

Stoneham Board of Selectmen – Minutes of Meeting July 16, 2013

Chairman Robert W. Sweeney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Selectman Thomas Boussy, Selectwoman Ann Marie O'Neill, Selectman Frank Vallarelli and Town Administrator David Ragucci. Town Counsel William H. Solomon and Selectman John F. DePinto were unable to be present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Sweeney would like to introduce the new Selectwoman Ann Marie O'Neill. Selectwoman O'Neill says she is very excited to be here and would like to say thank you to everyone for making me feel welcome and she is looking forward to working with everyone.

Presentation of ADA Proclamation

Selectman Vallarelli read and moved for approval of the ADA proclamation. Deputy Director Shawn McDuff from Independent Living Center was present to accept the proclamation. **Motion was unanimously voted (4-0).**

Site Plan Hearing/411 Main Street – Amended /Attorney Houghton

Selectwoman O'Neill read the Notice of Hearing. Attorney Charles Houghton was present to represent 411 Main Street LLC, 31 Main Street, No. Reading, MA, to amend the site plan approval of 3/24/09 to change the use of the rear of the first floor of the proposed building from retail to four residential apartments. The remainder of the proposed four story building of approximately 10,000 square feet per floor with parking under to remain the same, on the property located at 411 Main Street, Stoneham, MA. Selectman Vallarelli read Department Recommendations – Charlie Houghton agrees with all DPW Engineering, Police Department, Board of Health, Fire Department and Inspectional Services. Chairman Sweeney opened the hearing to the public. Paul Campbell wants to know status of the barriers? Attorney Houghton states a few more months before they are removed. They were approved to be there for four (4) months and we are about at the half way point. Chairman Sweeney closes public hearing. Selectman Vallarelli moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Selectman Boussy. Selectman Vallarelli made motion to approve site plan for 411 Main Street and two years allowed for completion, seconded by Selectman Boussy. A roll call vote was taken.

Voting in Favor:

Selectman Boussy
Selectwoman O'Neill
Selectman Vallarelli
Chairman Sweeney

Motion was unanimously voted (4-0).

Selectman Vallarelli made a motion to move to agenda item #9.

Appoint Members to the Conservation Commission

Appoint Members to Committees

Selectman Boussy moved to appoint Eric Buckley to the (3) three-year term that expires 4/30/2016. Motion was seconded by Selectman Vallarelli and **unanimously voted (4-0).**

Approve Minutes

Selectman Vallarelli moved approval of the 6/11/13 minutes of executive session minutes and not to release, seconded by Selectman Boussy, seconded by Selectman Boussy and **unanimously voted (3-0-1)**. Selectman Vallarelli moved approval of the 6/11/13 minutes and **unanimously voted (3-0-1)**. Selectwoman O'Neill abstained

Approve Local Aid Protest Letter

Selectman Boussy supports the letter but is not a hundred percent sure to go this route. Selectman Boussy feels we should request the Representatives come into a meeting. Selectwoman O'Neill is concerned that Senator Clark is up for an election but this letter may hurt her and not put us in the best light. She also agrees with the State issue but also wonders if we should invite them here. Selectman Sweeney suggests putting off sending the letter and was **unanimously voted (4-0).**

Approve Bench in Memory of Dave Knox/Rob Surabian

Selectman Vallarelli moved to approve the installation of a solid granite bench at Broadway Field in the memory of Dave Knox, seconded by Selectwoman O'Neill and **unanimously voted (4-0).**

High Street Pole Location (New Pole)/NStar & Verizon

Attorney Charlie Houghton was present to speak on the High Street new pole location/conduit installation. Attorney Houghton explained there is a need for this installation to service the new development going in off of High Street. Chairman Sweeney opens to public. Mr. Bettencourt says he already has pole in front of his house and is against putting in another pole. Chairman Sweeney closes the public hearing. The Board is not comfortable making any decisions without there being a representative here from NStar to further explain why this is needed. Selectman Vallarelli made a motion to table agenda items #4 & 5 until July 30th @ 7:10 p.m., seconded by Selectman Boussy.

Motion was unanimously voted (4-0).

Petition for:

High Street – Easterly side approximately 332 feet south of Broadway Street – installing 1 new pole (#20/15A).

High Street Pole Location (Conduit Installation)/NStar & Verizon

Selectman Vallarelli made a motion to table agenda items #4 & 5 until July 30th @ 7:10 p.m., seconded by Selectman Boussy. **Motion was unanimously voted (4-0).**

Petition for:

High Street Northwesterly from poles 20/15A and 20/16 – approximately 332 feet south of Broadway Street – installing approximately 138 feet of conduit.

Central Street Pole Location (New Pole)/NStar & Verizon

Selectman Vallarelli made a motion to table agenda items #6 & 7 until July 30th @ 7:10 p.m., seconded by Selectwoman O'Neill. **Motion was unanimously voted (4-0).**

Petition for:

Central North Street – Easterly – approximately 242 feet north of William Street – installing 1 new pole (#12/19A).

Central Street Pole Location (Conduit Installation)/NStar & Verizon

Selectman Vallarelli made a motion to table agenda items #6 & 7 until July 30th @ 7:10 p.m., seconded by Selectwoman O'Neill. **Motion was unanimously voted (4-0).**

Petition for:

Central Street Easterly from new pole #12/19A – approximately 242 feet north of William Street – installing approximately 6 feet of conduit.

Accept Donation for Rolling Thunder

Chairman Sweeney reads the plaque that will be on display in the foyer of the Town Hall. Selectman Boussy moved to accept two donations from the Stoneham Fire Fighters Union and the Stoneham Police Superiors Union for Rolling Thunder, seconded by Selectwoman O'Neill. **All in favor (4-0).**

Request to Close Certain Streets and Parking Lots in Vicinity of Town Common for Town Day/Chamber of Commerce

Selectman Vallarelli moved approval of the request from the Chamber of Commerce to close certain streets on 9/7/13, Town Day and **unanimously voted.**

Accept Donation for AP Rounds

Selectman Boussy moved to accept a donation for AP Rounds, seconded by Selectwoman O'Neill. **All in favor (4-0).**

Accept Grant for Cummings Foundation

Selectman Boussy moved to accept Cummings Foundation Grant for AP Rounds. **All in favor (4-0).** Selectwoman Ann Marie O'Neill speaks on how this grant is going to be used.

Approve Block Party/Oak Ridge Road

Selectman Vallarelli moved approval of the request for a Block Party on Oak Ridge Road on 7/27/13, seconded by Selectwoman O'Neill. **Motion was unanimously voted (4-0).**

Election Signs/Selectman Boussy

Selectman Boussy states that this year at election time there was problems/inconsistencies with putting signs in the ground where they are standing. We need specific clear cut rules on where election signs can be put around town. Town Administrator will work with the Town Clerk and Attorney Bill Solomon on this issue.

Miscellaneous

Selectman Vallarelli states that we have hired a recycling coordinator was hired. Selectman Boussy would like to see the recycling coordinator work on the website and work on making it more accurate. Chairman Sweeney suggests meeting with this gentleman and making sure he know what is expected of him. Selectman Vallarelli asks Mr. Ragucci if the Building Inspector has had a chance to follow up on the anonymous letter regarding the issue on West Street. Mr. Ragucci states he will follow up on this with her. Chairman Sweeney requests that Mr. Ragucci talk with the Building Inspector regarding 505 Main Street. Selectman Boussy asks Mr. Ragucci to explain the letter regarding the Chapter 90 decrease. Chairman Sweeney states that we are hiring 3 police officers all positions were budgeted. We are being proactive for when a few people in the department retire. We want to be prepared when that happens.

Town Administrator Reports

Town Administrator Ragucci states there are three beautiful condos at the East School and one of the agreements with that sale was that the playground next to be completely rehabbed. We have been progressing with that project. Youth Football has approached Mr. Ragucci and says the field needs attention. They are requesting the basketball court in the back of the field be filled and making it part of the field. Mr. Ragucci will be meeting with this group to make future changes. Selectman Vallarelli wanted to confirm with Mr. Ragucci that there is a bike path committee meeting tomorrow night. Mr. Ragucci states that there is. Mr. Ragucci states that there has been a lot of work done by our committee on trash which consists of Selectman Boussy, Selectman Vallarelli, Bob Grover, Bill Solomon and Mr. Ragucci. We have spent a lot of time on trying to keep our trash expense contained. We have narrowed it down to three collectors and would like to reduce or contain our trash and really push recycling. Mr. Ragucci requests to add a Selectmen's meeting on July 30th in the banquet room to discuss this issue. Selectman Vallarelli makes motion to add a public hearing on July 30th at 7:15 p.m. for the trash discussion in the banquet room, seconded by Selectwoman O'Neill and **unanimously voted (4-0)**. Mr. Ragucci states there is a lot of interest on the future of Weiss Farm. Mr. Ragucci states that there has been a purchase and sale agreement with a developed that does 40B projects. A neighborhood group that has been organized has been extremely active and informing the community of this event happening. However, the developer has a 90 due diligence period that is going to be up sometime in August. At that point we should know how many units, how much land, how high and traffic impacts all of that info. As of now the community, I, the Board of Selectmen, the building inspector do not know the specifics of this project. We have not been sitting back. There has been a lot of discussion with a lot of difference sources on the 40B process and how it should work. Mr. Ragucci asks to board to consider having a public meeting after we get the facts from the developer. Chairman Sweeney asks if we have contacted outside Counsel, specialists and Mr. Ragucci states that we have. Chairman Sweeney states we are being as proactive as we can be on this project. Mr. Ragucci explains briefly what a 40B project is. Chairman Sweeney explains that history of how 40B projects started. Selectwoman O'Neill asks if the due diligence period will be including a traffic study and feels that right now is not the time due to the fact that school is not in session at this time. Selectman Boussy states that there is a petition going around to hold a Special Town Meeting to make sure money is appropriated for Counsel to help with this issue. Selectman Vallarelli stated that at one time we did reach our affordable housing goals until the MWRA took land. Mr. Ragucci states it is an important issue for the Town of Stoneham but wants the community to know that all the proactive steps are being taken with Town Counsel. Mr. Ragucci will update at the July 30th meeting. Mr. Ragucci states that he a \$25,000.00 line item under his budget that is for labor and legal counsel. Chairman Sweeney states that there was meeting setup with the neighborhood group and they canceled it. He said this meeting was to give people an update on the 40B process not the specific project because no plans have been submitted. He also states the information being talked about is not true. He wants to get ahead of the rumors and gossip. Chairman Sweeney states that anyone can call him to clarify any rumors or gossip. Mr. Ragucci says that the Chamber would like to take a look at the downtown parking program. It has been 5 years and should be reviewed and if anyone would like to attend there will be a meeting August 4th at 11:30a.m. in Banquet Hall. Chairman Sweeney states that he would like to have the people contacted that take care of the islands around town and tell them to clean up and do a better job or we are going to take their names down. Chairman Sweeney also states that the overgrown grass in the main street area he would like to send DPW to clean it up.

July 16, 2013 (4)

Executive Session

Selectman Vallarelli moved to go into executive session, pursuant to Chapter 30A of the General Laws to discuss Stockwell and Union Contracts and not to return as the Board of Selectmen. Motion was seconded by Selectman Boussy and was **unanimously voted (4-0)**.

Voting in Favor:

Selectman Boussy
Selectwoman O'Neill
Selectman Vallarelli
Chairman Sweeney

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Sinclair