

BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND SEWER COMMISSIONER'S SPECIAL MEETING

March 20, 2017

Francis Faulkner Room 204

Regular Meeting 7:00 PM

To view the video, [click here](#)

Present: Peter J. Berry, Janet K. Adachi, Franny Osman, Katie Green, Chingsung Chang, Town Manager
Steve Ledoux, Lisa Tomyl, Recording Secretary

Mr. Berry opened the meeting at 7:00 PM leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizen Concerns

Terra Freidrichs, West Acton – would like an update on Kelly's Corner update. Would like to advocate for double yellow lines on back streets and people think it's a highway and people speed bringing down housing values. Also overnight parking ban be lifted to allow homeless people having a place to sleep in their car. Would like to thank Steve the plow person for the roads and town grassy areas are not being torn up in West Acton. Would like confirmation that the Recreation Department receiving donations don't put in a good word when they (businesses) enter in applications for various things. Also how much does the application fees for large projects (like Concord Water Treatment Facility SPSP) costs.

Franny Osman – the Piper Lane property owner has lowered their price for the land and just wanted to bring it to the Board's attention to conserve it as open space.

Chairman's Update/Operational Update

Mr. Berry – Kelley's Corner TM approved the design 750K to get 75% of the design. Proposal was put together several years ago and was brought to TM last year. There will be a full 25% design public forum in the fall. Testified at the Mass Transportation Group this week

Town elections are on March 28th – encourage folks to go out and vote. Town meeting is on April 3rd.

Mr. Ledoux – Richard Burrows has been appointed Police Chief as of March 12th. Robert Vanderhoof – member of FD for 40 years has been appointed Deputy Fire Chief.

Public Hearings

Gas Main Installation, Adeline Way – Mr. Berry read the public hearing notice. Representing National Grid is. National Grid is petitioning to install natural gas service from 248 High Street for a new service at Adeline Way. Ms. Osman asked how many leaks are reported on High Street – the representative did not have an answer. Ms. Osman requested at a future agenda meeting regarding creating a policy regarding gas leaks. Ms. Green has met with a local group advocating to fix gas leaks and with Selby, LUEDD, and talking regarding other policies to bring forward to the BOS after Town Meeting. Not just gas leaks, but as well as gas hookups and alternative energy hookups.

Response from National Grid was an explanation of how they are graded with a 1, 2 or 3, with an average response time of 1 hour when there is a report of natural gas.

Drafted but not finalized by Clerk, 2016-2017

Approved by Board of Selectmen as is,

Debra Symes 109 Concord Road – 2016 Omnibus Energy Bill language if there is a significant environmental risk.

Jim Snyder-Grant, Half Moon Hill – brought up last meeting with the BOS and the presentation regarding the natural gas alternatives. Wanted to acknowledge we are in the middle of a climate emergency and there are 3 leaks on High Street in addition to the 160 other unrepairs gas leaks in Acton. Its apparent there are nowhere near the additional housing being built in Acton, is there a department or a checklist regarding the gas line hookups. Looking to work with Town staff in these processes.

Carol , Brewster Lane – Everything you said regarding gas leaks are right. The pipes here in Acton are the pressure is 60lb/sq in. If you look at Newton they have it at .5lb/sq in. This is an ongoing issue and there is a website www.squeakyleaks.com We do call up on certain locations on High Street. There is also a very strong odor of natural gas by the new bridge on High Street.

Mr. Berry requested Mr. Ledoux to contact Corey York regarding having National Grid to come out and investigate the claim of the strong odor by the recently rebuilt culvert on High Street.

National Grid representative explained what causes the lb/sq in, and where the leaks come from (aging pipes, corners, joints).

Terra Freidrichs, West Acton – would like town staff something with Acton 2020, and gas lines. Board members made general comments regarding the street cut and hookup.

Ms. Green moved to approve the gas main installation petition by National Grid, Ms. Adachi seconded. All Ayes (5-0).

All Alcoholic Beverage License Transfer, Role Corporation to Alby Corporation – Representing Alby Corporation was Anthony Buscemi and Joe Devlin, attorney for Anthony Buscemi. Ms. Green asked in one of the previous liquor license, had one offense for underage sale in Hudson - they updated their service policies make any policy and procedures. They currently have scanners for licenses. Cash registers currently scan licenses. Only takes Mass ID only. Ms. Adachi moved to approve the all alcohol liquor license transfer, Ms. Green seconded. All Ayes (5-0)

Minuteman Regional School District Assessment Article Discussion, Kevin Mahoney – Mr. Mahoney gave his presentation on the school assessment. Ms. Adachi questioned regarding new regulation and freshmen being required to attend their freshmen year at the school in their town (for Vocational/Technical Schools). Mr. Mahoney stated he does keep in touch with the students who's first choice was Minuteman to see them transition to Minuteman. Ms. Green – pleased that the building project is moving forward ahead of schedule. On chart with the education activities and any concern to let in students from the districts that left the district and do you expect that the students be accepted in enrollment. The exited districts applicants will still be accepted since they do not have an affiliation with another vocational school. Ms. Green moved to recommend Article 6, Ms. Adachi seconded. All Ayers (5-0)

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Zoning Articles, Planning Department – Ray Yacoby from Planning Board went over the Zoning articles along with Roland Bartl, Planning Director.

Article 20 was approved at a previous meeting. Article 21 Mr. Chang moved to recommend, Ms. Adachi seconded, (3-2) Ms. Green and Ms. Osman Nay.

Terra Friedrichs, West Acton – commented to Ms. Green about her explanation regarding the property at 92 Piper and the Historical Commission actions.

Article 22 – Ms. Osman moved to recommend, Ms. Adachi second. All Ayes (5-0)

Terra Freidrichs, West Acton – changing to WAV not VR Zoning and so changing it to what neighboring properties are not. Not changing it to be things around it, but things that are quite a ways away from that property. Thinks it's a mistake to extend the WAV zoning out to that lot.

Article 23 – Ms. Green moved to recommend, Ms. Osman seconded, All Ayes (5-0)

Article 24 – Ms. Osman moved to recommend, Ms. Green seconded, All Ayes (5-0)

Terra Freidrichs, West Acton – Questioned if Article 24 is about tearing down a house in a non-conforming lot only to rebuild in a different location on the non-conforming lot.

Selectmen Business

Acton Boxborough Regional School District Request for Fall Town Meeting Article – Mr. Ledoux gave an overview regarding ABRSR request for a fall town meeting article. They came up with 2 dates, and the Boxborough BOS voted on December 4th. Board members agreed with the December 4th date for a Special Town Meeting.

Consent Items

Ms. Adachi moved to adjourn, Ms. Green seconded. All Ayes (5-0). Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Tomyl, Recording Secretary

Franny Osman, Clerk