

Regular Session Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting
Selectmen’s Meeting Room, Town Hall
Monday, April 28, 2014, 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Margot R. Fleischman, Chair, William S. Moonan, Caroline Fedele, Michael A. Rosenberg, Mark Siegenthaler, and Town Manager Richard T. Reed

ALSO PRESENT: Lindsey Bullen, Town Manager Administrative Assistant; Ben Thomas, Finance Committee; Lori Wittner, Director of Council on Aging; Bobbie Ennis, Council on Aging; Amy Lloyd and Jeff Cohen, Planning Board; Bob Dorer and Annalisa Madison, Transportation Advisory Committee; Elizabeth Bagdonas, Bedford Conservation Commission Administrator; James Shea, 30 Independence Road; Mohammad (Mark) Nazar, Faryab General Car Trading; Christopher Weisz, Historic District Commission Alternate Position Candidate; Mary McBride and Joan Bowen, Press Representatives; Brian Dorrington, Bedford TV.

Chair Fleischman called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m.

14-243 Committee Appointment Interviews
Historic District Commission – Alternate Position
Christopher Weisz

Mr. Moonan, the Selectmen liaison to the Historic District Commission (HDC), explained that the purpose of the HDC was to preserve the history of Bedford through its architecture.

Mr. Weisz stated that he moved to Bedford in 2000. He was drawn to Bedford for its history and interesting architecture. As he looked for a home, he noticed how many of the older homes were in a state of disrepair. As a current owner of an older home, Mr. Weisz stated how important it is to maintain the integrity of the structure to remember what it was like when it was first constructed.

Mr. Weisz said that he was saddened to see how many of the older homes were being torn down. Mr. Weisz stated that he understood the importance of having new construction but felt it was important for the center of Town to maintain its character with older buildings.

Mr. Moonan stated that he noticed on Mr. Weisz’s application that he had an interest in lighting issues. Mr. Weisz said that as an engineer, he felt there were more effective ways to light the Historic District of Town than using upward lighting. Mr. Weisz feels that his knowledge in this area would be an asset to the HDC.

Chair Fleischman explained the Open Meeting Law, the Conflict of Interest Law, and the Rules of Civil Discourse. She also encouraged Mr. Weisz to consider taking on a leadership role as chair in the future.

Mr. Moonan made a motion to appoint Christopher Weisz to an alternate position on the Historic District Commission with a term ending June 30, 2017. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

**14-244 Class II License Application
 Faryab General Car Trading
 68 Great Road**

Mr. Reed addressed the Selectmen with an application for a Class II License. Under Massachusetts General Law, a car dealer must obtain licensing from the local community. The owners of Faryab General Car Trading own another business that is located at 68 Great Road. The license would be for this address as well but no cars would be stored on site.

The owner of Faryab General Car Trading, Mr. Mohammad (Mark) Nazar, stated that this is his second company. He had a license that had expired and was interested in starting in this line of business again.

Mr. Moonan asked Mr. Nazar how he obtains customers. Mr. Nazad stated that he would be exporting vehicles to his brother who lives in the Emirate of the United Arab Emirates and he receives the orders directly from his brother.

Mr. Reed stated that since there would be no vehicles located at 68 Great Road there should be a restriction of "No vehicles for sale stored on this site."

Mr. Siegenthaler made a motion to approve the Class II license application for Faryab General Car Trading at 68 Great Road. Mr. Moonan seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

**14-245 Declaration of Restriction for Long-term Stormwater Management
 10 De Angelo Drive**

Elizabeth Bagdonas, the Conservation Administrator, presented the Selectmen with a Declaration of Restriction for Long-term Stormwater Management at 10 De Angelo Drive. Ms. Bagdonas stated that all commercial and residential projects in Massachusetts must comply with the State Stormwater Standards. These standards are concerned with water quality as well as run-off due to flooding. Ms. Bagdonas stated that the standards work well if they are constantly maintained. Therefore, each commercial and residential owner must sign the Declaration of Restriction which is passed from owner to owner and lasts in perpetuity. A Declaration of Restriction must be executed by the owner(s) of record, accepted by the Conservation Commission and

approved by the Bedford Selectmen. The declaration for 10 De Angelo Drive was executed on March 26, 2014 and accepted by the Conservation Commission on April 9, 2014. After approval by the Selectmen, the document will be recorded at the Registry of Deeds.

Mr. Moonan made a motion to approve the Declaration of Restriction regarding the Stormwater Management System at 10 De Angelo Drive. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

14-246 Taxi Voucher Program Proposal for Seniors and Disabled Persons

Chair Fleischman raised the topic of implementing a Taxi Voucher Program for Seniors and Disabled Persons in the Town of Bedford, referencing a recent memorandum from Transportation Advisory Chair Robert Dorer. Chair Fleischman recently became aware of a similar program in the Town of Lexington. This would be a subsidized transportation service for qualifying residents. It would offer a compliment to the Bedford Local Transit and the MBTA's Ride program which offer limited hours of service. Robert Dorer of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) and Director of the Council on Aging, Lori Wittner, agreed that it would be a worthwhile service to provide to the citizens of Bedford.

The program currently being utilized in Lexington provides eligible participants a voucher with their name on it. The Town of Lexington is billed by the Veterans' Taxi Company, the provider of the transportation, \$10 for every voucher submitted at a net cost to the Town of \$7 per voucher. Lexington has found that residents only redeem approximately half of the vouchers sold each month, thus reducing the net cost to operate the program.

Ms. Fedele asked why only half of the vouchers were redeemed. Chair Fleischman hypothesized that the residents stockpile the vouchers to redeem at a later date. Chair Fleischman noted that this would be an interesting question to ask should Bedford decide to pursue the implementation of this program.

Mr. Moonan asked how this program would be funded. Mr. Reed stated that the Town of Lexington's program is funded through donations from various groups including the Lexington Council on Aging.

The Selectmen agreed that this was a program that should be researched further. Mr. Reed agreed to work with Director Wittner to answer some of the questions raised about the program.

14-247 Complete Streets Program Letter to the MassDOT

Chair Fleischman shared a draft letter to the Massachusetts Secretary of Transportation Richard Davey. The letter urges Secretary Davey to release the \$50 million authorized by the Legislature for the implementation of the Active Streets Certification Program. This program would support cities and towns across the Commonwealth to implement Complete Streets policies by creating a grant program for which they would become eligible after taking simple steps to be certified, similar to the successful and popular Green Communities Act. The Active Streets Certification Program will help the state reach the goal set by Mass DOT to triple the number of walking, cycling and public transportation trips by 2030 while simultaneously decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing physical activity.

Mr. Moonan made a motion authorizing the Selectmen to sign the letter to Secretary Richard Davey supporting the release of \$50 million to implement a new Active Streets Certification Program. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

14-248 Jenks Trail Proposed Yew Bush Removal

Mr. Reed presented the Selectmen with a letter from Chief of Police Robert Bongiorno. A resident of Bedford recently complained to the Police Department that as they were crossing Mudge Way from the sidewalk of Jenks Trail to the sidewalk along the Police Station there are large yew bushes partially blocking the line of sight for pedestrians in the crosswalk. Members of the Police Department and the Public Works Department agree that the overgrown bushes are compromising the visibility in this area. Under the Memorandum of Agreement dated April 19, 2005 any changes to the existing arbor resources on the trail must be approved by the Selectmen, School Committee and Library Trustees. Mr. Reed stated that the Arbor Resources Committee, Police Department, Public Works Department and Historic Preservation Commission all agreed that the bushes should be removed.

Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to authorize the Department of Public Works to remove the yew bushes on the Jenks Nature trail areas as designated in the site plan. Mr. Moonan seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

**14-249 Miscellaneous Action Items
One Day Special Liquor License
Boston's Best Bartending f/b/o Orange Chair Salon
May 10, 2014**

Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to grant a One Day Special Liquor License to Boston's Best Bartending f/b/o Orange Chair Salon for May 10, 2014 with the

provision that no more than 30 people attend at one time. Mr. Siegenthaler seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

14-250 Minutes – Regular Session Minutes April 7, 2014

Mr. Siegenthaler made a motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes from April 7, 2014, as amended. Mr. Rosenberg seconded the motion.

The motion passed 4-0-1. Mr. Moonan abstained.

14-251 Town Manager's Report

Mr. Reed asked the Selectmen to review the Liaison Assignments as they would be finalizing the list at the next Selectmen's Meeting. Mr. Rosenberg stated that the Wilson Dam Committee is no longer in existence and his assignment should be changed to Charter Review.

Mr. Reed presented the Selectmen with a letter from Comcast. At the last Selectmen's Meeting the license renewal for Comcast was approved. There was a minor typo on the letter and Comcast sent a new letter for the Selectmen's signatures with the correction. Mr. Reed also stated that the new letter further clarified the collection of PEG Access fees.

Finally Mr. Reed presented the Selectmen with a letter from Public Works Director Roy Sorensen regarding the property at 285 Great Road. It is the Town of Bedford's desire to widen the roadway from four feet to five feet to accommodate a bicycle shoulder area. Mr. Drucker, the owner of the property, indicated that he would not be willing to make such an accommodation.

A discussion ensued regarding the Town's inability to enforce such requirements as The Great Road is under the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. The Selectmen agreed that while this was not their desired outcome, the decision was final.

14-252 Open Discussion

Mr. Rosenberg asked if the Middlesex Turnpike Phase 3 project was in jeopardy of being delayed. Mr. Reed indicated that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) suggested in a recent meeting that the project could be delayed to Fiscal Year 2018 due to budgetary shortfalls brought about by the Green Line Extension and Route 128 Lane Add Projects.

Chair Fleischman attended an MPO meeting and stated that the Towns of Burlington, Billerica and Bedford strongly urged the Middlesex Turnpike Phase 3 project not be

delayed. Mr. Reed said he would be attending an MPO meeting on Thursday and would report back the outcome to the Selectmen.

Mr. Siegenthaler asked Mr. Reed for an update regarding the recommendation for a design effort at the North Road and Chelmsford Road intersection. Mr. Reed stated that the Town was going to get proposals from other engineers for that project.

Chair Fleischman reminded the Selectmen that the Coast Guard follow up charette meeting was taking place on May 15, 2014.

Chair Fleischman noted that she recently attended the Volunteer Training Session. The issue was raised concerning remote participation at Committee Meetings. Chair Fleischman asked that the Selectmen raise this topic with the Committee Chairs that they are liaisons for. Chair Fleischman also asked Mr. Reed to add this as an agenda item for a future meeting.

Mr. Moonan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.