

Minutes of Meeting – February 5, 2020; meeting called to order at 7:00pm. Present: Dave Roche; Ed Lane; Marybeth Mitts; Warren Archey. Neal Maxymillian entered meeting at 7:07pm.

Announcements: None.

MOTION by DR, seconded by MM to accept the Minutes of January 22. 4/0 vote.

Citizen's Open Forum: Phil Considine spoke to the Board about the need to save the 1843 school house located at the corner of East Street/Jaynes Road. He stated that he spoke with the current owner who stated that it may be used as a vegetable stand. He doesn't feel that is an appropriate use, and suggested that the building be moved.

Consent Agenda: A HOLD was placed on the CDBG application. MOTION by NM, seconded by DR to approve the consent agenda as follows: grant permission to Kimball Farms to display a temporary sign from May 29-June 5 at the intersection of Sunset Avenue and Main Street. 5/0 vote. MM briefly explained how the CDBG program would work, and that there will be a public hearing on it on 2/19 at 6:30. It was agreed that this is a wonderful opportunity for the Town, and that this item should be placed on the 2/19 agenda for a vote, following the public hearing.

Shots Café, 27D Housatonic Street came before the Board seeking a Change in Category from an A/A to a W&M License and a Change in Corporate Structure. NM read the legal notice as it appeared in the newspaper. MOTION by NM, seconded by DR to open the public hearing. 5/0 vote. Attorney Jeff Lynch appeared before the Board to answer any questions. He stated that nothing is changing with how the business is run. MOTION by NM, seconded by DR to close the public hearing. 5/0 vote. MOTION by NM, seconded by DR to approve the change in category from an A/A to a W&M license, and a change in corporate structure to Shots Café located at 27D Housatonic Street. 5/0 vote.

Library Update: Librarian Katie O'Neil appeared before the Board to give an update on activities at the Library – the strategic plan is being worked on, a counter has been placed on the front door for a more accurate count as to how many people come into the library, they continue to offer lectures on various topics and they are participating in the Boston Bruins PJ drive.

Chamber of Commerce Update: President Rob Murray and Executive Director Jen Nacht came before the Board to update the Board on upcoming activities and to discuss their FY2021 budget. NM questioned if their advertising is bringing people to Lenox to stay or simply to shop and dine. After some discussion, MOTION by MM, seconded by DR to approve an Economic Development/Advertising budget amount of \$109,400. 5/0 vote.

Special Act Committee Update: CK stated that the Board had received a copy of the Committee's recommendations to the Special Act. The Act states that the Board needs to receive this document within thirty days which is why it is on the agenda tonight, but the chairman of the committee will plan to attend the 2/19 meeting to discuss it further with the Board. The biggest changes are that no employee may be a selectman, and that Board of Selectmen be changed to Select Board.

BOS Reports: NM stated that the Planning Board has concerns with the ZBA decision regarding the Winstanley property, and is trying to decide how they would like to proceed. He also mentioned that two boilers at the Community Center are down with cracked motors. MM stated that the Affordable Housing Trust met and agreed to allow the Permanent Building Committee to look into utilizing the Sawmill Brook property for a proposed public safety facility. EL stated that he believes that should a public safety facility be built on this land, there would also be room for some affordable housing. MM then mentioned that she attended the MMA conference in January which she found very interesting and informative.

By roll call, NM, DR, EL, MM and WA voted to go into Executive Session at 8:17pm to discuss strategy with respect to ongoing litigation and mediation relative to Environmental Appeals Board proceedings between G.E. and EPA (Housatonic Rest of River cleanup). NM stated that he has a conflict of interest and will not participate.

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

List of Documents: Temporary sign request; liquor license application.