



Town Of Webster
Massachusetts Est. 1832

Office of the Board of Selectmen
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Randall V. Becker, Chairman
Andrew Jolda, Vice-Chairman
Earl Gabor, Secretary
Lisa Kontoes
Thomas Klebart

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 8, 2021 6:00 P.M.

Selectmen's Meeting Room
350 Main Street, Webster, MA 01570
via conference call in accordance with Governor Baker's
emergency "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the
Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §20"

MEETING OPENING: At 6:04 p.m., Chairman Becker called the meeting to order in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall, 350 Main Street, Webster, MA. The following individuals were present: Chairman Becker, Selectman Andrew Jolda, Selectman Lisa Kontoes, Selectman Earl Gabor, Selectman Thomas Klebart, Mike Betelho (via Zoom meeting), Police Chief Michael Shaw, Interim Town Administrator Greg Balukonis, and Assistant Town Administrator Courtney Friedland. The Board stood and took the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Becker stated on March 12, 2020, Governor Baker issued an Executive Order modifying certain requirements of the Open Meeting Law, to enable public bodies to carry out their responsibilities while adhering to public health recommendations regarding social distancing as fully stated on the agenda. As further explained on the agenda, the Executive Order relieves public bodies from the requirement in the Open Meeting Law that meetings be conducted in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body through adequate, alternative means. On June 16, 2021, Governor Baker signed into law An Act Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency. This Act includes an extension, until April 1, 2022, of the remote meeting provisions of his March 12, 2020, Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

Chairman Becker announced the name of Mike Betelho, from Munro Associates, who was the only individual attending via Zoom.

Meeting Minutes

Motion by Selectman Klebart, seconded by Selectman Kontoes, to approve the meeting minutes of October 18, 2021. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

CAROLINE FRITZ – APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING BOARD:

Ms. Fritz stated she just moved to Webster two years ago and was excited to be part of the community.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Gabor, to appoint Caroline Fritz to the Planning Board. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

AMEND HOURS OF OPERATION – MUNRO ASSOCIATION, LLC:

Mr. Botelho stated he is the President of Munro Association, LLC dba The Vault which has been in operation since January 15, 2021. He stated they are looking to extend the hours of operation on Sundays until 9:00 p.m. and Monday-Wednesday until 10:00 p.m. He stated they might vary the hours throughout the year according to foot traffic. He stated it is easier to request the change then to go back and forth when they would like to change it. This would be a permanent change and they would adjust accordingly.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Kontoes, to approve Munro Associated, LLC dba The Vault request to amend the closing hours of operation to be open until 9:00 p.m. on Sundays and 10:00 p.m. Monday thru Wednesday. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

CDBG COVID GRANT EXTENTION:

Mr. Balukonis stated this is a standard agreement. Chairman Becker stated he had some follow-up questions regarding this grant. He asked what the total dollar amount was and how much has already been awarded. He asked if there was a dollar limit for the grant amounts awarded. He wanted to know who was the awarding authority. Lastly, he wanted to know who the Community Opportunities Group was and what services they provided. Mr. Balukonis stated he would follow-up with Ms. Cyr.

Motion by Selectman Klebart, seconded by Selectman Jolda, to approve the CDBG COVID Grant Extension and authorize the Chairman to sign the paperwork. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

DISCHARGE OF LIEN – 22 EASTERN AVENUE:

Chairman Becker stated this property was part of a grant program in which the 15-year requirement has not been met. The owner wants to sell the property, so they are required to pay the full grant funding amount back to the town. This money will go back into the grant program.

Motion by Selectman Gabor, seconded by Selectman Jolda, to discharge the lien on 22 Eastern Avenue, Webster, MA in return for re-payment of the grant funding. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

DISCHARGE AFFORDABLE HOUSING LIEN – 35-37 Whitcomb Street:

Chairman Becker asked if this would decrease the affordable housing units in Webster and Mr. Balukonis stated it would. Chairman Becker asked if Ms. Cyr could give the Board a write-up on how many affordable housing units the town currently has compared to surrounding towns and populations.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Klebart, to discharge the Affordable Housing Rental Restriction and Mortgage for the property located at 35-37 Whitcomb Street, Webster MA owned by Tri Properties Inc. as all conditions having been met. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

CHANGE OF OFFICERS/DIRECTORS APPLICATION – WEBSTER/DUDLEY POST AMERICAN LEGION # 184:

Motion by Selectman Gabor, seconded by Selectman Jolda, to approve the Change of Officers/Directors Application filed by the Webster Dudley Post American Legion #184, Inc., 10Street, Webster, MA. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

JOSE RIVERA – “ONE DAY” LIQUOR LICENSE REQUEST:

Chief Shaw stated he had some concern about alcohol being served. He asked they confine the alcohol to a certain area. He does not want to see alcohol brought throughout the building. He stated they are expecting 600-800 people for the event. He said this event also required a paid detail.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Kontoes, to approve the “One Day” liquor license requested filed by Jose Rivera for a boxing event being held on Saturday, December 18, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, 50 Main Street, Webster, MA contingent on the serving area being “roped off” and the alcohol is served and consumed within that area. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

DECLARE WEBSTER POLICE K9 CRUISER SURPLUS:

Chief Shaw stated the 2014 Ford Expedition used for the K9 Unit has mechanical issues. He said they will put a \$2,000 minimum reserve on the vehicle that is comparable to the trade-in offer.

Motion by Selectman Klebart, seconded by Selectman Jolda, to declare former Webster Police K9 Cruiser (774) a 2014 Ford Expedition with 75,643 miles surplus. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

REVIEW AND RENEW 2022 LOCAL LICENSING AUTHORITY ISSUED LICENSES:

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Klebart, to renew the 2022 All Alcohol liquor licenses noted on the agenda except for Wind Tiki and Fresh Chef Inc dba Point Breeze subject to any and all requirement being met.

Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

Chairman Becker recused himself from the next vote.

Motion by Selectman Gabor, seconded by Selectman Kontoes, to renew the All Alcohol liquor licenses for Wind Tiki and Fresh Chef Inc. dba Point Breeze subject to any and all requirement being met. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, and Selectman Jolda – yes.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Kontoes, to renew the 2022 All Alcohol Club liquor licenses noted on the agenda subject to any and all requirement being met. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Kontoes, to renew the 2022 Wine & Malt Restaurant liquor licenses noted on the agenda subject to any and all requirement being met. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Kontoes, to renew the 2022 All Alcohol Package Store liquor licenses noted on the agenda subject to any and all requirement being met. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

Motion by Selectman Gabor, seconded by Selectman Jolda, to renew the 2022 Wine & Malt Package Store liquor licenses noted on the agenda subject to any and all requirement being met. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Kontoes, to renew the 2022 Common Victualler licenses noted on the agenda except for Harrington Healthcare, subject to any and all requirement being met. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

Chairman Becker recused himself from the next vote.

Motion by Selectman Kontoes, seconded by Selectman Klebart, to renew the 2022 Common Victualler for Harrington Healthcare subject to any and all requirement being met. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, and Selectman Jolda – yes

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Kontoes, to renew the 2022 Class I, New Car Dealer's licenses noted on the agenda subject to any and all requirement being met. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Kontoes, to renew the 2022 Class II, Used Car Dealer's licenses noted on the agenda subject to any and all requirement being met. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Kontoes, to renew the 2022 Class III, Automobile Junk licenses noted on the agenda subject to any and all requirement being met. Call Vote: Selectman

Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Klebart, to renew the 2022 Sale of Gold license for Varo’s Fine Jewelry subject to any and all requirement being met. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

1. Coronavirus & Public Health
 - i. A decision has been made to drop contracted services for COVID tracking and reporting. The Town now has trained staff that can assume this responsibility without incurring an additional cost to the community. Chairman Becker thanked former Health Agent Jennifer Sullivan for her assistance with this since her departure.
 - ii. Webster’s positivity rate is 2.66% which is improved over the prior 2 weeks where the positivity rate was 3.87%. This compares with the State-wide average of 1.7%. The incidence rate per 1,000 has also dropped to 18.7. The Statewide incidence rate is 16.5. Although both numbers are higher than the State-wide averages they represent an improvement over the past 2 weeks.
2. Human Resources- Employee Comings/Goings/Transfers/Other
 - i. No Staff Changes to Report.
3. Financial Issues
 - i. The FY 2021 books are closed and the next steps are submission of the balance sheet necessary for certification of free cash and water/sewer retained earnings. The Board of Selectmen have scheduled the FY22 tax classification hearing for their December 6th meeting. The Recap Sheet will be submitted as it is necessary for the new tax rate to be approved.
 - ii. Please see the attached FY 2023 Budget and Town Meeting Calendar that identifies key deadlines involving the operating and capital budgets, and the annual town meeting. The documents were presented to the Finance Committee at their most recent meeting with one change related to the date the Town Administrator publicly presents/recommends the budget.
4. Economic Development
 - i. Work is ongoing on the MVP grant that address climate preparedness and resilience building with the first meeting of the Core group this past

week along with State officials and the grant consultant. The natural hazard risk index for Webster was reviewed and updated. The next steps involve community outreach.

5. Infrastructure & Projects

- i. The Water and Sewer Commission is holding a public hearing on the PFAS situation Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be broadcast on CATV for those residents unable to attend the hearing in-person.
- ii. The Safety Committee recommends the Board approve a no parking on one side of the street located on Poland Street, from the intersection of New Street, approximately 100' to the Stop sign on Poland Street. Selectman Kontoes asked what the impact to homeowners was and what was driving the proposed change. Selectman Gabor stated the area could get congested at times when residents park on both sides of the street creating a safety issue. Selectman Kontoes stated she would like more information before making this change.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Gabor, to approve the Safety Committee recommendation to have a no parking on one side of the street located on Poland Street, from the intersection of New Street, approximately 100' to the Stop sign on Poland Street. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - no, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

6. Other

- i. The Town is actively seeking members to serve on the Cable Advisory Committee, which currently is down to 3 members. The CATV franchise license with Charter expires in October 2023, and it's important the ascertainment process commence between the parties.
- ii. The Calendar of events for Veterans Day Parade which is being held this coming Thursday is attached. The Parade will follow ceremonies in both Webster and Dudley and end with a presentation at the Webster Veterans Court of Honor.

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Kontoes, to approve the Town Administrator's Report. Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectmen Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Gabor, to adjourn at 7:07 p.m.

Call Vote: Selectman Klebart – yes, Selectman Gabor – yes, Selectman Kontoes - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, and Selectman Becker – yes.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Courtney Friedland, Executive Secretary to the Board of Selectmen**

Next Meetings:

December 6, 2021, Board of Selectmen’s Meeting 6:00 p.m. Webster Town Hall, 350 Main Street,
Webster, MA 01570

