

Town of Chelmsford
Board of Selectmen Minutes
50 Billerica Rd., Room 204
Chelmsford, MA 01824

**Regular Meeting MINUTES
March 13, 2017**

Attending:

George Dixon, Jr., Chairman
Patricia Wojtas, Vice Chairman
Laura Merrill, Clerk
Glenn Diggs, Selectman
Robert Joyce, Selectman

Paul Cohen, Town Manager

Please note that all documents referenced in these minutes are on file at the Town Manager's Office, 50 Billerica Rd., Chelmsford, Mass. The meeting was recorded by Chelmsford Telemedia.

Chairman Dixon called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

COMMITTEE VACANCIES

Selectman Wojtas read the list of current vacancies. Interested applicants can apply online at <http://www.townofchelmsford.us> or through the Town Manager's office. It was noted that the UMass Advisory Planning Committee will be added to this list.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Public Service Announcements made this evening.

OPEN SESSION

Lynn Marcella and Jeff Hardy spoke on behalf of the Parade Committee, to recruit new volunteers as several members want to retire. This year will be the fiftieth consecutive parade, and new bands and organizations are encouraged to participate. There will be increased prizes for floats, and more sponsorships are wanted. Raffle tickets will not be done this year. There will be a postcard instead. Contact information for the Committee was provided. The new Spring banner was shown; banners are available for a donation of \$500.00. The Chelmsford Elks will be recognized for their work on past parades, and they will be Parade Marshall this year.

Jennifer Salmon, President of the Chelmsford Teachers Union requested permission to speak after the school heat presentation. Chairman Dixon granted this permission.

Mary Donovan, 7 Tanglewood Dr., explained that on August 24, 2016, she called to get a street light fixed, and she's been trying to get it done ever since. She calls every 2 weeks, and it is still not repaired. Mr. Cohen and Mr. Persichetti agreed to follow up on this issue.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Transfer of All Alcohol Restaurant License - From Deep & Rini, LLC d/b/a Kastore Restaurant to Aksharpati Restaurant Inc. d/b/a Kastore Restaurant

Atty. Courtney J. Ball spoke for both the former and new owners. Both owners were present.

Mr. Patel owns 2 similar licenses in Lowell. He is seeking to transfer the Liquor, Common Victualer and Entertainment licenses. He is also seeking to pledge the license, the inventory and real estate collateral to Enterprise Bank. Mr. Patel understands license and liquor requirements and he is signing up for TIPS certification, which will be completed next week. All employees will have this training. There will be no change to existing seating or hours. Mr. Patel requested a waiver of some fees, as he would like to pay just the transfer fee. The Board explained the mandated two week waiting period for this type of license. No comments were received from the audience.

Motion: by Selectman Wojtas to continue the Public Hearing on the Transfer of Licenses for Kastore Restaurant to March 27, 2017, at 7:00PM. Seconded by Selectman Merrill. **Motion carries, unanimous, 5-0.**

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Christopher Illsley - Update on School Heat

A chart of February work orders was shown which showed that 55% of the orders were completed, 27% are in progress, and 18% were new requests; there were 33 work orders in total. The HVAC third party assessment is in process, and a report is expected by April 14, 2017 for Byam Elementary, Parker Middle and the High School. The 3rd party engineer can be asked to make a presentation to the School Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Jennifer Salmon, Chelmsford Teachers Union president, advised that the HVAC assessment was done during vacation week when temps were warm. Today she had incidents, and Mr. Persichetti was thanked for his immediate response. Several teachers have met with Dr. Lang about what could be done. Protocols are not being followed-Principals are entering information into the School Dude system, not custodians. The teachers have never been asked if problem is solved, and communication is breaking down when custodians are not available. Mrs. Salmon advised she has spoken with School Department and Facilities Department officials, and was advised to come to this Board, as there was nothing further that could be done. Selectman Merrill recalled that she had asked for teachers to get logins to School Dude from Ms. Canavan, which has not been completed. Mrs. Salmon will keep communicating with the School Committee.

Mr. Persichetti advised that custodians were asked to monitor classroom temps over the weekend and some problems were identified and will be rectified. Ms. Canavan will continue her work as well. Marie O'Donnell, Vice President for the Chelmsford Teachers Union asked why weren't teachers asked for input by the third party engineer. Mr. Persichetti advised the company was hired to see what the systems are doing. The engineer could be asked to speak to the teachers.

Mrs. Salmon agreed that if repeated classrooms are still showing problems, more collaboration is needed and she acknowledged that everyone wants the problem solved.

TOWN MANAGER REPORTS

Mr. Cohen announced that severe weather is forecast for tomorrow; school is cancelled, Town Offices and other municipal buildings will be closed. DPW is prepared to work as well and as long as possible. Trash pickup is delayed one day for the rest of the week. Bucket and line crews for National Grid are posted at the Radisson Hotel preparing for wind damage. The Town can prepare an emergency shelter if needed. Nobody should be on the roads unless it is an emergency. The Code Red system will be used as needed. Historically, most people will stay home.

Selectman Diggs asked if there was any interest in the proposed UMass West Campus Committee. He was advised that about 9 or 10 applications have been received.

APPOINTMENTS

Deputy Constable - John Pelletier

Motion: by Selectman Wojtas to approve the Town Constable's appointment of John Pelletier as Deputy Constable, for a term to expire December 31, 2017. Seconded by Selectman Merrill.

Motion carries, unanimous, 5-0.

MEETING MINUTES

There were no minutes to approve this evening.

SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS & REFERRALS

Selectman Joyce:

-A campaign fundraising event for his candidacy is being held at Andiamo's Restaurant on March 19, 2017. Everyone is welcome.

Selectman Merrill:

-The CPC Annual Hearing is being held on March 15, 2017, at 7:00PM.

-Selectman Merrill asked that a link from the Town website to a video of the Roberts Field site walk and follow up meeting be established.

Selectman Diggs:

-The Planning Board is hearing plan changes for the Gristone Apartments proposal to add a floor to the building by changing the roof to a mansard style so as to not increase the height of the building. Some parking will be added by making some spaces smaller. The applicant has agreed to contribute an additional \$80,000.00 to the Town's Affordable Housing Account. Further discussion will be had at the next meeting.

Selectman Wojtas:

-The next book drop-off for the Library's Annual Book Sale will be March 18, 2017.

-The State's Sheriff's Youth Public Safety Academy is accepting applications for their summer program for children ages 8-12. The Sheriff's website has more info.

-Mr. Cohen confirmed that the Voter Registration deadline will be pushed back to March 16, 2017 because of the impending storm.

-NMCOG is reporting that the Rourke Bridge project is not on the state's list of proposed capital improvements as they are requesting some design work first. NMCOG will keep pursuing that this project be completed.

Chairman Dixon:

-Residents were encouraged to pay attention to warnings about the storm, and ask neighbors for help if necessary. Residents were also encouraged to look in on older people to make sure they are ok.

-The Town Manager was asked to look into reports of increased truck traffic on Ledge Rd. Mr. Cohen reported that there is activity at the quarry related to a potential real estate transaction and material is being moved onto the site. The site is active and this work is allowed by right, as it is a quarry.

Mr. Cohen also notified the Board that the next meeting's agenda will be very busy due to a joint meeting for a Nashoba Technical High School Committee appointment. The School Committee will request

support on a Statement of Interest for a future capital project, and there will be a Dangerous Dog hearing. Selectman Diggs asked that no dogs be brought to the hearing. Mr. Cohen advised that a pole petition on Parkhurst Rd. may be ready for that meeting too. NMCOG has been asked to do traffic counts on Swain and Ledge Rds. in the Spring. The Treasurer is preparing for a Tax Auction in April or May on several small parcels in North Chelmsford.

PRESS QUESTIONS

No one came forward at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: by Selectman Wojtas to enter into Executive Session, not to return to Regular Session, for the purpose of discussing Strategy with Respect to Collective Bargaining Regarding Police Sargeants. Seconded by Selectman Merrill.

Roll Call Vote:

Selectman Joyce: Aye
Selectman Merrill: Aye
Selectman Wojtas: Aye
Selectman Diggs: Aye
Chairman Dixon: Aye

Regular Session was adjourned at 8:22PM

Next Meeting: March 27, 2017

Respectfully Submitted,

Vivian W. Merrill,
Recording Secretary

List of Reference Documents:

- List of Committee Vacancies
- Supporting documents for Kastore Restaurant
- School Committee/Facilities February Heating Presentation
- Supporting documents for Deputy Constable Appointment