



Office of the Board of Selectmen
Webster Town Hall
350 Main Street
Webster, MA 01570

Phone: (508) 949-3800 x 1041
Fax: (508) 949-3888
selectmen@webster-ma.gov

Andrew M. Jolda, Chairman
Randall V. Becker, Vice Chairman
Mark G. Dowgiewicz, Secretary
Donald D. Bourque
Robert J. Miller

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
Monday, April 8, 2019, 5:00 P.M.**

Webster Town Hall, Board of Selectmen's Meeting Room, 2nd Floor
350 Main Street, Webster, MA 01570

MEETING OPENING: At 5:00 p.m., Chairman Jolda called the meeting to order. The following individuals were present: Chairman Andrew Jolda, Vice Chairman Randall Becker, Secretary Mark Dowgiewicz, Selectman Bourque, Selectman Robert Miller, Town Administrator Douglas Willardson, and Executive Secretary Courtney Friedland. The Board stood and took the Pledge of Allegiance.

Selectman Dowgiewicz stated his daughter works for the School Department and will be recusing himself from the discussion.

TRI-COMMITTEE MEETING – FY20 BUDGET DISCUSSION: Mr. Willardson stated his proposed budget has the School Department at a 3% growth rate. He stated this is less than what the School Department wanted. Mrs. Goguen stated the School Committee voted a 4.2% increase. She stated they have not formally reduced the budget. She stated they needed to advocate for the students. Mr. Finamore stated for the past thirty years between 4-6% increases have been going to the schools. He stated the graduation rate is the lowest in the State and the Town is currently on the State's watch list. Mrs. Goguen stated she has been with the district for just under two years. She stated Webster has economically disadvantaged children and they are continuing to see gains. She said they are working very hard. Mr. Finamore stated the situation with the schools is very scary and that State intervention could happen as soon as September. Mr. Willardson stated having a 70/30 split is only fair.

Motion by Selectman Becker, seconded by Selectman Bourque to recommend a 3% increase for the School Department with any additional money going towards the schools up to \$400,000.00 then it will be split 70/30 for any money over that amount. The motion passed unanimously.

The Tri-Committee Meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m. Chairman Jolda called for a five-minute recess.

CONSENT ITEMS:

Motion by Selectman Becker, seconded by Selectman Miller, to approve the meeting minutes of 3/11/19 with amendments. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Becker, seconded by Selectman Miller, to approve the meeting minutes of 4/01/19 with amendments. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Jolda abstained.

Motion by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Bourque to approve the 2019 Webster Sailing Association Racing Schedule. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Becker, seconded by Selectman Miller to approve the 17th Annual ALS Therapy Development Institute Tri-State Trek for June 21, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Dowgiewicz, seconded by Selectman Bourque to approve the “One Day” liquor license for:

- St. Joseph Parish for May 18, 2019 from 4:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. and May 19, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. -9:00 p.m.
- Saint Joseph Basilica for June 14, 2019 from 5:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m., June 15, 2019 from 12:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m. & June 16, 2019 from 12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
- St. Joseph School for April 28, 2019 from 5:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Bourque, seconded by Selectman Miller to award Century Paving & Construction Corp, in the amount of \$664,750.00 for the work comprising the Base Bid for Phase 3A Downtown Streetscape Improvements and Riverwalk Project. The motion passed unanimously.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Mr. Willardson stated the Town Hall will be closed on April 15 and April 19th. He stated the Compost Facility open for the season on April 16th. He stated the Opioid Taskforce held a student meeting and a showed video in partnership with the District Attorney's Office. He stated the Town is receiving a better interest rate from our local bank which went from .45% to 1.25%. He stated he has applied for a \$30,000 Mass Historic Grant for the design costs for the Town Hall renovations. He stated the Filtration Plant is on the budget but was behind schedule. He stated a piece of equipment is back ordered. He stated they are meeting on Wednesday to discuss the plan moving forward. He stated the second phase of the streetlight replacement has been completed. If urged anyone that has a streetlight out to contact the Town Administrator's Office. He stated Tina Landry has been hired as the new Treasurer/Collector.

Motion by Selectman Bourque, seconded by Selectman Dowgiewicz, to approve the Town Administrator's Report. The motion passed unanimously.

LED SIGN POLICY: Mr. Willardson stated he would like to have something in place as to what can be put on the outdoor LED sign. He stated he used the one from the Town of Dudley.

Motion by Selectman Becker, seconded by Selectman Miller, to approve the proposed LED policy as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REVIEW: Mr. Willardson stated the Town will strive to maintain an overall reserve in the level of eight-ten percent of the annual budget. Currently, there is \$1.4 million in the general stabilization fund and \$1.8 million in free cash/retained earnings. The Town will set a year to year goal of maintaining its free cash in the range to one-five percent of the annual budget.

POLISH AMERICAN CITIZENS CLUB, INC. – LIQUOR LICENSE VIOLATION:

Motion made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Bourque to open the Public Hearing for the Polish American Citizens Club liquor license violation. The motion passed unanimously. Selectman Dowgiewicz abstained.

Attorney Hewig stated he was here for the continuation of the PACC Public Hearing for their liquor license violation. He stated there are three current charges against the PACC. He stated they did get a copy of the sign-in sheet from the PACC. Selectman Becker stated the person who was arrested was not in the sign-in sheet. Attorney Bridgeman stated patrons do not sign-in if they do not drink. Selectman Becker suggests having them add a time in which they are signing in. This way they can keep track of how long they have been in the establishment. Selectman Bourque pointed out that all of the signatures for one day look the same. Attorney Bridgeman stated the bartender signs them in. He stated the bartender has since been fired. Attorney Hewig stated this is not the first time a fight has happened at this establishment. He stated this has caused a threat and danger to public safety. Attorney Bridgeman stated the gentleman in questions might not have even been drinking.

Motion made by Selectman Bourque, seconded by Selectman Becker to close the Public Hearing. The motion passed unanimously. Selectman Dowgiewicz abstained.

Motion by Selectman Becker, seconded by Selectman Bourque, to put this on the April 29, 2019 agenda for discussion. The motion passed unanimously. Selectman Dowgiewicz abstained.

MUNRO ASSOCIATES – RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA PRESENTATION: Mr. Willardson introduced Munro Associates as one of the establishments that have approached the Town regarding recreational marijuana. Brian and Kevin Munro came forward. They said they are a for-profit company out of Swansea. They have applied for three adult-use dispensary license with the CCC. They have been approved and obtained a license in Lakeville and Worcester. Both brothers have a history in running a successful business. Mike Botelho is the President & Dispensary General Manager. He said he has 20 years' experience in a global consumer products company. He stated they want to be good neighbors to the community. The proposed location would be at 70 Worcester Road. Mr. Willardson stated security will be handled by a retired Police Officer with over 30 years of experience. He thanked the Board for their time.

SPECIAL AND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANTS:

Mr. Willardson went through all of the warrant articles. Selectman Becker thanked Mr. Willardson for all of his hard work.

Motion by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Becker to recommend approval of articles 1- 17 of the Special Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Dowgiewicz, seconded by Selectman Bourque to recommend approval of article 18 OF THE Special Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Selectman Becker and Selectman Miller recused themselves.

Motion by Selectman Dowgiewicz, seconded by Selectman Bourque to recommend approval of articles 1-24 of the Annual Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Dowgiewicz, seconded by Selectman Bourque to recommend approval of articles 19, 23 & 24 of the Annual Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

WAIVER OF 30 DAY MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT REQUIREMENT:

Motion by Selectman Becker, seconded by Selectman Dowgiewicz, to waive the 30-day mileage reimbursement requirement for Earl Gabor and Helen Kesner. The motion passed unanimously. Selectman Bourque abstained.

IPAD AND PAPERLESS AGENDA DISCUSSION: Mr. Willardson stated it was easier to email the agenda and Selectmen's packet out electronically. He said currently paper packets are being made which is time-consuming. He stated the Town will purchase iPads for any Selectmen that doesn't already have one.

DEPARTMENTAL QUARTERLY UPDATE: Mr. Willardson stated he gave the Selectmen the quarterly update in their packets. He said he also provided the Board with a year of date budget report from Munis.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S ANNUAL REVIEW: Chairman Jolda stated the Board submitted all of their reviews and Mr. Willardson receive an overall score of 4.3. Selectman Willardson thanked the Board and said there are areas that still need improvements. He stated the Town is headed in the right direction. Selectman Dowgiewicz stated they might not always see eye to eye but the budgets are fabulous. He stated communication with Board members needs to improve. Selectman Dowgiewicz suggested having another meeting that was less formal and the Board would have more of a discussion. Selectman Jolda stated Mr. Willardson is doing a great job. Selectman Bourque stated things are changing for the good.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S CONTRACT: Mr. Willardson stated he had a draft contract for the Board to review. He said the only major change would be to the salary which is a 1 ½ % increase. Chairman Jolda stated they will add this to the next agenda.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S GOALS: Mr. Willardson stated he took all of the Selectmen's comments in the review and put them all into his proposed goals for 2019.

UNION CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS – AGREEMENT FOR HEALTH INSURANCE CHANGES: Mr. Willardson stated he has met with the unions several times and a tentative agreement has been reached.

Motion by Selectman Becker, seconded by Selectman Bourque to give Mr. Willardson authorization to enter into a contract from health insurance changes. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN: At 8:30 p.m.:

Motion by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Becker, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Courtney M. Friedland, Executive Secretary to the Board of Selectmen