

Tuesday, February 1, 2022
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Gala Room, Town Hall
7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Leah Gibson, Chair
Stephanie McGowan, Vice Chair
Seth Ferguson, Clerk
Mark Elfman

Also Present:
William Keegan Jr., Town Manager
Michael Johns, Asst. Town Manager
Christina Metcalf, Communications Specialist
Katie Lang*, Executive Assistant
*Attended remotely

1. 6:15pm Executive Session

1.1 To Conduct Strategy Sessions in Preparation for Contract Negotiations with Non-Union Personnel - Fire Chief Contract

Motion to enter into executive session to Conduct Strategy Sessions in Preparation for Contract Negotiations with Non-Union Personnel- the Fire Chief contract; for union negotiation and strategy discussion regarding contracts for the Local 379-MCOP AFL-CIO, Local 2522 FPFA, United Steelworkers Unit A and Unit B, Local 1702 AFSCME - DPW, and Boyden Library Employee Association; to vote to approve and release/not release Executive session meeting minutes from October 12th and October 26th, 2021; and then to reconvene in Open Session by L. Gibson 2nd by M. Elfman.

Roll call vote: ME – Yes, LG – Yes, SM – Yes. Approved 3-0.

2. 7:00pm Citizen's Input – No input

3. 7:05pm Change of Manager Application - Red Robin 3.1 Approve a Change of Manager for Red Robin International Inc. d/b/a Red Robin America's Gourmet Burgers & Spirits from John Massaro to Scott McCallum. Attorney Andrew Upton and Scott McCallum

AU – Scott has been at Red Robin for a few months now, having taken over from the previous manager, lots of experience with restaurants and the sale and service of alcohol as well as the supervision of sale and service of alcohol. He is TIPS certified and is working 50+ hours a week.

Scott M – I just moved from San Diego and have experience with ordering and managing the liquor orders for two restaurant. but not having a liquor license in my name. I'm moving to Nashua in March and will be a bit closer. I have reached out to Tom Perruna at Fox Cares.

Motion to approve a Change of Manager for Red Robin International Inc. d/b/a Red Robin America's Gourmet Burgers & Spirits from John Massaro to Scott McCallum by S. Ferguson 2nd by M. Elfman.
Approved, 4-0.

4. 7:10pm Billboard Zoning Discussion - ZBA Chair Barney Ovrut and ZBA Associate Member Lorraine Brue

4.1 Discussion and possible article for Annual Town Meeting regarding billboards and zoning bylaws for the Interstate 95 portion of Foxborough – Atty. Frank Spillane and Atty. Robert Burr

BO –The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) met with Frank Spillane and Robert Burr to work on a billboard bylaw. The draft bylaw does incorporate . On behalf of the ZBA, I would advise the Selectmen consider putting this sign bylaw amendment on the Annual Town Meeting for May. The draft would allow a static/electronic billboard around I-95 around the limited industrial district and also the billboard would need to be a specified distance from the nearest residential unit.

LG – This would be sponsored by us, even though ZBA is doing the legwork on the article.

Frank Spillane – Representing Arthur Rounds and the Rounds family. Working with Robert Burr (representing American Outdoor Advertising) to see if the town would be amenable to allow a billboard on the rounds property on Spring Street. We

spoke with the ZBA and we determined it should be 300 feet from the residential unit. We would like to work with the BOS and ZBA to get it on the warrant if the language needs to be changed before putting it on the warrant.

Robert Burr – This is one of the best billboard bylaws in the state. I do agree that having the Selectmen sponsor the article is in the best interest of the town. I'm pleased that the billboard have been a success and have been able to negotiate mitigation agreements. I think that 300 feet provides the most flexibility.

Lorraine Brue – We've had discussion of the locations and that there would be beneficial to the town putting another sign on DPW property and that could potentially add to the Capital budget.

ME – How many miles in I-95 and I-495 are in Foxborough with light industrial?

FS – The industrial park would be the prime area for that as well as around East Belcher road. Also around I-495 could be a potential location.

ME – Can you point out the DPW on the map?

LG – This would not work in some areas.

FS – You would have to about 95 or property be within 250 feet of I-95. Also the further you get away the less impact it will have.

ME – Are we going to limit the number of signs that would be put up? Would all signs have to be approved through ZBA/BOS?

BO – The ZBA, if this the bylaw is enacted, we would approve them. I didn't draft this to limit the numbers. I would assume that it would be electronic. And those can't be within 1,000 foot radius within each other.

RB – The State has regulations that might affect that as well. I haven't seen language that limits the number of signs.

LG – Did Sharon add a billboard(s)?

FS – Yes, they took their old bylaw and added variances.

ME – Can we limit the number of signs within the by-law or is that an unofficial request the BOS makes to the ZBA?

BO – Would take the same position as Mr. Burr and do some research to see that? Do you want to limit billboards?

LB – We did the radius and to determine the maximum number but did do it so to limit it. And could do the same for this and give a potential number of billboards.

ME – I think it would be good to limit and not see a lot, I think 3 is good but I wouldn't want to see 6 billboards.

SF – We just need to the math to see what we can do according to what is proposed.

FS – There could only be 1 on the DPW side and that would affect the other side. The other issue is access.

LG – Conservation would have to weigh in as well.

SM – How would this affect future developments? Would we have to rely on the ZBA on where developments can be?

BO – We recommend that you consider it but we cannot take an official position as we would have to review the application if approved at ATM.

SF – Why would we sponsor this? I'm looking for the value of us sponsoring it.

LG – For it to not be on the warrant as a citizen petition.

ME – It will allow us to have control over it.

FS – We are requesting it to go on and then support or not support. This will allow before the final warrant for language to be changed. Citizen petition would be written as is and couldn't change.

BO – There are single family homes on Elm street that are in the limited industrial district that was a major concern. When I initially drafted the bylaw for distance, I thought 1,000 feet would be ideal but would make it impossible to get on DPW property. It is appropriate to measure to a residential unit than district.

LG – For us to sponsor it. Tonight we wouldn't take our position on it, we would put it on the warrant.

SF – People at town meeting are going to ask why we want billboards.

LB – We had discussions with Bill, and there are significant financial benefits with mitigation payments. This would help give DPW some capital funding to do renovations and upgrades to their facilities.

LG – The billboard would be facing the highway?

BK – The technology now has the ability to limit the amount of light emitted is minimal.

RB – It would be beneficial to get in now with a billboard as the more that are up the less mitigation you will receive.

LG – We've looked at a mitigation agreement in the last 9 months and we benchmarked there wasn't a lot to benchmark against.

BK – There is a significant difference in value from Rt. 1 to I95 in terms of mitigation and that is the attractive part of this proposal.

BO – Once this goes through it would be public hearings and would take into account input from residents. The topic of billboards going on I-95 never came up which is why we are doing this now because of this proposal.

Motion for the Board of Selectmen to sponsor an article for the 2022 Annual Town Meeting to amend the zoning bylaws in regards to billboards in coordination with the Zoning Board of Appeals by S. Ferguson 2nd by M. Elfman. Approved, 4-0.

5. 7:30pm Assistant Town Manager's Update

5.1 Update on recruitment and new hires

MJ – We have five new hires; Scott Flaherty in Police, Alexander Noonan in Fire, Michael Pitts at Council on Aging, Marisa Cloutier-Bristol in Water, and Kate Fennyery at Council on Aging.

Captain David Healy retired this past week. Summer recreation positions will also be posted soon.

Deb Giardino is retiring in April and currently filling the position is Renee Tocci as the Recreation Division Director.

6. 7:40pm Town Manager's Update

BK – Thank you to Public Works for all they did for the storm that had 2 feet of snow in Foxborough. Removal tonight will be happening on the Common and Uptown area.

6.1 Update on American Rescue Plan Act Funds – We had great and we are working success to change the wording on the ARPA funds used at the local level to be able to use the \$1.29 million that we can use because we were able to claim a \$10 million dollar exemption. We lost about \$4.9 million in revenues during Covid. We will receive an additional \$3.5 million over the next 2 years from the county. This is an issue as Norfolk County is an entity. This means that all these communities would have to vie for the \$3.5 million would go up against that \$10 million exemption. We did talk to the congressional delegation about this and Senator Markey is involved and helping us resolve this. It's all very complicated and something that we are tracking very closely. We can start identifying needs and then have the Selectmen approve. Once I have a better understanding of the \$3.5 million issued we then we can use that quickly.

LG- Would we involve Advisory Committee?

BK – Yes, we would involve them and figure out what the community wants to do.

LG – I'd like to see Bills list and then we work from that.

SF – In talking about the Laundry Building as an eyesore as well as the municipal lot on Railroad Avenue

BK – We don't own that, but we are allowed to use it. We do have the Landry building on our radar. We are also looking at the parking lot behind the shops on the Common. Ever since the signs went up it has been used as well.

7. 7:50pm - Selectmen's Update

7.1 New Business – First wanted acknowledge the Annual Town Report award and recognize Christina for the 2020 Annual report. There is snow removal on the common tonight and will start towing cars in 20 minutes. The Council on Aging has home tests available to buy. There is Darkness to Light training coming up in the next few weeks.

ME – I've received feedback about the red stone that it doesn't seem to be working. Foxborough residents are used to but keep getting cut off.

LG – I expected it to be more than what it is.

7.2 Old Business - Nominations papers available for Town Boards and Committees.

8. 8:00pm Department Update – SEMRECC - Executive Director Rob Verdone to give update on the Southeastern Massachusetts Regional Emergency Communications Center

RV – We moved into our new facility at High Rock and the Lt. Governor Polito visit us recently for a tour. We did 58,000 9-1-1 calls, about 100,000 CAD entries, (86,000 were police and 15,000 were fire) that is across all 4 of our communities. You can see a spike in our calls was the Nor Easter we had in November.

We have 3 second call time the national standard is 10 seconds. You can see around Route 1 and Gillette Stadium. We are starting to use our data for other regional agencies as well. We have new technology. This program allows us to take 911 data and map it. This gives us very precise location data. If you have medical profile on your account it can upload to us when you call. It can also map down

LG – How do you get the medical profile on your phone?

RV – We have the ability to inject alarm data into our system. This cuts down minutes for the alarm data and allows us to communicate. AT SEMRECC.gov you can register your medical profile. We are also coordinated with Uber and Lift and can see driver info and route. PulsePoint can register your AED and from there we can let the caller know if and where the AED is when on the phone with someone in a crisis requiring an AED. Another new tool is Go Live this allow us to initiate text messages to person who can't call.

We went from a surveillance mode to a trigger mode. This will allow us to screen for Covid or other infectious diseases. This is our data since April of 2020. We were able to track the data before the state. We could use this tool to better predict spikes.

We have \$1.3 million dollars in annual grant revenue and has almost doubled in the last year. Our projected assessment was \$580,000 this year is \$300,000 and expected that to be that way for the next few years. We are trying our best to keep those assessments down.

Looking to FY23, we are looking to get Computer Aided dispatch, a new records management system. We are implementing a Regional Analytics and Info Sharing program. We are coming do the end of our ACE and CALEA accreditation programs and are very close to we are working with FFD and FPD with their certifications. We are talking to several other districts to have them become a part of it.

Looking at the IAED Emergency fire dispatch program. It is a certification and education program that is very structured. This will give authorization to provide more advance pre-arrival instructions, like how to escape a house fire, an electrical hazard, etc. This gives us another accreditation opportunity.

We are looking to update our CAD/RMS system to get next generation data. These software has advance reporting and analytics, computer learning and intelligence. It also has advance mapping and data interoperability, which allows us to share

across districts. These new systems give us advanced disaster recovery capabilities, if a server fails or we need to go to a cloud environment, these new systems are able to do that very quickly. Cyber security is a challenge to maintain because it's older software.

Update management is much faster to reboot. Our systems aren't able to integrate as well as the new technologies. Our CAD/RMS platforms are very expensive and we have the same issues as other regional centers and are working with them to address this with the state. The collaboration will make it a better system and more cost effective. Our Intercom project with FPD, MECC, ROCC (Duxbury) Stonehill College, Holbrook and State and Federal Emergency management. Looking the map of regionalized ECC you can see nearby bordering communities who could potentially joining

If you think you need help, call 9-1-1.

9. Action Items

9.1 FCOD - Appointment of James Houlihan to the Foxborough Commission on Disability for a term to end 5/31/2024

Motion to appoint James Houlihan to the Foxborough Commission on Disability for a term to end 5/31/2024 by S. Ferguson 2nd by M. Elfman. Approved, 4-0.

9.2 BOS - Appointment of Building Commissioner Scott Shippey to the Survey Board, Town Asset Review Committee and as a Fence Viewer with all terms to end 5/31/2022

Motion to appoint Scott Shippey to the Survey Board, Town Asset Review Committee and as a Fence Viewer with all terms to end 5/31/2022 by S. Ferguson 2nd by M. Elfman. Approved, 4-0.

9.3 Veterans' Services - Accept \$446.40 donation from Sean Kelly Eagle Scout Award project

Motion to accept a \$446.40 donation from Sean Kelly's Eagle Scout Award project for Veterans' Services by S. Ferguson 2nd by M. Elfman. Approved, 4-0.

9.4 BOS - Approval of BOS Minutes from 1/4/22 meeting

Motion to approve the January 4, 2022 Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes by S. Ferguson 2nd by M. Elfman. Approved, 4-0.

10. Adjourn – 8:42pm

Motion to adjourn by S. Ferguson 2nd by M. Elfman. Approved, 4-0.