

TOWN OF TOPSHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
OCTOBER 15, 2015 - 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Donald Russell
Marie Brilliant
David Douglass
Ruth Lyons
William Thompson

MEMBER(S) ABSENT: All present

STAFF PRESENT: Town Manager, Richard Roedner

A meeting of the Topsham Board of Selectmen was held on Thursday, October 15, 2015 at the Municipal Building at 100 Main Street, Topsham, Maine.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL

Chairman Russell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All present were invited to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The recording secretary took the roll call and noted that all Selectmen were present.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- Follow-up to the Neighborhood Meetings is scheduled for Monday, October 19 at 6:00 p.m. at the library and Monday, October 26 also at 6:00 p.m. at the library.
- The complete document of the Neighborhood Meetings can be viewed on the Topsham website.
- The new hours at the Town Office has been well received. There doesn't seem to be much traffic on Thursday evenings.
- Real estate taxes are due today. The office has been very busy, with \$4.2 million received in the past 3 days.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

John Shattuck, Economic and Community Development Coordinator presented an update to the Board, including:

ECD UPDATE

Topsham: Back to the Future

- Building a strong Topsham for the future: Will we be able to afford to live there?
- 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 21st at the Topsham Public Library
- Chuck Marohn PE, AICP will deliver a Curbside Chat – sponsored by TDI
- How policy, budget & growth decisions can build stronger and economically healthier communities
- With enhanced quality of place & quality of life - *and affordable for our taxpayers.*

- After the Chat, feel welcome to join us at Sea Dog Brewing for continued, informal discussion
- First in the continuing series at the Topsham Public Library: *Topsham - Back to the Future*

Lower Village Development Committee (LVDC):

- RA study (Tom Errico/TY Lin) is underway – traffic video last week
- Draft report to be delivered in November – with cost estimates for use in budget process
- Public presentation of findings in January with final report to follow

FJ Wood Bridge project

- Town staff continues to coordinate planning of RA with MDOT bridge project manager, Joel Kitteredge
- Joel has kept staff apprised of status of preliminary design process
- Partial causeway option has been eliminated
- Both Topsham & Brunswick have emphasized the need for much improved bike and pedestrian amenities
- MDOT & TY Lin are confident that the preliminary design proposal will be presented at a public meeting before the end of the calendar year

MRRA

- MRRA is proceeding with demolition of pads at TCP/Annex
- Both demolition and rehab of Building 333 are presenting cost challenges – MRRA is seeking Town input
- 8th Annual Dinner and Meeting at 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 18th at the Freeport Hilton Garden

PUBLIC COMMENT - Selectman Douglass bid farewell to Chairman Russell as this was his last official Board of Selectmen Meeting. He said that Don has represented the Town and its citizens in a manner that always instituted a process to be certain everything is done fairly and has set an example for the Board members to follow going forward. He thanked Chairman Russell on behalf of the Board members.

Chairman Russell responded saying he has enjoyed working for the Town and that the Board has been great to work with. He added that the Board has made great progress for the benefit of the Town and thanked Mr. Douglass for his comments.

CORRESPONDENCE - None noted.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA - None noted.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SELECTMENS MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

Motion was made by Selectman Douglass, seconded by Selectman Lyons, and it was

VOTED

To approve the Consent Calendar, approving minutes of the September 17, 2015 meeting as written. (The vote was 4 in favor with 1 abstention [Selectman Brilliant]).

PUBLIC HEARING

15-64 CONSIDERATION AND ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION ON APPROVAL OF A SPECIAL AMUSEMENTS LICENSE FOR COREY EDWIN GARVER, POST 202 AMERICAN LEGION

Chairman Russell disclosed that he is a paying member of Post 202 and asked if there were any objections to him participating in consideration of this item. There were no objections.

Chairman Russell reviewed the application for a Special Amusement License for the Corey Edwin Garver, Post 202, American Legion. Commander Nick Hamlin was present at the meeting.

The Public Hearing was declared open. There being no one wishing to comment, the Public Hearing was declared closed.

The following **FINDING OF FACTS** were determined:

1. The applicant is the Corey Edwin Garver Post 202, American Legion.
2. Address of the Post is 79 Foreside Road, Topsham, Maine.
3. The Commander (contact person) is Nick Hamlin.
4. The applicant is applying for a Special Amusement Permit to have a live band and DJ's.
5. The areas that it is going to take place is in the downstairs canteen and the DJ's will be there and the band will be in the upstairs hall.
6. Letters from the Police, Fire Chief and Codes Enforcement Officer are in file stating they have no issues with granting of the permit.
7. There is ample parking for 50 to 60 vehicles.
8. Number of guests will range from 5 to 105.
9. The DJ's play on Friday and the Band plays on Saturdays.
10. The events do not take place at the same time.
11. The Post will have a full license in place when the functions take place.
12. Hours of operation are from 8:00 p.m. to midnight.

Members of the Board unanimously agreed with the Finding of Facts.

CONCLUSIONS

The Board concluded that the issuance of an Amusement Permit to the applicant to hold band and DJ activities will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare of the Town, and will not violate Town ordinances, rules, regulations and standards.

Motion was made by Chairman Russell, seconded by Selectman Douglass, and it was unanimously

VOTED

To grant the Corey Edwin Garver, Post 202, American Legion, the renewal of a Special Amusements Permit as meeting the requirements set forth in 71-2, 71-6, and 225-27, B.3 and I and be valid only for the license year of the applicant's existing liquor license.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None noted.

OLD BUSINESS - None noted.

NEW BUSINESS

**15-65 CONSIDERATION AND ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION ON BOARD'S GOALS
STEMMING FROM NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS**

Following last year's neighborhood meetings, the board members proposed goals for the coming year related to the comments received from the public. The Town Manager compiled a list representing a summary of the proposed goals submitted by the Board Members.

A discussion was held with the group attempting to pick 3 or 4 goals to concentrate on in the coming year. Goals 2, 3 and 8 were brought forward, even though all agreed that all 8 of the goals are important. No action was taken, but the group will present these goals at the upcoming neighborhood meetings for further discussion.

The top 8 goals included:

1. Speed control and traffic
2. Communication to residents
3. Access - bikes/walkability/trails/sidewalks
4. Infrastructure - stay ahead of needs
5. Growth and development balance (parking, access, vitality of mall, impacts to community)
6. Environment - multiple issues such as stormwater, plastic bag usage, and solar power
7. Taxes - efficiencies in service provision to help limit increases in spending, limit new programs, new sources of funding
8. Community involvement

EXECUTIVE SESSION

**15-66 CONSIDERATION AND ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION TO ENTER INTO
EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS A TAX ACQUIRED PROPERTY PER 36
M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (C)**

At 8:00 p.m. the Board moved into Executive Session to discuss a tax acquired property per 36, M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (C).

Motion was made, seconded and **VOTED** to move back into regular session at 8:10 p.m.

Motion was made by Selectman Douglass, seconded by Selectman Lyons, and it was unanimously

VOTED

To direct the Town Manager to investigate the appropriate process for soliciting bids on the tax acquired parcel in question.

ADJOURN

Motion was made by Selectman Lyons, seconded by Selectman Thompson, and it was unanimously

VOTED

To adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Williams, Recording Secretary