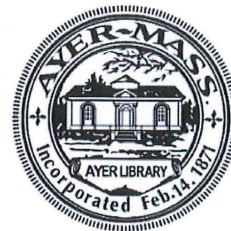


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MAR 22 2021

TOWN OF AYER
TOWN CLERK

9:20am
AC

Town of Ayer
Ayer Select Board
Ayer Town Hall – 1st Floor Meeting Room
Ayer, MA 01432



Broadcast and Recorded by APAC

Tuesday March 2, 2021
Open Session Meeting Minutes

SB Present: Shaun C. Copeland, Chair; Scott A. Houde, Vice-Chair; Jannice L. Livingston, Clerk
All Via Remote Participation

Also Present: Robert A. Pontbriand, Town Manager
Carly M. Antonellis, Assistant Town Manager
Both Via Remote Participation

Call to Order: S. Copeland called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Remote Access: S. Copeland stated that pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL Chapter 30A, Section 18 and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Ayer Board of Selectmen is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort has been made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided in the Order. All votes will be taken by Roll Call.

Pledge of Allegiance: Select Board members and meeting attendees stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Meeting Agenda:

Motion: A motion was made by S. Houde and seconded by J. Livingston to approve the meeting agenda. **Roll**

Call: S. Houde, aye; J. Livingston, aye; S. Copeland, aye. **Motion passed by Roll Call Vote 3-0.**

Moment of Silence: The SB and meeting attendees observed a Moment of Silence in memory of Mr. Ted Januskiewicz who passed away Saturday February 27, 2021.

Announcements: S. Copeland made the following announcements:

- The Second Public Budget Forum will take place on Monday, March 8, 2021 at 6pm on Zoom.
- The FY 2022 Public Hearing regarding the FY 2022 Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Rates will take place on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 6pm on Zoom as part of the Select Board Meeting that evening.
- Censuses are due the end of January. Please be sure to send into Clerk's office.
- Last Day to License your dog is March 31, 2021.
- Nomination Papers are available for the May 11, 2021 Town Election. The last day to request nomination papers is Friday, March 19th, 2021, at 12:00 PM. The last day to submit nomination papers is Monday, March 22nd, 2021, at 4:00 PM.
- The last day to submit Citizen's Petitions to the Clerk's office is Friday, April 2nd, 2021 at 12pm.

Public Input: None

Public Hearing – Transfer of Section 12 All Alcohol License – Nashoba Restaurant, Inc. to Nashoba Club,

Inc. – 14 Central Avenue: J. Livingston opened the public hearing by reading the public hearing notice as advertised in the Nashoba Valley Voice on Friday February 19, 2021. Attorney Dan Tenczar and applicant Robert Julian were in attendance. J. Livingston asked why the Board was being asked to consider the transfer. Attorney Tenczar stated that the Julian's were in the process of purchasing the Nashoba Club business and

building from the Rakip family. He stated that the Julian's are very excited to be a part of Ayer. They are looking to keep the business model as is.

Motion: A motion was made by S. Houde and seconded by J. Livingston to approve the Section 12 Liquor License Transfer request and the Common Victualler Transfer request from Nashoba Restaurant, Inc. to Nashoba Club, Inc. **Roll Call:** S. Houde, aye; J. Livingston, aye; S. Copeland, aye. **Motion passed by Roll Call Vote 3-0.**

Motion: A motion was made by J. Livingston and seconded by S. Houde to close the Public Hearing at 6:12 PM. **Roll Call:** S. Houde, aye; J. Livingston, aye; S. Copeland, aye. **Motion passed by Roll Call Vote 3-0.**

Recognition of Promoted Public Safety Personnel: *Ayer Police Department & Ayer Fire Department* –Police Chief William A. Murray recognized newly appointed Sergeant Andrew Kularski and Fire Chief Timothy P. Johnston recognized newly appointed Deputy Fire Chief Jeremy Januskiewicz, newly appointed Captain Dave Greenwood and newly appointed Firefighter Zachary Broderick. The Select Board congratulated all newly promoted employees.

Ms. Alicia Hersey, Program Manager, Community Development Office: *Presentation of Draft Housing Production Plan by MRPC with the Ayer Planning Board* – The Select Board was joined by the Planning Board for a presentation by MRPC relating to the creation of the Ayer Housing Production Plan (HPP).

Planning Board Call to Order: G. Tillotson called the Planning Board to Order at 6:18 PM. (Planning Board members present via remote participation were Geof Tillotson, Ken Diskin, Julie Murray, Johnathan Kranz and Nathan King).

Blair Haney from MRPC made a presentation of the Town's Housing Production Plan as developed with the Town's Affordable Housing Committee. The presentation highlighted various housing demographic trends for the Town, most notably an increase in the aging population. Additionally, the HPP makes various policy considerations and recommendations for the future of housing in the Town.

Planning Board and Select Board members asked questions of MRPC and had general discussion. A. Hersey stated that she was asking both boards to endorse the HPP this evening. A. Hersey and K. Diskin stated that the Affordable Housing Committee was instrumental in editing the plan and endorse it.

Planning Board Motion: A motion was made by J. Kranz and seconded by J. Murray to approve the Housing Production Plan as presented. **Roll Call:** J. Murray, aye; N. King, aye; K. Diskin, aye; J. Kranz, aye; G. Tillotson, aye. **Motion passed by Roll Call Vote 5-0.**

Select Board Motion: A motion was made by J. Livingston and seconded by S. Houde to approve the Housing Production Plan as presented. **Roll Call:** S. Houde, aye; J. Livingston, aye; S. Copeland, aye. **Motion passed by Roll Call Vote 3-0.**

Pauline Conley, 40 Cambridge Street stated that 40B aren't all bad and that the Town has the Willows, which is a 40B project, which was approved 10 years ago. She encouraged members to look back to that process, as it was a good project.

Janet Providakes, 1 Briliana Court thanked all involved.

Planning Board Motion: A motion was made by K. Diskin and seconded by N. King to adjourn at 7:14 PM. **Roll Call:** J. Murray, aye; N. King, aye; K. Diskin, aye; J. Kranz, aye; G. Tillotson, aye. **Motion passed by Roll Call Vote 5-0.**

Town Manager's Report: *Administrative Update/Review of Town Warrant(s)* - R. Pontbriand provided the Select Board with an update on the various activities, initiatives, and projects of the Administration since the Select Board last met. He also provided a list of signed Town Warrants in the meeting packet. He stated that the main focus of the Administration is the FY '22 budget and preparing for the Annual Town Meeting.

Appointments – Commission on Disabilities – A. Manoian is recommending four candidates to be appointed to the Disabilities Commission: Caitlin Gamache, Laura Warner, David Cibor and Ava Sheriff. He noted that this will be the first time in 15 years that there has been a full committee. R. Pontbriand is recommending the following terms: Caitlin Gamache to fill a vacant three-year term which expires on June 30, 2021; Laura Warner to fill a vacant three-year term which expires on June 30, 2021; David Cibor to fill a vacant three-year term which expires on June 30, 2021; Ava Sheriff to fill a vacant three-year term which expires on June 30, 2023.

S. Houde asked what the Commission would be working on. R. Pontbriand stated that every city and town, by statute has a Commission on Disabilities to comply with and support the American Disabilities Act. They will be reviewing and assisting to update the ADA Plan as necessary.

Motion: A motion was made by S. Houde and seconded by J. Livingston to appoint Caitlin Gamache, Laura Warner, David Cibor and Ava Sheriff (terms noted above) to the Commission on Disabilities. **Roll Call:** S. Houde, aye; J. Livingston, aye; S. Copeland, aye. **Motion passed by Roll Call Vote 3-0.**

COVID-19 Update – R. Pontbriand noted that the Town has been downgraded to a yellow community on the State's COVID-19 map. He, and his colleagues from the region, continue to lobby the Governor to establish a regional clinic in the Nashoba Valley area. He is asking the Select Board to support a resolution to establish a regional vaccine site.

Motion: A motion was made by J. Livingston and seconded by S. Houde to approve a resolution supporting a Nashoba Valley Regional Vaccination Site. **Roll Call:** S. Houde, aye; J. Livingston, aye; S. Copeland, aye. **Motion passed by Roll Call Vote 3-0.**

FY '22 Budget and Annual Town Meeting Update - R. Pontbriand reported that the Town received its 2020 Certified Free Cash from the Dept. of Revenue. The General Fund Free Cash was certified at over \$1.5 million. He'll be discussing with the Bi-Board, Select Board and the Finance Committee proposed uses for Free Cash. R. Pontbriand will provide a DRAFT ATM warrant at the next SB meeting on March 16, 2021.

Vote to Approve FY '22 Capital Planning Recommendations for ATM Warrant - R. Pontbriand presented the FY '22 Capital Planning Recommendations that were included in the SB packet that is on the Town's website.

Sara Withee, 11 Groton Shirley Road stated that on Page 71 of the packet she noticed it said West Main Street/Devens Connection and that this is different than an out-of-town connection request.

Motion: A motion was made by S. Houde and seconded by J. Livingston to approve the FY '22 Capital Planning Committee recommendations. **Roll Call:** S. Houde, aye; J. Livingston, aye; S. Copeland, aye. **Motion passed by Roll Call Vote 3-0.**

DLTA Grant Letter of Support for Build Out Study – R. Pontbriand reported that Town Planner Mark Archambault will be submitting a grant to MRPC for a build out study for the Town of Ayer and is looking for the Select Board to write a letter of support. R. Pontbriand drafted a letter of support from the SB and there was consensus to proceed.

Approval of Ayer-Shirley Regional Dispatch Inter-Municipal Agreement – R. Pontbriand presented a new 3 year intermunicipal agreement to cover the period from July 1 2020 – June 30 2023. In year one, Shirley will pay \$145,000; in FY '22 \$145,000 and State 911 will pay \$38,500; in FY '23 \$145,000 and State 911 will pay \$56,000.

Motion: A motion was made by J. Livingston and seconded by S. Houde to approve the Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Shirley for regional dispatch. **Roll Call:** S. Houde, aye; J. Livingston, aye; S. Copeland, aye. **Motion passed by Roll Call Vote 3-0.**

New Business/Selectmen's Questions: None

Approval of Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by S. Houde and seconded by J. Livingston to approve the Meeting Minutes from February 9, 2021. **Roll Call:** S. Copeland, aye; S. Houde, aye; J. Livingston, aye. **Motion passed by Roll Call Vote 3-0.**

Adjournment: A motion was made by S. Houde and seconded by J. Livingston to adjourn at 7:41PM. **Roll Call:** S. Houde, aye; J. Livingston, aye. **Motion passed by Roll Call Vote 2-0.**

Minutes Recorded and Submitted by Carly M. Antonellis, Assistant Town Manager

Date Minutes Approved by BOS: 3/6/21

Signature Indicating Approval: 