

Minutes of Meeting – February 23, 2022; meeting called to order at 6:00pm. Present: Marybeth Mitts; Warren Archey; Ed Lane; Dave Roche. Absent: Neal Maxymillian.

Announcements: MM announced that the Affordable Housing Trust is selling two homes in town through Construct, and that anyone interested in applying for one should contact them directly.

MOTION by EL, seconded by DR to approve the Minutes of February 9. 4/0 vote.

Citizens Open Forum: None.

Consent Agenda: None.

Ferelle, LLC d/b/a Alta Restaurant & Wine Bar came before the Board seeking a change of ownership interest in their annual A/A Restaurant license for property located at 34 Church Street. EL read the legal notice as it appeared in the newspaper. MOTION by EL, seconded by DR to open the public hearing. 4/0 vote. The Board had no issues with this license request change. MOTION by EL, seconded by DR to close the public hearing. 4/0 vote. MOTION by EL, seconded by DR to approve adding Raphael Gimbert as an LLC member and changing the members' LLC Beneficial Interest in an annual A/A Restaurant license held by Ferelle, LLC d/b/a Alta Restaurant & Wine Bar for property located at 34 Church Street, Aurelien Telle, Manager. 4/0 vote.

FY23 Water/Sewer Rate Hearing: The Clerk read the ad as it appeared in The Berkshire Eagle. MOTION by EL, seconded by DR to open the public hearing. 4/0 vote. The TM stated that he is recommending a 0% change on water rates for FY23, and a 2.5% change on sewer rates for FY23. EL stated that he feels that it is the right and fair thing to do. Other board members concurred. MOTION by EL, seconded by DR to close the public hearing. 4/0 vote. MOTION by EL, seconded by DR to approve the TM recommendation, and to keep the water rate at \$8.22/1000 gals., and to set the sewer rate at \$13.02/1000gals. 4/0 vote.

Outdoor Dining: MM explained that restaurants will no longer be able to utilize town sidewalks for outdoor dining effective April 1, 2022. DR questioned the use of the green strip between the sidewalk and roadways. EL asked if a trash compactor could be placed somewhere in the middle of the downtown area. DPW Superintendent Bill Gop stated that the green strip could work, but that a trash compactor located strategically in town would be difficult. The TM spoke about the alcohol licenses, leases and insurance requirements. MM stated that she would like to see the town preserve the benefit as much as possible. The Board agreed that it would be helpful to work with the Chamber on this issue. DR stated that as things go back to "normal", restaurants will have their table counts back to normal. EL stated that it is about safety, and things that need to be addressed such as heaters and extension cords. WA agreed that public safety is a big deal and needs to be addressed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.

Minutes Taken By: _____ Minutes Accepted By: _____
Mary Ellen Deming Clerk
Director of Administrative Services Board of Selectmen