

**Selectmen Meeting
Minutes
March 2, 2022**

Selectman Kobus, Selectman Boisoineau and Selectman Perusse, and Chairman Kerrigan were in attendance. Selectman Devault was absent. Attendees were Town Administrator Ward and Solicitor Gibbons. Chairman Kerrigan opened the meeting at 7:00PM.

Public Comment

There was none.

Review of Minutes

The board received minutes from February 2, 2022 Selectmen's meeting for review and approval. Selectman Boisoineau made a motion to approve minutes as presented. Selectman Kobus seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Public Hearing for Liquor License Change of Category to All Alcohol-1183 Main Street Super Sumit, Inc. d/b/a Next Door Market with Saurabh Patel as Manager of Record

Chairman Kerrigan continued the hearing opened at the previous meeting Mr. Saurabh Patel was before the board. Mr. Patel explained he is the owner and manager of Next Door Market, he had filed a petition for the category of the liquor license to be changed to allow for all alcohol sales. The petition received approval from the state legislatures in November 2021, to expand from Beer & Wine to All Alcohol. Chairman Kerrigan open the hearing for Public Comment, in favor of the license expansion, there was none. In opposition, there was none. He closed the public comment portion of the hearing. Selectman Boisoineau made a motion to grant the approval of the full liquor license to Next Door Market as requested. Selectman Kobus seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Common Victuallers License: 9 Sterling Street

Chairman Kerrigan opened the hearing inviting the applicant forward from 9 Sterling Street. Mr. Felipe Fernandes DeSouza owner and Regina Bekebrede were before the board. Ms. Bekebrede thanked the board for having them, they also thanked the employees at the town they have been well received when working with the departments. She explained this is the first restaurant they are opening and everyone has been a big help and they appreciate it. They have received a lot guidance. She reviewed the plan is to open a Brazilian restaurant, offering Brazilian BBQ, no alcohol. Mr. DeSouza has

previously worked at Fire Flies in Marlboro, his sister is a trained Chef she has 4 years' experience she will also be working at the restaurant. The restaurant will offer family style Brazilian foods. Selectman Boisoneau made a motion to grant the Common Victuallers license to 9 Sterling Street as requested. Selectman Kobus seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Commercial Garage License Hearing – 640 High Street

Chairman Kerrigan opened the hearing and invited the applicant forward. Mr. Brodes Cabrera Mejia was before the board. Chairman Kerrigan asked for a review of the request. Mr. Cabrera Mejia explained he has a garage business where he does mechanics and small auto repairs. Chairman Kerrigan asked if it is an existing business. Administrator Ward reviewed there was a license at this location prior. Chairman Kerrigan opened the hearing for questions from board members, there were none. He opened the hearing for Public comment in favor, there was none. In opposition, there was none. Selectman Boisoneau made a motion to approve the license as requested as long as everything is approved by the Building Inspector and Fire Chief. Selectman Kobus seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Green Light Studios Recognition

Chairman Kerrigan explained members of the Cable Commission & Cable Director working in conjunction with the school have created the ability to view the high school sports including the JV teams on the local channel and you tube including commentating. It has become completely top notch, Selectman Devault is especially thrilled the games are able to be viewed from the Crystal Club on Friday nights. He wanted to recognize those who participate and wanted you to feel appreciated, you are a talented group, keep up the great work. He explained it is hard to try new things, but the coverage is exciting for the kids. Administrator Ward agreed he is aware of the upcoming basketball tournament, he asked if the game coverage could go on the road and live stream from Georgetown. Superintendent Meyers explained he inquired about live streaming but was told the Georgetown gym is small and they wouldn't have the room to accommodate this request. Selectman Perusse thanked the team for the coverage, she watches it herself when making dinner. She especially appreciates the commentating. Selectman Kobus commented there is even interest in people from out of state. He is aware one night a guy from Illinois connected in error trying to get a local event. He enjoyed watching Clinton MA so much he continues to tune in. Chairman Kerrigan agreed it is great he thanked the team again for all their hard work.

The Last Strand Discussion

Chairman Kerrigan explained this discussion will be tabled until Selectman Devault can participate.

Phil Duffy – Community & Economic Development

Timeline/Plan for Downtown Events & Downtown Coordinator Discussion

Mr. Duffy was before the board and explained he intends to follow through on the proposals to host events downtown. He has reorganized a series of events to take place. He reviewed he would like to hire a downtown coordinator to oversee the series, at this time he has spoken with a business consultant and they are familiar with coordinating events. Out of the recent survey results was a request for a community market place for local businesses to participate. He intends to cover the cost of the consultant with ARPA funds. He would like to see a one year contract to begin and possibly a second year if it goes well. The ARPA funding can be used through 2026. Selectman Boisoneau asked if any grant funding would be used towards the temporary position. Mr. Duffy explained the position will not use any grant or local funding, it will be the ARPA funding. Selectman Kobus asked if the OHD could transition to be under this series of events and the oversight of the consultant. Mr. Duffy agreed this would be a good fit and the same skills used for that event. Mr. Duffy explained he has to determine the initial activities budgeted to determine the amount of hours per week the consultant will be needed. Chairman Kerrigan explained Spring is coming soon, what is the proposed timeline. Mr. Duffy explained he will begin to advertise the consultant position ASAP to try to get them involved. For the short term he has worked with a consultant on a prior event last year, the winter market which was a community event that had a lot of interest, a lot of community involvement. He would like to engage community and civic groups to participate as well. Selectman Boisoneau made a motion to approve the Downtown Events Coordinator position as presented by Mr. Duffy. Selectman Perusse seconded the motion. Under Discussion: Administrator Ward reviewed Mr. Duffy will return to the next meeting with a proposal for the Coordinators position. The vote was unanimous.

Chairman Kerrigan reported there is poor picture quality of the meeting, he asked for the Cable Director to be made aware.

Utilization of Vacant Spaces on High Street

Mr. Duffy explained he will work with the consultant regarding the vacant store fronts. Chairman Kerrigan explained the task force has been working on the vacant properties owned by the town. He explained he is aware town meeting is coming up and the clock is running on the armory building. He recently read where the state was working with New Bedford and an Armory building in that community that is in need of repairs. The state is contributing \$3.3 million of repair costs for roof and structural repairs. There is more discussion to be had on trying to get a better deal from the state with the Armory here in town. Mr. Duffy explained the task force has been meeting to review the properties. He has been working with a consultant on preparing an RFP for the vacant High Street property, it should be completed by June 30th. Other properties like the Old

Fire Station has been reviewed for us by the Fire Department and there are discussion about moving forward with design proposals for use, there is work to be completed to bring it up to code. The School Administration building is two acres in the downtown and the legion property is waiting on state ARPA funds to be explored for housing. Administrator Ward explained there will be specific properties reviewed at the meeting in one month to determine different ways to utilize properties and actions to be completed in the coming future. Selectman Kobus asked if the Armory building is part of the task force properties is the feasibility study going to be completed. Mr. Duffy explained he received a proposal but had not received funding to complete the study, he can renew interest in this. He is aware of structural concerns, it is good to know if we acquire property what we are getting into. Selectman Kobus asked how soon he can proceed with this, can it be completed by June. Mr. Duffy explained he would have no answer tonight. Administrator Ward asked how the building will be utilized, what programs will be there and how much space can be used for other things. Chairman Kerrigan explained this brings us back to state interest, it would be a huge liability for the town, and perhaps they can help like they did in other communities. Selectman Boisoneau agreed hopefully they are willing to help. Administrator Ward explained it can be used as a community/recreation center. Chairman Kerrigan shared he is aware of the construction upgrades they were researching for the library and that was a significant amount. Selectman Kobus explained maybe we can receive the evaluation for the next meeting and reach out to State Representative Kilcoyne and State Senator Cronin.

Administrative Business

There was none.

Old & New Business

COVID-19 Test Kit Distribution

Chairman Kerrigan shared the Board of Health conducted a successful COVID home test kit distribution, half the stock remains. They have asked for some direction from the board on how to proceed with the remaining stock. Should they host another clinic? Administrator Ward explained test kits were distributed to the Public Safety departments and the Senior Center and still have a remaining supply. Another clinic could be held to distribute. The board agreed to support the Board of Health hosting another clinic to distribute additional test kits. An announcement of date and time will be made.

Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Process

Chairman Kerrigan reviewed the Finance Committee is proposing to meet on Thursday March 10th to kick off the budget hearings. He explained he is unavailable due to a commitment with work. Selectman Kobus asked if this will be a joint meeting, he has

concerns because if the Basketball team makes it through to the next round in tournament then they may be scheduled with a game that evening, he may be unable to attend also.

CEMA Permanent Director Discussion

Chairman Kerrigan updated the board that there is interest from the Police & Fire to assist with the duties of the Emergency Management. A meeting is planned for more discussion and review with the CEMA Deputy. The State Director wants to assist with a strategic plan. Chairman Kerrigan announced the town had an opportunity to use \$3500 in ARPA funds to update some equipment for the department, additional pumps were purchased. Administrator Ward reviewed next steps he will plan a meeting for the Police, Fire and CEMA representative to discuss history of the department and who can work on what.

Assistant Town Administrator Search Consultant

Chairman Kerrigan explained this discussion will be tabled until Selectman Devault is available to participate.

Update on Hiring Status for HR Manager& Park & Recreation Director positions

Human Resource Manager Position

Selectman Kobus asked for an update on the hiring of the HR manager position. Administrator Ward reviewed the resumes are being processed about 40 have been received. There are several applicants with state and local government experience. He hopes to get started and continue review this week.

Parks & Recreation Director Position

Administrator Ward reviewed he had spoken with a member of the Park & Recreation Commission today, the deadline for submission of resumes has passed the candidate review has been in process. Finalist have been chosen and a final round of interviews is scheduled for next Wednesday, there are two candidates.

Committee Reports

There none.

Chairman Kerrigan reviewed the next meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2022. He explained the board will enter into two Executive Sessions and not return to an open meeting. Executive Session under Article 3 Collective Bargaining Prep. Roll Call Vote: Selectman Boisoneau "aye", Selectman Perusse "aye", Selectman Kobus" aye", Chairman Kerrigan "aye".

Executive Session Article 3 Collective Bargaining Prep 7:47PM-9:03PM

Executive Session Article 3 School Non Union Negotiations 9:03PM-9:11PM

Selectman Kobus made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:12PM. Selectman Boisoneau seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Meeting Adjourned,

Joyce A. Corbosiero
Executive Assistant to the Clinton Board of Selectmen/Town Administrator