

Board of Selectmen Meeting

Library Meeting Room

October 13, 2009

Present: Chairman Gregory Coogan, Selectmen Kathleen Burton, Ronald DiOrio, Duncan Ross, Kerry Scott.

Meeting called to order 5:05 p.m.

Accept Minutes

September 22, 2009

Selectman Ross motioned to accept the Minutes of September 22, 2009, seconded by Selectman DiOrio. Vote was unanimous.

Town Administrator's Report

Various scenarios for the walkway at Nancy's Restaurant and the Lake Avenue project will be reviewed at the meeting on October 22, 2009.

The Martha's Vineyard Commission will discuss the Island Plan at the October 27, 2009 meeting.

The Special Town Meeting will be held on October 20, 2009, 7:00 p.m. at the Oak Bluffs School.

The new web site address is www.oakbluffsma.gov It is possible to sign up for e-mail notifications in case of an emergency.

A draft of the Island Plan is available in the Selectmen's office. It can also be made available by e-mail.

The ZBA and the Planning Board are drafting revisions to the windmill by-law. They are reviewing small residential sites not industrial wind farms.

If requested by the Board, the Planning Board will be asked to review possible by-laws to control ATV's.

A request for a handicapped parking space on Circuit Avenue Extension will be sent to the Roads and By-Ways Committee to create a town owned space on Pasque Avenue.

Update on drinking water

Town Administrator Dutton reported on the "boil water" emergency that had occurred two weeks prior.

He said that the water crisis had been a "wake up" call for both the town and the Island. Both the internal and external "communication trees" are out of date or non- functioning. Among others, Health Agent Shirley Fauteux, Emergency Management Director Peter Martell and Water District Supervisor Tom Degnan worked very hard during the crisis.

It must be noted that the Water District and the Town are two totally separate entities, although they share the same geographical area. The Water District responded to the bacterial issues according to their protocols and DEP requirements. However, many of the communication issues involved creating a context for people to understand exactly what the danger was. Planning will be split into short and long term. Peter Martell will work on short term goals (if the crisis happened tomorrow) Banners and posting would be involved. Long term, more technology would be involved (e-mail etc.) For inclusion on an e-mail list contact www.oakbluffsma.gov

Coliform is present in the water at all times, not in and of it self dangerous, but it can indicate other bacteria. There is an excess of coliform in our water system in the Fall due to the drop in population after the summer season.

The Selectmen will be encouraged to take the basic courses in Emergency Planning when they are offered on Island in the next few months.

All of the knowledge gained during this time will be shared with other Island towns.

Selectman DiOrio suggested that the Water Dept should have notified the Town earlier in the crisis. Also the Police Dept was dispersed throughout the Town before notifying either the Board of Selectmen or the Town Administrator of the problem. Sign up sheets should be available in all town offices for people to list their names, e-mail addresses etc for notification in case of an emergency. These lists would be completely confidential.

Selectman Burton said many of the high tech ideas were excellent but there is also a need for more simple notification for those people without access to computers, cell phones, etc.

Selectman Ross recommended a large purple banner be hung down town, at the high school and other entrances to the town to notify people that there was an emergency. However, care must be taken to not unduly panic people.

Selectman Scott thanked Health Agent Shirley Fauteux and Emergency Management Director Peter Martell for their lead during the emergency. She also asked for a meeting of the Board of Selectmen, Board of Health and others to discuss the problem.

Town Administrator Dutton explained that the report given to the Selectmen was just that a report of what had taken place. A meeting would be held with the Board of Selectmen, Board of Health, Emergency Management and other interested agencies to review what had taken place and how things could be improved to deal with future emergencies.

Emergency Management Director Martell is working on a draft emergency management plan for the town, it should be available for discussion soon.

Selectmen's Update

Selectman Burton thanked Vineyard Youth Tennis for their part in alerting the community to the water problem.

She also commented on her work with the Lagoon Pond Committee.

Selectman Burton spoke at the meeting for wind energy initiative and will join the Island delegation who will meet with Governor Patrick to discuss the matter with him.

A letter will be sent to the State requesting that matching CPA funds not drop below 75%.

Selectman Ross explained the process for getting a flu shot on November 11, 2009.

Sengekontacket Pond is now open for shell fishing after having been closed opened and then closed on October 1, 2009 due to heavy rain.

The dredging project is going forward.

Sailing Camp Park reservations are up 130% thanks to John Breckenridge.

Friends of Oak Bluffs have placed a bench at the bus stop near the Fire Station in honor of Billy Norton.

Selectman Scott requested a final engineering report from the Conservation Commission concerning the Seaview Avenue project. She further requested that Carlos Pena meet with the Selectmen to discuss the report.

She also reported that the Conservation Commission said that the Universal Walkway must be removed. The request is being forwarded to the DEP for their opinion.

1-800-592-2000 is the number to call when a street light is out.

Selectman Scott said that license renewals should be linked to the possession of a Chapter 91 license. The Sand Bar and Nancy's Restaurant are two of the facilities that would be affected.

Old/New Business

Pursuant to MGL, Chapter 12, the Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, October 13, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. in the Library Meeting Room, 56R School Street regarding an application from Off the Hook Enterprises, Inc. dba Mediterranean for a conversion from a seasonal All Alcohol License to an annual All Alcohol License. This application is on file in the Selectmen's Office for review Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Selectman Ross motioned to open a public hearing, seconded by Selectman DiOrio. Vote was unanimous.

Ms Hewson owner of the restaurant explained the request for an annual All Alcohol License. She also presented a request to be closed in February (which will be considered at a future meeting.)

One person spoke in favor. No one was opposed.

Selectman DiOrio motioned to close the hearing, seconded by Selectman Ross. Vote was unanimous.

Selectman DiOrio motioned to grant the annual All Alcohol License to Mediterranean Restaurant, seconded by Selectman Burton. Vote was unanimous.

Pursuant to MGL, Chapter 12, the Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, October 13, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Library Meeting Room, 56R School Street regarding an application from Cybelepeper, Inc. dba Zapotec for a conversion from a seasonal All Alcohol License to an annual All Alcohol License. This application is on file in the Selectmen's Office for review Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Selectman Ross motioned to open the Hearing, seconded by Selectman DiOrio. Vote was unanimous.

Ms Sprague owner of the restaurant explained the request for an annual All Alcohol License.

One person spoke in favor. No one was opposed.

Selectman DiOrio motioned to close the Hearing, seconded by Selectman Ross. Vote was unanimous.

Selectman DiOrio motioned to grant the annual All Alcohol License to Zapotec, seconded by Selectman Burton. Vote was unanimous.

Discussion of progress on Nova Vida Church. Russell Wendt.

Mr. Wendt, a neighbor to the Church, questioned the enforcement of the MVC regulations and also the Cease and Desist order issued by the Building Inspector. He further questioned the number of businesses (church, day care, boarding house, sales of used cars, landscaping business) that are conducted there.

The Building Inspector and ZBA Administrator will be asked to attend the Selectmen's meeting on October 27, 2009 to discuss the matter.

Request for permission to hold the Annual Vineyard Crop Walk, October 18, 2009.
Selectman DiOrio motioned to approve the request to hold the Annual Vineyard Crop Walk, seconded by Selectman Ross. Vote was unanimous.

Discussion of the Island Plan.

The final draft of the plan will be available in December.

Mark London, Executive Director of the MVC will discuss the Island Plan on October 27, 2009.

Public Comment

Tree lighting will be on December 2, 2009.

Adjourn

Selectman Ross motioned to adjourn at 7:40 p.m., seconded by Selectman Burton. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Ryan Butler
Administrator