

Board of Selectmen Meeting: February 18, 2014
Present: Tsagaris, Searle, Gibbs, Babson, McCauley
Also present: Larsen, Jop
Minutes Approved: February 24, 2014

Warrants approved: #2014-031 in the amount of \$3678,042.54

1. Citizen Speak

None.

2. Executive Director's Update

War Scholarship

Mr. Larsen noted that the Board had received a memo from Treasurer Marc Waldman regarding the War Memorial Scholarship fund. While the fund balance has increased, the income from the fund available to support scholarships remains modest. Mr. Larsen asked the Board if they wish to continue the approach of only using investment income to fund scholarships, or whether they are prepared to expend some amount of principal. The Board asked for more specifics regarding the prior year's grants and deferred further action.

Budget Update

Mr. Larsen reviewed the status of the FY15 town-wide budget. Assuming a \$3.5 million dollar override, the remaining deficit is approximately \$100,000. Mr. Larsen presented an overview of the FY15 budget with the \$3.5m override, the projected sources and uses of funds in FY16, and the Free Cash outlook. He discussed various options for dealing with the projected deficit in FY16, including the possibility of a higher override amount, i.e., \$5 million.

The Board discussed the various options. Ms. Tsagaris is concerned the community may not support an override as large as \$5 million. She also believes further consultation with the School Committee is required.

Mr. McCauley believes the appropriate approach is to pursue a larger override, in order to give the Town a shot at getting through a two year cycle. He shares Ms. Tsagaris' concern regarding a \$5 million override, but would rather pursue that option than seek another override for FY16, particularly given the additional debt exclusions that are planned.

Ms. Searle will not support a higher override unless the School Committee commits to the projected level of spending in FY16, and to the full turn back of any unspent funds. Ms. Gibbs believes that a request for a higher override requires confidence that the Town can balance the FY16 budget with that level of override. Ms. Babson observed that the Board has never received bonafide commitment from the School Committee regarding future years' spending projections.

Fair Housing Update

Ms. Jop noted that the Board has received a copy of the 1984 Fair Housing Plan. As previously discussed, the Fair Housing Committee needs to be reconstituted. Ms. Jop reviewed some of the key tenets of the 1984 plan and noted that Ms. Gibbs will head up a committee to review the Town's Affordable Housing Policy. Many of the goals from the 1984 plan have been accomplished. The Planning Director will remain as the Fair Housing Officer. They will continue to assess what the needs are for the Town in regards to reconstituting a new committee and go from there. Mr. McCauley asked whether there was a statutory mandate that required there be a Fair Housing Committee. Ms. Jop responded that there was not.

3. Continued Beer & Wine License Hearing – Upper Crust, 99 Central Street

Shawn Shenefield, Manager and Karen Simão, Counsel for the applicant joined the Board and Ms. Tsagaris reopened the hearing. Ms. Tsagaris noted there was a mix up in materials received at the last meeting so the representatives were asked to come back after the Board had a chance to review the documents. Ms. Simão summarized the request for a wine and malt license for the Upper Crust at 99 Central Street, as well as an overview of how operations are to be conducted at this location.

The Board asked for clarification on the protocol for ordering of wine or beer. Ms. Simao reaffirmed that each individual would be required to order their own alcoholic beverage and would be carded at the time of ordering, and again when the beverage is delivered to the table. The Board also questioned what constitutes a meal for purposes of the "Intent to Dine" requirement contained in the Town's alcohol regulations. Mr. Shenefield explained that a family would typically order a large pizza whereas an individual might just order a couple of slices.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Gibbs and seconded by Ms. Searle the Board voted (5-0) to grant a 7-day wines & malt beverage license to Upper Crust located at 99 Central Street based on an application dated November 6, 2013 and updated February 18, 2014 and to name Shawn Shenefield as manager of record and further to approve the application to extend the licensed premises to sell wines and malt beverages for the patio as detailed in Appendix C in a letter dated January 23, 2014 as contiguous to the premises, located on private property, visible for the interior of the licensed premises, and enclosed in a barrier with identifiable points of egress. The issuance of this license is contingent upon service being provided as prescribed in the Upper Crust Beer & Wine Policies and Serving Procedures and Upper Crust Patio Policy.

Ms. Tsagaris noted that two items (Acquisition of 494 Washington Street, and Fuller Brook Park Update) have been taken off this evening's agenda and will most likely be put on next week's agenda.

4. ATM Citizen Petition – Former MLP/DPW Building

Laura Fragasso, petitioner and William Breeden, of the Wellesley Players joined the Board. Ms. Tsagaris noted that the Board discussed the potential re-use of the former MLP/DPW Building with Ms. Fragasso at the previous meeting. Ms. Fragasso thanked the Board for their consideration of

this idea, but are abandoning the idea based on the insights of others and all of the challenges the re-use of this building would present. Mr. Breeden also thanked the Board for considering the idea and expressed support for Ms. Fragasso's comments. Ms. Tsagaris thanked Ms. Fragasso and Mr. Breeden for the update and noted that the Selectmen will proceed with the planning for the demolition of the building. The Selectmen will discuss this with the Advisory Committee on February 26th.

5. Medical Marijuana Update

Ms. Jop explained the working group was unable to meet last week due to the snow storm. They have received comments from key players and the Planning Director is working on a revised draft of the new bylaw. The public zoning hearing is scheduled for next Monday with the Planning Board, which the entire Board of Selectmen will attend.

Ms. Tsagaris reminded the Board that reports are due to Advisory by February 28.

Projects and Other Updates

Fuller Brook Park - Ms. Babson reported they received six bids last week and three of them were excellent. The group will approve one of them this Friday. Representatives from the Fuller Brook Park Committee will give a full report next week.

Regional Matters/Transportation – Ms. Gibbs updated the board on the recent Bicycle Safety Committee Meeting. She briefly summarized the long term goals and short term action plans they are working on.

Sustainability – Ms. Gibbs noted that the MLP has voted to provide a rebate to customers who install solar panels on their home. Ms. Gibbs reviewed the program. They will present Article 37 to Advisory on February 26th.

School Facilities Committee - Ms. Searle reported the Committee will be meeting this week to discuss the Hardy, Hunnewell and Upham study and she will provide a further update at the next meeting.

Town-Wide Facilities – Last Thursday night's PBC meeting was cancelled due to the storm. Ms. Searle will provide a further update at the next meeting.

The Board of Selectmen's meeting was adjourned at 8:19pm

Documents Presented:

- FY15 Budget Update