. Lynam announced that he and Chairman Kowalski met with Dr. Tarsi and were presented with preliminary results of the electronic responses associated with the survey. Approximately 500 written responses are still being processed. Chairman Kowalski stated that he is looking forward to translating the results into a strategic plan.

## **LIAISON REPORTS**

### **Mr. Lambiase: Town Census**

Mr. Lambiase reminded everyone to return their Town census to the Town Clerk's office.

### **Mr. Bezanson: Food Pantry Aid**

Mr. Bezanson announced that he contacted the Food Pantry to inquire about help for furloughed government employees and was told that they will be happy to help anyone in need.

## **POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

There was no discussion on this topic.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Appointment of Special Police Officer**

Mr. Bezanson **MOVED** to approve the request of Chief Benton to appoint Richard Billings to the position of Special Police Officer, through June 30, 2019. **Second Mr. LaMattina, so voted 4-0.**

### **Auto Sales Express, Inc.: Request to increase number of vehicles for sale**

Mr. Bezanson **MOVED** to increase the number of vehicles for sale from 75 to 100 at Auto Sales Express, Inc. (Alexandr Lobko) on the premises located at 960R Temple Street, subject to the addition of a van accessible handicap parking space; and final inspection/approval of the Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer. **Second Mr. LaMattina; so voted 4-0.**

### **The Auto Connection: Revocation of Class II Auto Dealer's License**

Mr. Bezanson **MOVED** to revoke the Class II Auto Dealer's License held by The Auto Connection (Victor Amaral) on the premises located at 1023 Temple Street. **Second Mr. LaMattina.** Mr. Lynam explained that payment made by the licensee for outstanding taxes was returned as non-sufficient funds. The license was seized by the police department and returned to the office of the Board of Selectmen. Chairman Kowalski called for a vote in connection with the motion on the floor. **So voted 4-0.**

At 7:38 p.m. Mr. Bezanson **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. **Second Mr. LaMattina, so voted 4-0.**

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Brian J. Bezanson, Clerk