

MINUTES  
TOWN OF TOPSHAM  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
February 2, 2017 - 7:00 P.M.

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MEMBERS PRESENT: David Douglass  
Marie Brilliant  
William Thompson

MEMBER(S) ABSENT: Ruth Lyons, Roland Tufts

STAFF PRESENT: Richard Roedner, Town Manager

A meeting of the Topsham Board of Selectmen was held on Thursday, February 2, 2017 in the Donald A. Russell Meeting Room, at the Municipal Building, 100 Main Street, Topsham, Maine.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Douglass called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL**

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, except for Selectman Lyons and Selectman Tufts, both of whom had been excused.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

The Valentine's Father/Daughter dance is on February 12, and at this point, tickets are still available.

Last Tuesday, our Police Department and Fire Department were kept very busy over the discovery what appeared to be an unexploded device. The State Police were called, and their bomb disposal team successfully transported the device to Crooker's Pit, where it was buried and detonated. It contained no explosive, but it gave the State teams some very important training. I would like to extend a thank you to Crooker Construction for their assistance with what could have been a very delicate process.

Last week we also had a cruiser involved in an accident on Route 196, while it was stationary at the scene of an earlier accident. I don't know the cause of the accident, but I would like to stress to everyone to pay attention while driving. If the sun is in your eyes, slow down. If the phone rings, leave it. Please don't text while you are driving, or read the paper or a book. Drive as if your life depended on it.

Lastly, tonight is the beginning of our budget process. The Board has received budgets, which will be posted on line tomorrow. The first budget review meeting is 2/8/17, here at Town Hall at 6 p.m. The public is welcome to attend and we are interested in your feedback and comments.

There was a discussion with concerns expressed that the new SUV's don't have the light bar across the top of cruisers and may not be as readily seen by on-coming traffic when the cruiser is stopped.

**BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS - UPDATE FROM THE TOPSHAM TREE COMMITTEE** - This item was rescheduled to the February 16, 2017 selectmen meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None noted.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – None noted.

**ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA** – Motion was made, seconded and it was unanimously (of those present)

**VOTED**

To remove agenda item 17-11 from the agenda.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**1. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Selectmen's Meeting of January 19, 2017**

Motion was made by Selectman Brilliant, seconded by Selectman Thompson, and it was unanimously (of those present)

**VOTED**

To approve the minutes of the January 19, 2017 meeting as written.

**2. Approval of the minutes of the Special Selectmen's Meeting of January 12, 2017**

Motion was made by Selectman Brilliant, seconded by Selectman Thompson and it was unanimously (of those present)

**VOTED**

To approve the minutes of the January 12, 2017 meeting as written.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**17-09 CONSIDERATION AND ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION ON AN APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL AMUSEMENT PERMIT FOR SEA DOG VENTURES, INC**

The Public Hearing was declared open. Seth Hale represented the applicant and told the Board that nothing has changed since the approval of the Special Amusement Permit issued last year. Entertainment includes a single act on Friday evenings from 9:00 to 11:00 p.m., and Karaoke on Saturday evenings. The band sits up in front of the bar area and it was noted the dining room can accommodate up to 260 people. Mr. Hale said there is more than adequate parking on site.

It was noted that letters are in file from the Fire Department, Police Department and Codes Enforcement Officer, all stating no objection to the issuance of the permit.

With no one from members of the public wishing to speak, the Public Hearing was declared closed.

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

1. The applicant is the Seadog Brewing Company.
2. Location of the Seadog Brewing Company is 1 Main Street, Topsham.
3. The liquor license #9169 is current and will expire on February 10, 2018.
4. Location of entertainment is in the bar area, seats 21, 22 and 23.
5. Nights of entertainment include Friday and Saturday, with a 3-piece band.
6. Hours of operation at from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
7. The dining room can seat up to 260 people.
8. There is adequate parking on site.
9. Usually the entertainment is up to 3 people.
10. Letters are in file from the Fire Department, Police Department and Codes Enforcement Officer that they have no objection to the issuance of the permit.

**CONCLUSIONS:**

Based on the Findings, it is concluded that the issuance of the Special Amusement Permit to Seadog Brewing Company would not be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare, or would not violate municipal ordinances, rules or regulations.

Members of the Board were in unanimous agreement with the above Finding of Facts and Conclusions.

Motion was made by Chairman Douglass, seconded by Selectman Thompson, and it was unanimously (of those present)

**VOTED**

To grant the application for a Special Amusement Permit to the Seadog Brewing Company as meeting requirements of Maine Revised Statute Title 25-A, §1054 and the Topsham Codes, Chapter 71, Article 1, Sections 6 and 7.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None noted.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None noted.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**17-10 CONSIDERATION AND ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION ON APPOINTMENTS TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION AND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE**

Motion was made by Chairman Douglass, seconded by Selectman Thompson, and it was unanimously (of those present)

**VOTED**

To appoint Joe Feely to the Comprehensive Plan Committee.

Motion was made by Selectman Thompson, seconded by Selectman Brilliant, and it was unanimously (of those present)

**VOTED**

To appoint Raija Suomela to the Conservation Committee.

**17-11 CONSIDERATION AND ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION ON APPOINTMENT TO THE SAGADAHOC COUNTY BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

This item was removed from the agenda. (See Adjustments to the Agenda, above.)

(The Town Manager noted that the budget process begins this date and reminded Board members of the February 8 meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Donald J. Russell meeting room. As mentioned earlier, the budget will be posted on the internet and copies will be in holder outside the meeting room door.)

**ADJOURN**

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

**VOTED**

To adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Patty Williams, Recording Secretary