

2019 - Minutes of April 17 Meeting

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes April 17, 2019

6:00 PM: Open Meeting
Quorum present: Bernie Fallon (BF), Chair; Peter Skorput (PS); Doane Perry (DP). Also present: Administrator Mark Webber (MW). No press present.

Board reviews and approves previous meeting minutes.
Board reviews and signs weekly warrants.

6:20 PM: BF opens the regular portion of tonight's meeting and requests that background research of new agenda items be distributed to Board members prior to meetings in order to have Board members better informed prior to meetings.

BF opens discussion on 16 State Line Road by reviewing the recent history of the property, including: tax taking history; current status of property ownership; on going issues with unregistered vehicles on property and; sewer connection status.

BF notes that the remaining items needing to be rectified are: the 3 unregistered vehicles; connection to the Town sewer, although the connection fee and deposit to contractor have been paid and; dilapidated/unkept condition of the property. BF adds that the Town turned off the water service last fall for non-payment and that the owner illegally turned the water back on and that it's certainly not the Town's responsibility if water/pipe breaking damage occurred over the winter. The electric service is no longer in the Town's names. BF adds that it is time for complaints to be filed with the Board of Health to address apparent health and public safety concerns.

Neighbors George Williams and John Whalen are present and address the Board with a series of concerns including: late night bonfires on the property which threaten neighboring properties; suspicious late-night activity; witnessing of rats on the property; devaluing of adjacent properties due to the dilapidated condition of the property; abandoned appliance in yard and; 3 unregistered vehicles including a pick-up truck loaded with garbage bags. Both neighbors state that they've been very patient with owner Brian Zanconato and aren't seeking to punish him but they are concerned with the health, safety and welfare of the neighborhood.

MW offers that he will get the abandoned appliance removed tomorrow since it is an immediate public safety concern.

Following further discussion, it is decided that BF and one or more of the neighbors will meet with Board of Health inspector Earl Moffatt on Friday morning and file a complaint and seek the Board of Health's intervention and action; perhaps including condemnation of the property. BF adds that the WSPD will be instructed to keep a close eye on the property as well. BF says that the Selectmen have been lenient with Brian over the past year or so but that Mr. Zanconato has not responded positively and no longer deserves the Board not coming down on him. Both Mr. Williams and Mr. Whalen thank the Board for response to their concerns.

Other Business/Action/Discussion Items:

- MW informs the Board that 10 applications for the Town Administrator have been received to date and that the close out for applications is April 24th. Four residents have expressed interest in serving on a Town Administrator Search Committee, so a fifth person is needed. The names will be provided to the Town Moderator who is charged with appointing all Town committees.
- Board renews the Town's waste hauling and disposal contract for an additional 3 years with Valley Trucking. MW notes that waste services are exempt from the State's bidding laws but it is sound practice to conduct periodic reviews. PS adds that the Town has been well served by Valley over the past few years.
- Board welcomes a presentation of a "tree walk" to be scheduled to highlight the Town's significant trees and their uniqueness. The walk idea came from discussions from Vision Committee meetings.

- MW informs the Board that he has developed a Class II/III auto license application package in the event that it is determined that Rte. 41 Auto LLC needs to apply for new licenses.
- Board approves a sign permit for Shaker Mill Tap House. Board has a general discussion on sign permits and agrees that the Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer should be the authority in charge of sign permitting since that office has to issue a building permit for signs and is responsible for their compliance and enforcement under the Town's zoning bylaws. It doesn't make a lot of sense for the Selectmen to be partially involved in the middle of the process.

7:30 PM: There being no additional business to come before the Board and no questions/comments from those present, DP makes to adjourn the meeting. PS seconds the motion. Vote taken, 3-0 in favor.

Meeting minutes approved by:

Bernie Fallon, Chair

Peter Skorput

Doane Perry

Date: _____