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Selectmen's Minutes 02-13-2006

TOWN OF ARLINGTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 13, 2006

7:15 p.m.

Present: Mr. Hurd, Chair, Mrs. Dias, Vice Chair, Mr. Greeley, Mrs. Mahon, and Ms. LaCourt.

Also present: Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Maher, and Mrs. Krepelka.

1. Youth Health and Safety Initiatives

Brian F. Sullivan, Town Manager

Mr. Hurd spoke about the recent tragedy at Arlington High School and the untimely passing of Cameron O'Connor and asked for a moment of silence.

Mr. Sullivan stated that the Leadership Team will be looking at all health and safety issues including drug and alcohol. The School Dept. and Town agencies are working together to make this a top priority.

Ms. LaCourt feels that these are issues for the entire community and not just school issues. Ms. LaCourt made a motion to establish a Prevention Leadership Team as follows:

“Moved that we support the School Committees’ efforts by enjoining the Town Manager to make all employees requested available to participate in the Leadership Team to be formulated by the Superintendent of Schools. The mission of this leadership team is to formulate an action plan for addressing the issues of stress, mental health, drug and alcohol use among young people in Arlington. The Leadership Team will include the Superintendent, High School Principal, Middle School Principal, Health Director, Chief of Police, AYCC Director and others as needed. The Leadership Team will work closely with community members, faculty and students. An outside facilitator will provide expert guidance on selecting and implementing science-based mental health and substance abuse services and interventions that take into account the specific risk and protective factors present for Arlington students.”

Ms. LaCourt moved approval.

(5-0)

Ms. LaCourt also suggested we explore with the School Committee the possibility of making the meeting at which the the Leadership Team reports its action plan recommendations at a joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen and School Committee.

FOR APPROVAL

2. Minutes of Meeting: January 23, 2006

Mrs. Dias moved approval. (4-0-1)

Mr. Greeley abstained from voting.

3. Resolution Regarding Tom Quintal, Animal Control Officer

John J. Long, City Clerk, City of Somerville

Mr. Hurd read the Resolution from the City of Somerville regarding Tom’s outstanding service to the City of Somerville, and congratulated him on his work above and beyond the call of duty. (5-0)

4. MWRA, February 2006 Funding - \$293,600

Alfred B. Fantini, Interim Treasurer

The project to be funded is associated with the Town's Sewer System Investigation Planning Program Project-Phase 3 and Phase 4.

Mrs. Dias moved approval. (5-0)

APPOINTMENTS & REAPPOINTMENTS

5. Appointments: New Election Worker

Francis J. DeGuglielmo, 54 Medford St. #709, Pct. 9, U

Lori-Ann Medeiros, 21 Highland Ave. #2, Pct. 10, U

Nancy L. Morrison, 995 Mass. Ave. #201, Pct. 17, R

Mrs. Mahon moved approval. (5-0)

TRAFFIC RULES & ORDERS/OTHER BUSINESS

6. Recommendation: Appleton St. and Paul Revere Issues

Edward Starr, Chair, Transportation Advisory Committee

Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Transportation Advisory Committee

The Board voted unanimously to approve the following recommendations of the Transportation Advisory Committee:

1. Relocate the stop sign on the Paul Revere Road approach to Appleton Street to a more visible location.
2. Continue the yellow centerline on Appleton Street through the curve.
3. Install a curve warning sign (MUTCD W1-2R or similar) on Appleton Street on the eastbound approach to this intersection.

Mr. Greeley moved approval. (5-0)

7. Discussion: Coalition Bargaining of Health Insurance

Mr. Hurd informed the Unions and all retirees in attendance that the Board of Selectmen would not be voting on Coalition Bargaining tonight. After everyone has had a chance to talk, the Board would go into Executive Session at the request of Town Manager Brian Sullivan and would vote in public session on February 27th.

Mrs. Mahon voted not to enter into Executive Session. Mrs. Mahon objected stating that the issue was a policy question of public interest and it was not covered under that allowance because the Board had not yet entered into the collective bargaining process.

Mr. Kenneth Donnelly, Secretary-Treasurer, Professional Firefighters of MA, also a Lexington Firefighter, spoke for all the Unions regarding Coalition Bargaining for Health Insurance, MGL Chapter 32B, Section 19.

Carol Chandor, Managing Director, CEO, Boston Benefit Partners, LLC, a consultant who has been working with the teachers' union and other Towns that have adopted Coalition Bargaining gave a presentation regarding the benefits of having said Coalition Bargaining in the eight (8) towns that adopted Section 19. Ms. Chandor stated that without coalition bargaining it becomes cumbersome to work with every union through the bargaining process.

Mr. Donnelly stated that he feels that the Town of Lexington has built a trust between management and unions since the Town consolidated plans. He feels that in coalition bargaining both sides end up giving a little to come up with something that is agreeable to everyone.

Ms. LaCourt asked Mr. Donnelly for more information regarding the savings the Town of Lexington has saved since Section 19 was adopted.

Mrs. Mahon supports Coalition Bargaining and now feels that the Town of Arlington should accept Chapter 32B, Section 19.

Mr. David Blakney, President, Teachers Union and Mr. Joseph Roselli, a retired firefighter, also spoke in favor of Chapter 32B, Section 19.

Mr. Sullivan stated that he believes coalition bargaining would tie the Town's negotiating team. Mr. Sullivan feels that unions have provided examples of savings under coalition bargaining, and he has provided the Selectmen with examples of

communities bargaining successfully with consolidation of plans and cost savings under collective bargaining.

Mr. Sullivan stated that one of the benefits of the current bargaining process is that it ties the discussion about wages and benefits together, which he thinks is crucial.

Mr. Roselli spoke against Mr. Sullivan's suggestion of a sunset provision for coalition bargaining. Mr. Roselli stated that the minute you deter from the law verbatim, you are not bargaining under Chapter 32B, Section 19.

Mr. Hurd stated the discussion would continue at the end of the meeting during Executive Session.

LICENSES & PERMITS

8. Request: Hanging of Banners along Mass. Ave. During April

Board of Library Trustees

The Board unanimously approved the request of the Library Trustees to hang flags along Massachusetts Avenue during the month of April as part of National Library month.

Mr. Greeley moved approval. (5-0)

9. Request: Holding Lecture Series in Memory of Margaret Spengler

Joyce Radochia, Board of Library Trustees

The Board unanimously approved the request of the Board of Library Trustees to hold a series of lectures in memory of Margaret Spengler, a past member of the Board of Trustees and Selectmen. Said series of lectures to be held every two or five years.

Mr. Greeley stated that he would like to serve on the Committee.

Mrs. Mahon moved approval. (5-0)

10. Request: One-Day Alcohol License, Fundraiser, 4/15/06, Regent Theatre

Peter Ward

Mr. Greeley moved approval subject to conditions as set forth (5-0)

11. Request: One Day Beer & Wine License, 2/26/06, Regent Theater

Alan Nidle, Director, Zeitgeist Gallery

Mr. Nidle asked that his request be withdrawn.

12. Request: Common Victualler License

Kondala R. Balusu d/b/a Quiznos Sub, 669 Mass. Ave.

Mr. Greeley moved approval subject to conditions as set forth. (5-0)

7:30 p.m.

13. Request: Common Victualler License

Jaspal S. Pabla d/b/a Punjab Fine Indian Cuisine, 485-487 Mass. Ave.

(Contingent upon conditions of approval of an A.R.B. permit)

Mr. Greeley moved approval subject to conditions as set forth by the Redevelopment Board. (5-0)

14. Request: Beer and Wine License

Jaspal S. Pabla d/b/a Punjab Fine Indian Cuisine, 485-487 Mass. Ave.

(Contingent upon conditions of approval of an A.R.B. permit)

Mr. Greeley moved approval subject to conditions as set forth by the Redevelopment Board. (5-0)

15. Request: Boston Avon Walk for Breast Cancer, 5/20/06 & 5/21/06

Rebecca Lee, Logistics Coordinator

Mrs. Mahon moved approval subject to conditions as set forth by the Arlington Police Department. (5-0)

16. **CITIZENS OPEN FORUM**

There were no matters presented for consideration of the Board.

Correspondence Received

Jane Lyman Annual License Fee for 2005 Be Rec'd
Comcast

Alexander Salipante Viet Nam Veterans Be Rec'd
Public Memorials
Committee

Patricia Worden Brattle Street 40B Hearing Be Rec'd
27 Jason St.

John F. Maher Town Manager Term and Contract Be Rec'd
Town Counsel

Mr. Hurd requested that the Town Manager's contract be on the February 27th Agenda.
Mrs. Mahon moved approval. (5-0)

New Business

Mr. Maher stated that Comcast and the Town may come to an agreement soon to renew the Comcast cable agreement with the Town. He will keep the Selectmen up-dated on further negotiations.

Mr. Maher stated that discussions are continuing with residents on the Symmes appeal. Both parties are talking and he will keep the Board informed.

Mr. Maher stated that the Home Rule Petition regarding a separate account for the Symmes Project is moving along and hopefully will be signed soon.

The Home Rule Petitions asking the State Legislature to expand the number of all alcohol licenses and asking either for a full package store or beer and wine are now in the Senate.

Mr. Maher said that Senator Robert Havern has been working hard to get these petitions signed.

Mr. Sullivan requested that the Board of Selectmen meet on Monday, March 6th, at 6:00 p.m. with Department Heads to review Budgets.

Mr. Greeley stated that he will miss Kathleen Dias, as she has decided not to run for Selectmen, and it has been an honor to work with her and that it is a tremendous loss for the community.

Mr. Greeley stated that he is upset about the State appointment to the Arlington Redevelopment Board. Mr. Greeley commented that as the Executive Board of the Town, he felt that the Town should have had input into this appointment, and it is abhorrent that the State would make this appointment without speaking to any Town official. Mr. Greeley stated that the appointee was an obstructionist and outspoken critic of the Symmes property, which is still ongoing.

He requested Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Maher look into this matter and report back to the Board at their February 27th meeting.

Ms. LaCourt requested an update, at the February 27th meeting, regarding the use of cable funds to update technology levels at the Stratton & Thompson Schools.

Ms. LaCourt requested a list of technology installed at Dallin School from the Technology Director Steve Mazzola.

Mr. Hurd thanked the Public Works Department for their outstanding job during the recent snow- storm on February 5th.

Mr. Hurd announced that on Friday, February 17th, that Joe Dalton, Representative Markey's Aide will be meeting with Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Hurd regarding funding of projects for the Town of Arlington. All are invited to attend. The meeting is at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Maher, Town Counsel, requested that the Board convene in executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy in respect to collective bargaining where an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's bargaining or litigating position.

Mr. Greeley moved to convene into executive session at 9:40 p.m. for the above purpose.

Mr. Hurd yes
Mrs. Dias yes
Mrs. Dias yes
Mrs. Mahon no
Ms. LaCourt yes

Executive Session

Mrs. Mahon left the meeting at 10:20 p.m.
The Board returned to open session at 10:55 p.m.

Mr. Greeley moved to adjourn at 10:56 p.m.

SO VOTED (4-0)

A True Record: Attest:

Marie A. Krepelka
Board Administrator