

**TOWN OF WEBSTER  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
DONALD BOURQUE, CHAIRMAN  
RANDALL BECKER, VICE CHAIRMAN  
ANDREW JOLDA  
MARK DOWGIEWICZ  
ROBERT MILLER**

A Board of Selectmen's Meeting was held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Town Hall on Monday, November 7, 2016. Selectman Bourque called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

**Attendance:** Robert Miller, Mark Dowgiewicz, Andrew Jolda and Randall Becker and Don Bourque

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairman Bourque led the Selectmen in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Dangerous Dog Hearing**

Chairman Bourque stated the owner of the dog was not in attendance. He stated he would like to know if the Board liked to continue the Dangerous Dog Hearing or table it until the next meeting. Selectman Becker suggested continuing with the hearing. Chairman Bourque called the hearing to order. He called Animal Control Officer, Michelle Lafleche up to the front. Chairman Bourque swore her in. Ms. Lafleche stated she received word that someone was breeding pit bulls for fighting. She stated she met with the owner of the dogs at the Police Station. She stated the owner has three female dogs in the Town's possession. She stated one of the dogs, Mya, bit someone while they were walking by. She stated they believe this dog has bitten people before but couldn't prove it because they leave the scene immediately after the incident. She stated the owner of the dogs is against Mya getting fixed. He wants to continue to breed her. She stated Mya is being housed at another shelter. She stated the State wants to have them DNA tested. She stated one of the dogs is nice the other two are questionable. Selectman Becker asked if they are confident that Mya was the dog that bit the person at McDonalds. Ms. Lafleche stated yes. Selectman Dowgiewicz stated Ms. Lafleche can make a judgment. Ms. Lafleche stated the owner is homeless and she wouldn't recommend giving these dogs back to him. Selectman Miller stated he found it very interesting that they would do DNA testing to see if these dogs were used for fighting. Chairman Bourque stated he would like to have the two dogs that are questionable evaluated to see if they are adoptable.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Becker to have Mya spayed and to have the two questionable dogs evaluated by an independent animal handler.

**Vote:** Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Becker to close the Dangerous Dog Hearing.

**Vote:** Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Dowgiewicz, seconded by Selectman Miller to move to "New Business"

**Vote:** Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.

Attorney David Dupont came forward. He stated he submitted a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting to be designated as a Special Municipal Employee pursuant to M.G.L. 268 A. He stated the State Ethics Commission recommend he be designated.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Dowgiewicz, seconded by Selectman Jolda to designate the Deputy Moderator's Position as a Special Municipal Employee pursuant to M.G.L. 268 A

**Vote:** Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Miller to authorize the Acting Town Administrator to sign the Library Demolition and Abatement Contract per the vote of the Library Planning and Building Committee on October 24, 2016

**Vote:** Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.

Chairman Bourque reminded everyone that the Veteran's Day Parade will be held Friday, November 11, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. Chairman Bourque asked to have this information put on the Town's website.

Selectman Becker stated he was made aware that there are additional recall petitions looking to be submitted. He asked the residents to stop and stated there are no reason for any recalls. He stated he the public has seen enough of this type of actions and don't need to carry it any further.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Miller to approve the September 13, 2016 meeting minutes.

**Vote: Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.**

**Motion:** made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Becker to approve the September 26, 2016 meeting minutes.

**Vote: Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – abstain, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – abstain.**

Selectman Miller stated he would like to make sure that Town Meeting Warrant Articles # 5, 6 & 7 were "refer to sponsor"

**Motion:** made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Jolda to approve the September 28, 2016 meeting minutes.

**Vote: Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.**

**Motion:** made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Miller to approve the October 3, 2016 meeting minutes.

**Vote: Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.**

**Motion:** made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Jolda to approve the September 17, 2016 executive session meeting minutes.

**Vote: Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – abstain.**

**Motion:** made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Miller to approve the October 17, 2016 starting at 6:00 p.m. meeting minutes.

**Vote: Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – abstain.**

**Motion:** made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Miller to approve the October 17, 2016 starting at 6:30 p.m. meeting minutes.

**Vote: Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – abstain.**

#### **Michelle Boulay – Appointment to the Webster Cultural Council**

Ms. Boulay came forward. She stated she wanted to join the Cultural Council to bring people together.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Miller to appoint Michelle Boulay to the Webster Cultural Council.

**Vote: Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.**

#### **Mark Konicki - Appointment to the Webster Cultural Council**

Mr. Konicki came forward. He stated he has lived in Webster all of his life. He stated he would like to help out again.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Miller, second by Selectman Becker to appoint Mark Konicki to the Webster Cultural Council.

**Vote: Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.**

### **Anne Marie Peperato – WRTA Bus Route Change**

Ms. Peperato came forward. She stated the WRTA proposed a route change for Webster. She stated the proposed change would eliminate the stop at Golden Heights. She stated she is a resident of Golden Heights and a frequent bus rider. She stated as the Chairman to the ADA Committee this is very concerning. She stated one in five people are disabled. She stated one hundred thirty three people live at Golden Heights and the Slater Estates abuts the property. She stated WRTA only has one pick-up and one drop-off. She stated if you don't catch the bus at Golden heights then you have to walk a quarter mile to try to catch another bus. She stated residents at Golden Heights would be forced to walk if they needed to use the bus. She stated disabled and seniors can't make the trip to another stop. She stated with eliminating this stop they wouldn't be saving any money. She stated there is an Advisory Board Meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup> that she will be attending. She stated Selectman Miller attending the hearing at the Town Hall. She stated the paratransit is great for in-town use. She stated you have to plan 48 hours in advance. She stated the WRTA has been providing service to Golden Heights residents for over twenty years. She stated she is looking for the Board's support to write a letter requesting the WRTA keep the stop. Richard Zahara came forward. He stated he is a Golden Heights resident. He stated the WTRA personnel were very attentive during the hearing. He stated two representatives came out to Golden Heights after the hearing to view the location. He stated ridership might not be huge but they are critical to those residents. He stated the sidewalks are in tough shape and it is very dark out at night. He stated it would be very dangerous to have the elderly walking to catch the bus.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Jolda to send a letter to the WRTA requesting they do not interrupt service to Golden Heights and consider the possibility of adding more stops. The letter will also request they come before the Board prior to making any decisions.

**Vote: Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.**

### **Anne Marie Peperato – Appointment to the Personnel Advisory Board**

Ms. Peperato stated she worked many years handling personnel issues. She stated she is very versed in HIPPA regulations. She stated she wants to continue to help out.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Jolda to appoint Anne Marie Peperato to the Personnel Advisory Board.

**Vote: Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.**

### **Webster-Dudley American Legion – Alteration of Premises Application**

Mike Eszes and Ralph Ricci came forward. Mr. Eszes stated the Webster-Dudley American Legion is looking to provide alcohol to patrons using the horseshoe pit. He stated the Board received a copy of the area. Chairman Bourque asked if there are any facilities offered outside. Mr. Eszes stated patrons would have to use the facilities inside the building. Mary Ann Manyak came forward. She stated she has an issue with outside drinking. She stated they live directly in the back of the Legion. She stated they have grandchildren that come over and people are drinking, swearing, smoking pot and urinating in the bushes. She stated it has been getting worse of the last year. Gary Manyak came forward. He stated he agrees with his wife. He stated it might be better if they put up a fence to keep the noise out. Richard Holton came forward. He stated he has lived there a little over six years. He stated since the new command came in to place the bar has gone to hell. He stated it is noisy every weekend. He stated a fence would not help. He stated people are out of control and they speed through the parking lot. Kathryn Ward came forward. She stated she recognized they bought a house next to a bar. She stated the first summer she lived there it was very peaceful and she enjoyed the clanging of horseshoes. She stated they now rent out the hall every weekend and they get very noisy. She stated the

tranquility of the neighborhood would be changed if this is allowed. She stated she is asking the Board to deny the request. Linda Holton came forward. She stated she lived directly across the street from the Legion. She stated she has spent time at the Legion and it had been very quiet until recently. She stated every weekend you have to worry about what you're going to get from the establishment. Ann Manzi came forward. She stated she is definitely against it. She stated people coming out of the bar are loud and swear. She stated they urinate in the woods. She stated she has lived there for forty seven years. She stated a student from Nichols College died there and that the establishment is escalating again. Chairman Bourque stated he would recommend asking the ABCC their thought on issuing the license for outdoors. Mr. Ricci stated that seeing so many people came out against the alteration that he would like to pull the request in order to gain a better relationship with the neighbors.

Chairman Bourque called for a five minute recess.

**Update from Executive Secretary concerning finalists for Town Administrator position who remain interested in appointment and discussion relative to whether to make a conditional offer of employment to finalist(s) who remain interested in position.**

The Board of Selectmen's Secretary reported that all three remaining candidates were still interested in the position. Selectman Becker stated he would like to read something. He stated it was extremely important for him to read this to the Board members. He admitted he got angry at the actions taken by residents to re-call him. He stated he is not looking for sympathy. He stated the Board needs to turn this around for the Town. He stated they can't continue down this path. He stated the Board needs to keep an open mind and be willing to compromise which is owed to the residents. He stated the Board has reached a point of no return and there is only one candidate left. He stated Mr. Willardson might be young but he is hopeful and confident the Board will pick him. He stated after re-watching the interviews Mr. Willardson was a breath of fresh air. He is a great communicator and is fair and impartial. He stated they can begin to heal deep wounds. Selectman Jolda stated he also has a Master's Degree in Public Administrator.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Becker, seconded by Selectman Bourque to appoint Mr. Willardson as Town Administrator.

Chairman Bourque asked if there were any other nominees.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Dowgiewicz to appoint Mr. Ralph as Town Administrator.

Selectman Jolda stated Mr. Ralph has a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice.

Selectman Becker stated every one of the Selectmen voiced concern about Mr. Ralph who has no experience. Selectman Dowgiewicz stated Mr. Ralph has five years' experience working in Dedham. Selectman Becker stated Mr. Ralph would make a good Finance Director. He stated Mr. Willardson has real Town Administrator experience. Chairman Bourque stated the Board has accomplished so many things. He stated the Board needs to appoint someone with experience. He stated they need to do the right thing. Selectman Becker stated Mr. Ralph would have issues with the Police Department with his brother being in the command staff. He stated all of the issues with the Police Department would have to be handled by someone else. He stated there are big ethics issues.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Becker, seconded by Selectman Bourque to appoint Mr. Willardson as Town Administrator.

**Vote: Selectman Miller – no, Selectman Dowgiewicz – no, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.**

Pamela Leduc asked to be heard. She thanked the Board for allowing her to be the Acting Town Administrator for the last seventeen months. She stated Selectman Becker's words were spot on. She asked the Board to take another vote to ratify Mr. Willardson appointment to be unanimous.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Becker, seconded by Selectman Bourque to appoint Mr. Willardson as Town Administrator.

**Vote:** **Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.**

Chairman Bourque thanked Ms. Leduc for all of her hard work. He stated the Board is indebted to her for what she has done for the Town.

**Motion:** made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Miller to designating Chairman Bourque and Selectman Jolda to engage in contract negotiations with the finalist conditionally offered employment as Town Administrator.

**Vote:** **Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Becker – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.**

### **Informational Mail**

Selectman Becker asked to have the Bay Path School Committee appointment on the next agenda.

### **Adjournment**

**Motion:** made by Selectman Becker, seconded by Selectman Jolda to adjourn the regular session meeting at 8:18 p.m.

**Vote:** **Selectman Miller – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes and Selectman Becker – yes.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Courtney M. Friedland  
Executive Secretary