



BOARD OF
SELECTMEN
MEETING
MINUTES

December 8th, 2014

6:00 pm

Plympton Town House
Community Meeting Room

Approved1.5.15

Present: Chairman Mark Russo, John Henry and Colleen Thompson

Chairman Russo called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Mr. Russo opened meeting with “ground rules” and a moment of silence. Mr. Russo reminded everyone that representatives from Comcast, Plympton-Halifax Express and radio were all present at meeting.

Resident request for stop sign & speed limit sign:

- Resident, Frances Walsh was present at meeting tonight to discuss the need for a speed limit sign on West St. and stop sign at Cross and West St. She has lived in the area for 8 years. She presented a diagram to show where trouble areas are. She first went to Chief Dillon about this issue. He did say if there is no speed limit sign, the town does recognize it at 40 mph. He suggested she bring her concerns to BOS. Frances was also concerned about the blind driveways on West St. There are 33 homes on West St. and 12 of those homes have kids under the age of 10. She is very concerned with the speeding and safety concerns of residents in the area.
- Mr. Henry talked to Highway Supervisor, Jim Mulcahy and he advised that we can address the stop sign issue but the State is responsible for adjusting speed limit signs. Old Colony can do a traffic study and see with that data if a new speed limit should be in place. Mr. Henry also suggested that a bus stop sign be put up since there is currently not one in place. BOS will look into a yield or three way stop sign. Frances asked BOS how quickly they think we will hear back from Old Colony about moving forward with study. Mr. Henry stated Old Colony is usually very responsive.
- Resident in audience asked if a blinking sign or squad car had been put up to monitor the speeding on West St. Frances did say one was put up but it didn't work most of the time and residents need a more permanent solution. She also said there was a squad car that was present taking data down and monitoring speeding cars.
- Mr. Russo stated he spoke to Mr. Mulcahy as well and he informed Mr. Russo it was best that BOS vote to request him to go to Old Colony to request a speed study. Mr. Mulcahy also said BOS can decide on stop signs. He suggested a three way stop sign. They run about \$600.

VOTED: Mr. Russo made motion for Highway Supervisor, Mr. Mulcahy to proceed with Old Colony to gather data for a speed limit sign. Second Mr. Henry 3/0.

- Ms. Thompson spoke to Mr. Mulcahy as well and went down to the area which was discussed. She mentioned that the brush was very overgrown. Frances did say some brush was removed by town over the summer.

Brook Street Group Home:

- Mr. Russo addressed audience and let them know that Mr. Millias was present at meeting tonight to answer some questions. Mr. Millias did issue zoning permit to Brook House. Decision has since been appealed by select residents through Zoning Board of Appeals.
- Mr. Millias started off by apologizing for not being present at the last meeting. He knew his decision wasn't going to be a popular one. He spent a lot of time with Town Counsel and he feels he put the town in the best position financially and legally. He expressed to the audience that it was difficult to get really detailed into case tonight because he did not want to jeopardize the case in front of the appeal board. In the end he stated he felt Brook House met their minimal requirement to get their zoning permit. He went over this decision with Town Counsel very extensively.
- Larry Richmond, represented a group of approximately 20 residents stated that they have appealed decision to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). They have hired an attorney and have also consulted with the Attorney General's office. Mr. Richmond read aloud their position statement. Tonight the group is asking Mr. Millias for a Cease and Desist Order to limit the Brook Street Retreat to their current 4 clients pending ZBA case. Mr. Richmond also made this request in writing, which was handed to Mr. Millias at tonight's meeting.
- There was a lot of discussion and comments from audience. Most of their questions pertained to licensing of staff, education requirements, and well-being of Brook House residents.
- Mr. Russo once again thanked Mr. Millias for a job well done.
- Dave Alberti, ZBA, was in audience and said they have a meeting this Wednesday night to figure out dates for hearing. He assured neighbors in audience he would work around their schedules.

Brook Street- ZBA:

- Mr. Alberti, present at meeting asked if there was a format to follow or a form to fill out to request Town Counsel?
- Mr. Henry wanted to clarify to everyone that the Board of Appeals has to limit this hearing to zoning issues only. This is not a big role for Town Counsel, they will guide the ZBA. He suggested ZBA sit with Mr. Millias in an executive session since he has a lot of information regarding this case. Mr. Henry proposed that BOS make motion to allow ZBA to also meet with Town Counsel.

VOTED: Mr. Russo made motion to authorize ZBA to spend 5 hours with Town Counsel. Second Ms. Thompson 3/0.

Electronic Communication Policy:

- Dale is in process of getting emails created for selected committee heads/boards. A couple departments had questions that Dale addressed.

Solar-Ongoing Projects:

- Mr. Henry said he is still waiting to hear from Town Counsel.

BOS Meeting Schedule:

- Next scheduled BOS meetings - Monday night at 6:00 pm. (12/22 and 1/5).

Town Coordinator:

- Historical Society has requested that repairs be done for the front door. Town Coordinator, Dale went to look and indeed front door does need repairs, right now it is not closing properly. Dale has a contact for custom historical woodworking. Mr. Henry mentioned a company in New Bedford to Dale that has used custom historical woodwork, including doors.
- Vault shelving was supposed to be installed last week, which has been pushed back. Dale is working on getting vault alarm.

Correspondence:

- Plympton-Halifax Express
- Old Colony Planning Council Agenda
- Old Colony Joint Transportation Committee Agenda
- Mutual Bank Flyer
- Letter to BOH from citizen about abandoned properties on County Road
- Kopelman and Paige document regarding Rocky Harvest, LLC
- Athol Daily Press bid request

Mr. Henry recommended to BOS a recent article that was written in the Plympton-Halifax Express about Silver Lake retirement benefits. He suggests BOS look into rescinding the 2014 Town Meeting vote that allowed Silver Lake to set up a stabilization account for these monies. Town Coordinator, Dale will touch base with Halifax Town Administrator, Charlie Seelig and report back to BOS.

Minutes:

VOTED: Mr. Russo made motion to accept BOS 12/1/14 meeting minutes. Second Mr. Henry. 3/0

Mr. Russo wished everyone a good holiday season.

VOTED: Mr. Russo made motion to adjourn meeting at 7:01 pm. Second Ms. Thompson 3/0

Respectively submitted,



Kristen LeVangie

Board of Selectmen, Assistant

All Meeting Minutes are sent electronically to Town Clerk's Office and are posted on the Town website. A paper copy and electronic version is on file with the Selectmen's Office.

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