

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JAN. 8, 2019
MINUTES
SELECTBOARD MEETING ROOM – 7 P.M.**

Present were Vice Chair Andrea Miles, Clerk Jeff Cyr, member Sarah Etelman, member Bruce Forcier, and Town Administrator Michael J. Sullivan. Chair Ira Brezinsky was absent.

CALL TO ORDER

Miles called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

ARTIST WELCOME

Miles welcomed Sarah Miele, who is the newest artist in residence in the Selectboard Meeting Room. Miele grew up in South Hadley, graduated from South Hadley High School, and received a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from UMass Dartmouth. Her work will be on display through July.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Forcier motioned to approve the draft minutes of the Nov. 27, 2018 and Dec. 18 Selectboard meetings. Cyr seconded. All in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OPEN FORUM

Forcier noted the annual Bag The Community event will take place the weekend of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and Bike Walk is hosting a trek on Jan. 20.

Miles highlighted a Planning Board meeting on Jan. 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

CONSENT AGENDA

Forcier motioned to approve the consent agenda which consisted of a request for a multi-date beer and wine license from Tower Theaters on Jan. 18 and 19. Etelman seconded. All in favor.

JIM MAZIK

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Deputy Director Jim Mazik discussed Community Development Block Grant funds and the town's ability to apply to the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development for up to \$800,000 in funds. He suggested focusing on and putting the two strongest components forward – bathroom modifications for up to four units at Lathrop Village and town-wide housing rehabilitation. The Selectboard will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, Jan. 22 at 7:10 p.m. in the Selectboard Meeting Room of town hall to discuss this application.

2019 LICENSE ISSUANCE REVIEW

Sullivan said despite a last-minute snag in the renewal process due to conflicting information from the ABCC, all licenses were renewed except for Simardco's Restaurant Beer and Wine License, and Resource Enterprises' Package Store Beer and Wine License. Simardco, DBA Egg and I, chose not to renew. Resource Enterprises, located at 19 Bridge St., did not complete the

application process and will need to reapply for their license. Sullivan said the Selectboard should be in no rush to grant these two open licenses.

2019 LEDGES RATE

Mike Fontaine of IGM said there will be a moderate increase in rates at Ledges Golf Course. IGM takes control of the course Jan. 15. The next step is tackling the restaurant. Forcier motioned to accept the recommended rates for the 2019 season at Ledges Golf Course. Cyr seconded. All in favor.

LITHIA SPRINGS LOT 4

Mary Elizabeth O'Meara is transferring a portion of her land by sale. The town has the first right of refusal. Sullivan said the town has no interest or use for the property, which is a piece of land with no frontage. He asked the Selectboard to vote that the town is disinterested in the property. Forcier motioned the town exercise its rights under 61a. Cyr seconded. All in favor.

RESIGNATION

Forcier motioned to accept the resignation of Grace Kelly from the Council on Aging. Cyr seconded. All in favor.

SB POLICY REVISIONS

Sullivan noted the most recent change to the policy of appointing residents to committees three times year – in February, June and October. It was also suggested the clerk's responsibilities for taking minutes be delegated to the executive assistant to administration. In the assistant's absence, the clerk will facilitate minutes.

Sullivan reminded the Selectboard they can always suspend the necessary rules in case of an emergency.

Etelman motioned to accept the draft as amended. Forcier seconded. All in favor.

FY2020 BUDGET

Sullivan said he doesn't have an update on the FY2020 budget. The Selectboard, at their next meeting, will discuss sections 21 and 22, related to health insurance. He said there is an indication from the Hampshire County Health Insurance Trust that if the communities that accept 21 and 22 go forward, there likely would be no increase this year. HCHIT is fairly certain they would be able to lock it in for another year as well, opposed to a \$300,000 - \$500,000 increase in health insurance.

TA REPORT

Miles said the swearing-in ceremony for Police Chief Jennifer Gundersen was impressive. Sullivan said the turnout certainly proved Gundersen is well-respected in the police community. Sullivan said former Police Chief Steven Parentela and Gundersen did a great job in the transition period, adding it should be a model for transitions.

Cyr highlighted the senior center building project. Sullivan noted hours earlier the town was host to the Massachusetts Municipal Association for a listening session on how South Hadley hosts symposiums of understanding.

For the full report, please see the Jan. 8, 2019 Selectboard packet.

ADJOURN

Forcier motioned to adjourn. Etelman seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
Kristin Maher
Executive Assistant to Administration