

Board of Selectmen Meeting

May 25, 2021

5:30 PM Executive Session Meeting: Contract negotiations with town manager. Chair reconvenes in open session. All members present.

7:00 PM BUSINESS MEETING:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Saugus Veterans Council invitation to the Selectmen requesting your presence at the Memorial Day Ceremony to be held on Monday, May 31, 2021. The Program will commence at exactly 10:00 AM at Riverside Cemetery. Selectman Cicolini made a motion to refer it to the file seconded by the Chair, motion passes 5-0. Nice to have a ceremony.

Request from Ms. Dorene Smith, One Cleveland Avenue, for permission to host a gathering/block party to celebrate my daughter's high school graduation. The date is June 12, 2021, from 3 PM to 12 AM.

Selectman Cicolini moved to approve the request with the stipulations from the Police of Fire. Lt Connors stated if streets are not blocked. The restrictions apply – no barriers and careful with alcohol. Chair seconds. All in favor, passed 5-0.

Mr. Robert Camuso: "Veteran's School/hazardous bike incidents. 25 kids on bikes doing wheelies and forcing elderly drivers off the streets. They have taken over the parks, bad language. Kids went in the front of the school and left out the back. Everyone is afraid to step up to them. Peabody, Lynn, Salem, all have the same groups. Parents know these kids are doing this. Spitting on cars, blocking cars."

"There is an issue here. Other communities having same problems. Problem needs to be fixed. Program is working in Peabody. They are making it difficult for drivers. They are not letting drivers in the road. People are fed up with it. We need to step it up and stop it. These kids have no fear, and I am asking the Board to look at this."

Selectman Cogliano stated that in some areas the kids are taught not to respect the Police. Lt. Connors will take the numbers and will deal with. We have spent a lot of money for parks.

Selectman Cicolini thanked Mr. Camuso for bringing the issue up "It has happened to me. Someone is going to get killed. I support you 100%. These kids are destroying our parks."

Selectman Cicolini asked Lt. Connors if he would speak to the Chief for expansion of coverage at parks.

Selectman Serino thanked Mr. Camuso and Lt. Connors. He stated that he, too, met some people who experienced the same problem. Selectman Riley: "Has there been information as to who

these kids are, or we just don't know who these children are?" Lt. Connors stated that he does not have the answers at this time.

Selectman Panetta asked about cameras and upset with all the vandalism. She asked the Town Manager Crabtree about the cameras at the park, and he stated that they review the cameras when complaints are made and caught some of them. Selectman Cicolini offered the motion refer the correspondence to the police chief and town manager as needed. Chair seconds; all in favor: Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Patrick Shankhour, Pioneer School: Contest for Posen Prize, recognizing student achievement. The ceremony will be held on May 24, 2021, from 4-5 virtual. Selectman Panetta attended the meeting and stated that each year they honor students at the Pioneer Charter School on Main Street, Saugus, MA came in first place and won \$70,000 in prize money from donors Mr. and Mrs. Robert Posen. Selectman Cogliano said that he and Patrick spoke recently about expanding their school and is interested in one of our buildings and suggested the town manager meet with Mr. Sankhour regarding our school buildings. Selectman Panetta moved to refer the correspondence to the file. Chair seconds; all in favor? Motion passes 5-0.

Saugus Firefighters Association Invitation Selectman Panetta moved to refer it to the file and thanked the Saugus Firefighters for the invitation. Chair seconds; all in favor? Motion passed 5-0.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS Town Meeting Member Joe Vecchione. "I came before the board several weeks ago to take up Article 21 and wanted to know why there is a delay." The town manager said the Finance Committee may be taking it up tomorrow and soon will be completing everything within a couple of weeks. The Board thanked Mr. Vecchione.

PUBLIC HEARINGS.

7:30 PM: To amend the Town's Traffic Rules and Regulations to install a Stop Sign at the corner of Western Avenue and Wamesit Avenue. Lt. Connors wrote a recommendation a while ago with all the information regarding recommendations. The board should approve. Sign to be placed on Wamesit, for the stop. Westland Avenue traffic should flow freely. Town Meeting Member Joseph Vecchione stated that he submitted this request recommended approval.

Selectman Riley stated that she and her daughter almost got hit at Wamesit. She insisted there was one there at one time. Selectman Serino made the motion to close the public hearing. Chair seconds. All in favor; Motion passes 5-0. He then made the motion to approve the recommendation to install a stop sign at the beginning of Wamesit Avenue at Westland Avenue. Chair seconds. All in favor? Motion passes 5-0.

7:45 PM: Hearing on the application of Kyle Bochniak, owner of Bochniak Martial Arts and Fitness LLC, for a Special Permit, (S-2) to operate a Martial Arts and Fitness establishment at 171 Broadway, Saugus, MA on Plan No. E16-1-2, (Old Plan 1039 – Lot 53) on file in the Assessor's Office.

Selectman Cogliano told the petitioner that recommendations from department heads requested the hearing be continued until outstanding issues were resolved. Selectman Serino said the issues are with the owner of the property which has gone on for a long time. Department heads are meeting at the site with the owner tomorrow and hopefully the problems will be resolved. Selectman Cicolini moved to continue the hearing until the next meeting. Chair seconds. All in favor? Motion passes 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS: Specific date openings of Town Hall, Library, and Senior Center. The town manager said that on Saugus WEB site, the Saugus Public Library will be opening June 7 and the Saugus Senior Center is working on seeking an opening date soon.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Selectman Panetta offered a Motion to table the Minutes of April 13, 2021. Chair seconds; all in favor? Motion passed 5-0. Selectman Panetta moved to approve the Minutes of May 11, 2021. Chair seconds; all in favor? Motion passes 5-0. Selectman Panetta made a Motion to approve the Minutes of May 19, 2021. Chair seconds; all in favor? Motion passes 5-0. Noting inclusion of time ending of meeting.

APPOINTMENTS: Library Board of Trustees: Ms. Sabrina Jaeger, 17 Greenwood Avenue, submitted her resume to the Saugus Board of Trustees. Selectman Panetta thought her resume was impressive. Selectman Riley asked if it could be approved, but the town manager stated the Board needed to find out dates and make a Motion to refer it to the next meeting. Selectman Panetta moved to refer it to the next meeting, chair seconds; any in favor? Motion passed 5-0. Ms. Jaeger's resume will be placed on the next meeting on June 15, 2021.

MEMBER'S COMMENTS: Selectman Riley asked to put the cameras for the Belmonte School on the next agenda on June 15, 2021 and asked if there was enough time to submit an article. The town manager said it would be better to complete this town meeting first. It was the compensation issue and thought maybe others will be on. Selectman Riley stated that the Saugus Center Rail Trail looked like it was completed but there are barriers and stuff left and can we get that stuff removed? Town Manager Crabtree said the state is only 50% complete and he agreed will reach out tomorrow to see if there are any issues.

Selectman Riley congratulated students graduating from college. Our students are making us proud. Memorial Day ceremony at Riverside on Monday. Remember our fallen soldiers.

Selectman Serino wished everyone a happy and safe Memorial Day weekend and to all the veterans' we all will be there. Selectman Cicolini said it is good to show our respect – offered a big thank you to Department heads and the town manager for making it happen.

Selectman Panetta stated that the Master Plan Committee meeting is on June 17, 2021, and thanked those residents who joined, congratulated all the graduating students. And affirmed her respect to all the veterans and wished everyone a safe Memorial Day.


Selectman Cogliano thanked Gordy Sheppard for all his work at Riverside and shared some good news as Apex is going forward with the project at Square One Mall and maybe better days are ahead. He further stated that the Board met in executive session in discussion with Town

Manager Scott Crabtree regarding his contract extension and will be meeting again on Thursday at 8 AM and will reconvene with the manager in moving forward.

Selectman Panetta moved to close the hearing. Chair seconds: all in favor? Motion passes 5-0.

Meeting ended at 7:44.53.

Respectfully submitted:



Janice K. Jarosz, Temp Clerk