



MINUTES

Board of Selectmen Meeting
Wednesday, March 16, 2016 at 6:00 P.M.
Council on Aging Media Room, 328 North Main Street
East Longmeadow, Massachusetts 01028

Present: Angela Thorpe, Chairman, Board of Selectmen, William R. Gorman, Chairman, Board of Health, Paul L. Federici, Clerk of the Board

The Meeting was moved from the Media Room to the Auditorium. The Chairman of the Board opened the Meeting at 6:20P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Moment of Silence. Announcements were made in accordance with M.G.L. 30A, §20 (e), and noted that the meeting was being recorded by the Board of Selectmen, East Longmeadow Community Access Television, Chris Goudreau, The Reminder, Brad Shepard, Pioneer Valley Radio, Sean Teehan, The Republican and Selectman Thorpe.

Selectman Gorman began the meeting with a statement beginning with a Motion.

Motion:

W. Gorman made a motion to remove Selectman Federici as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen and to replace him with Angela Thorpe. Selectman Federici stated that according to Roberts Rules that since this is new business this has to be taken up under the new business section of the meeting. Selectman Gorman continued with his statement but Selectman Federici said that the motion was delayed until later in the meeting.

Motion:

A. Thorpe made a motion to change the order of the Agenda. Selectman Thorpe told Selectman Gorman to second it. W. Gorman seconded. Selectman Federici said that nobody moved it and you don't have to move a motion. Selectman Thorpe told Selectman Gorman to move it and she will second it. (Selectman Thorpe asked Selectman Gorman to move the motion four times). Selectman Gorman moved and Selectman Thorpe seconded. Selectman Gorman made the motion to remove Paul Federici as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to replace with Angela Thorpe because he has acted in an improper manner that has caused them to lose faith in his ability to impartially lead the Board. Selectman Federici said that he was sitting amongst team corruption and Selectman Gorman is saying that. Selectman Gorman continued with his statement. A. Thorpe seconded. No discussion. Selectman Gorman made a motion to close the discussion. A. Thorpe seconded. Original motion to remove the Chairman passed 2-0.

There was a great deal of disorderly conduct/chaos among the audience wanting to ask questions. Greg Neffinger, Interim Town Administrator stated that the audience is not allowed to speak unless the Chairman recognizes to do so and if a person disrupts the meeting they will be asked to leave the meeting. The chaos continued.

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continued

PUBLIC FORUM

6:00 P.M. - John Geraci, 36 Waterman Avenue, re: On-going issue

Mr. Geraci stated that he was back to the Board because he did not think that he received his just do in a situation that should be rectified. Mr. Geraci had further discussion on his three issues. Mr. Geraci would like a response. The Board will look into it.

6:05 P.M. – Jim Haberern, 346 Pinehurst, re: Elmcrest Country Club

Mr. Haberern told the Board that he worked at Elmcrest Country Club of thirty-two years for his Uncle Joe Pagos and eight-years after that. Mr. Haberern suggested that the Board go for the 61B waver. Mr. Haberern told the Board that he did have litigation coming up on the property; just want everything done correctly. The Interim Administrator told Mr. Haberern that Attorney Fitzgerald has an appointment with the Board at 6:45 regarding the Chapter 61B Waiver.

Police Chief candidates, discussion and vote.

Motion:

W. Gorman made a motion for the Board to appoint Sergeant Jeffrey Dalessio as Chief of Police for the Town of East Longmeadow and that the Board empower Billy Gorman to negotiate a contract and such contract to be considered ratified by two signatures of the Board of Selectmen. If a contract could not be negotiated then the Board empowers Billy Gorman to appoint an Interim Police Chief until the Selectmen can reconvene and continue a search for the permanent Police Chief. A. Thorpe seconded. Opposed by Selectman Federici. Motion passed 2-0. Selectman Federici opposed.

There was chaos in the audience again over not being able to speak and not being able to hear what the Board was saying.

APPOINTMENTS:

6:15 P.M. – Catherine Ratte, PVPC & Hazard Mitigation Committee, re: Hazard Mitigation Plan
The Interim Town Administrator told the Board that Ms. Ratte asked to reschedule because of what was going on in the meeting.

The Interim Town Administrator asked Attorney Donahue to address if the public had a right to speak at this meeting. Attorney Donahue told the Chairman that it was his understanding that IT staffers were getting equipment to be able to provide a microphone system.

Motion:

A. Thorpe moved for a fifteen minute recess. So moved by W. Gorman. There was no second. A. Thorpe seconded out of necessity. Selectman Federici in favor. Motion passed 3-0.

6:45 P.M. – Attorney Brian Fitzgerald, re: Elmcrest Country Club, re: Chapter 61B Waiver
Attorney Fitzgerald was before the Board on behalf of AC Management Group LLC which currently holds the note and mortgages pertaining to Elmcrest Country Club. A foreclosure took place on January 26, 2016. Attorney Fitzgerald was before the Board with respect of a Waiver of Notice as it pertains to the Chapter 61B lien, recreational tax lien. Attorney Fitzgerald continued with the explanation and mentioned that Attorney Donahue reviewed and made revisions. Attorney Fitzgerald requested the waver of the 90-day notice in accordance with

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Appointment continued, Attorney Fitzgerald

Section 61B Section 9. There was further discussion that the use will continue as a golf course and there was further discussion from Town Counsel.

Motion:

A. Thorpe entertained a motion to sign the Waiver. So moved by P. Federici. W. Gorman seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Open Session Minutes: April 28, May 12 & 18, 2015; January 4, 2016

Motion:

A. Thorpe entertained a motion to accept the open session minutes of April 28, May 12 & 18, 2015 and January 4, 2016. So moved by P. Federici. W. Gorman seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Executive Session Minutes: April 28, May 12 & 18, 2015

Motion:

A. Thorpe entertained a motion to accept the executive session minutes of April 28, May 12 & 18, 2015. So moved by P. Federici. W. Gorman seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

OLD BUSINESS

Interim Town Administrator Updates - Issues that do not require votes or discussion from the Board.

The Interim reported that the office is in the process of working on the Annual Town Reports.

Old Fire Station

Some Departments expressed interest. The Jaycees have shown interest and the Interim will be meeting with them to discuss their interest.

Interim Town Administrator's Contract

Motion:

W. Gorman made the motion that the Board hire Greg Neffinger as permanent Town Administrator and have Angela Thorpe negotiate a contract to consider with signature of two Board members. So moved by A. Thorpe. Discussion from Selectman Federici that when the contract went out to bid the pre-requisite was that the person that got the Interim Town Administrator job was not eligible for the permanent. That was Selectman Thorpe's idea to put in the contract, now there is an about face. Motion passed 2-0. Selectman Federici said that the Board cannot vote on it because of the stipulations in the Interim Town Administrator's contract. Selectman Thorpe said that was the first one. Selectman Federici said this was a continuation of the first one. The audience was in an uproar and extremely verbal. There was further discussion from Selectman Federici.

Town Counsel addressed the audience telling the audience that this was a public meeting of the Board of Selectmen and as the public you are able to hear what they say but if they continue to disrupt the meeting the Chairman can move to have all removed. The audience continued in a loud manner and did not pay any attention what Town Counsel had to say.

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Old business Board of Selectmen

Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule

The Board mentioned that the April 26th meeting would need to be changed but did not rescheduled.

Annual Town Meeting

Warrant Articles

The Board will review the Articles that were received. The Board will get back to the Interim with any articles they may be interested in adding. The Interim also mentioned setting a date to close the Warrant. Selectman Federici spoke about a placeholder to cover the potential for paying the Police Chief in the sunset clause in his contract. Selectman Federici was under the impression that it was not put in. The Interim said that there is nothing formally organized right now. The Interim will put a placeholder in.

NEW BUSINESS

Community Funds, re: Scholarships

The next meeting will determine the winners of the scholarships.

Name Change

Motion:

A. Thorpe entertained a motion to approve the name change from ELM Care Group, LP, Emeritus at East Longmeadow to Brookdale East Longmeadow, 741 Parker Street also Food Service applications. So moved by P. Federici. W. Gorman seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Request from Graziano Gardens

Motion:

A. Thorpe entertained a motion to approve the request from Graziano Gardens to hold their 10th Annual Garden Party on Saturday, March 19, 2016 from 11:00am-3:00pm and a Temporary Food Service Permit. So moved by P. Federici. W. Gorman seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Request from St. Michael's Church

Motion:

A. Thorpe entertained a motion to approve the request from St. Michael's K of C 9960 for a One Day Liquor License (beer & wine) on Friday, March 18, 2016 from 5:30pm-8:00pm at St. Michael's Community Center, 53 Somers Road, in conjunction with their Lenten Reflection to benefit the local food pantry. So moved by P. Federici. W. Gorman seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Notification from Mass State Lottery

There was no objection from the Board regarding the application to the State for a KENO License from Mario's Café Ambiance, 60 Shaker Road.

Request from Bay Path University

Motion:

A. Thorpe entertained a motion to approve the request from Bay Path University, One Denslow Road, for a One Day Liquor License (beer & wine) on Tuesday, March 22, 2016 from 5:30pm-

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New business Board of Selectmen continued

7:30pm at Bay Path in conjunction with their admissions event. So moved by P. Federici.
W. Gorman seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

BOARD OF HEALTH

NEW BUSINESS

Nomination of Animal Inspectors

Motion:

A. Thorpe entertained a motion to approve the appointment of Thomas O'Connor and Melissa Defino-Lagecy as Animal Inspectors for the period of May 1, 2016 until April 30, 2017. So moved by P. Federici. W. Gorman seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

TOWN COUNSEL

OLD BUSINESS

Non-Union negotiations – Recreation Director

Town Counsel has not received any further responses regarding the Contract.

Update Healey/Moore Grievance

Town Counsel reported that this was a notification from Labor Counsel that the grievance was filed was held in the favor of the Town.

NEW BUSINESS

Landfill land swap

The Interim Administrator read the e-mail from the Superintendent of Public Works. No action is needed at this time. This item was tabled.

MEETINGS/INVITATIONS/REMINDERS

The Clerk of the Board read the meetings/invitations /reminders

Town Offices closed on Friday, March 25, 2016 in observance of Good Friday

Board of Selectmen Meeting, Tue., March 29, 2016 at 6pm in the Media Room at the Council on Aging, 328 North Main St.

Annual Town Elections, Tue., April 12, 2016 at Birchland Park Middle School, 7am-8am

Motion:

A. Thorpe entertained a motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss matters of collective bargaining and non-union bargaining issues because to do so in open session might be detrimental to the Town's interest and return to open session only to adjourn. So moved by P. Federici. W. Gorman seconded. Motion passed 3-0 by roll call vote. Selectman Federici, yes. Selectman Gorman, yes. Selectman Thorpe, yes.

Motion:

A. Thorpe entertained a motion to adjourn. So moved by P. Federici. W. Gorman seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

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continued

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lorraine Banspach, Assistant Executive Secretary.

**MINUTES APPROVED AT THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING OF WEDNESDAY,
May 25, 2016**

Paul L. Federici, Clerk of the Board