

Finance Board Meeting Minutes: September 29th , 2014

Attendees: *George McCormack, Rachel Meredith-Warren, Caroline Colarusso, Julie Desimone, Ben Caggiano; Stephen Dapkiewicz, Patricia Walsh*

Mr. Dapkiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

The meeting minutes from September 15th were approved.

Mr. Dapkiewicz moved the meeting to invite Selectman Boussy to discuss the Selectmen articles for the upcoming October Town Meeting.

Mr. Boussy started with the Façade Program the Board of Select wished to implement which he stated would give the planner more tools to work with when hired. It would purportedly involve \$30k in money that could be used for grants, low interest loans, and in general give assistance to business owner who wanted to improve the appearance of the building in which they operate. Ms. Meredith-Warren voiced concern that the program needs to have criteria to determine qualification and the planner should report to some committee to relieve the burden of making these decisions. Mr. McCormack cautioned that incentive payments should not have excessive red tape because the incentive loses value this way. Mr. Dapkiewicz echoed Ms. Meridith-Warrens comment on policy concerns.

Mr. Boussy transitioned to liquor licenses, the town has put in a request to obtain 5 new licenses. This was stalled at the State House as of last year. Mr. Boussy referenced the fact that former State Rep. Jason Lewis now Senator would be able to get the licenses through with more success. There was discussion of a special license for the old Shaw's building in Redstone where liquor could be served only at certain times and this may not be as difficult to acquire as a full interchangeable license.

The dialogue segued into the famer market article. Mr. Boussy stated that the farmers market committee had been working hard for quite some time to gather ideas. The committee has visited many current farmers markets to get ideas and plan scheduling. Mr. Boussy envisioned the farmers market to take place on Thursdays and may lead up to one of the scheduled concerts. He showed on the projector that many surrounding town in the Middlesex County offer a market and thinks it would be a nice feature for Stoneham to have. Ms Meredith-Warren spoke of the important of ensuring that the market took into account all income levels. Mr. Boussy recognized that was a concern.

Mr. Boussy spoke about food truck permits in town, Georgie D's had approached the Selectmen regarding permitting. Mr. Boussy investigated and it was clear Stoneham could not allow food trucks due to staying in a parking space longer than two hours and other Board of Health requirements. There was concern from Mr. Caggiano that this would increase competition for current existing residents paying rent. Mr. Boussy agreed but cited that it's a fact that a compilation of restaurants or retail is better for business than a stand-alone. Mr. McCormack agreed with the statement but wondered what the policy would look like regarding multiple

trucks and who would get first dibs. Mr. Boussy said that the regulations need to be figured out with traffic and other concerns.

Next on the docket was the article regarding the Water and Sewer Committee. Mr. Boussy said the Selectmen want to increase the number of appointees from 5 to 7. Mr. Dapkiewicz brought up the faulty appointments that were made on behalf of the FAB by the Selectmen. Mr. Boussy said there is only one, the other was validly confirmed by the former FAB chair and the FAB will have a difficult time winning that battle with written documentation of the appointee available. He said the board was welcome "to throw off Mr. Braciotti." Mr. Dapkiewicz said it was not a matter of throwing someone off it was a matter doing things the right way. Mr. Boussy said in the conversations he had with the committee it was clear they didn't know what their duty was and that needs to change. Ms. Walsh alluded to reviewing and asking questions on the \$12 million budget should be a part of the duty. Mr. Boussy said the duty has been helping citizens figure out a way to pay a bill should that be a concern.

Lastly was a short presentation on the potential Weiss Farm and Stoneham Oak/Brookbridge land swap. It focused on the basic questions regarding Chapter 97 and reasons why it may not work. It also included Mr. Boussy's high level vision of regarding the placement of the Corcoran building should it be built on Oaks property. In addition Mr. Boussy expressed interest in moving the clubhouse and building a retail element in front of the arena. Mr. Boussy concluded and moved back to an audience seat.

Mr. Dapkiewicz spoke very briefly on the email from Chief McIntyre and the costs associated with the hiring new officers. Mr. McCormack mentioned there was not a number of officers included in the email. Mr. Dapkiewicz said he would be attending a meeting with other town officials regarding this issue and would report back to the FAB.

Mr. McCormack made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Ms. Walsh

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM

Respectfully,

George McCormack