

**Regular Session Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting  
Selectmen’s Meeting Room, Town Hall  
Monday, March 16, 2015, 7:30 p.m.**

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ben Thomas, Finance Committee; Schorr Berman and Harvey Malchow, candidates for ad hoc Fawn Lake Committee; Arletha Wade, Eversource Energy; Public Works Director Roy Sorenson; Town Engineer Adrienne St. John; Jeff Cohen, Planning Board; Meredith McCullough, The Bedford Citizen; Mary McBride, Bedford Minuteman; Lindsey Bullen, Administrative Assistant; Brian Dorrington, Bedford TV;

---

Chair Fleischman called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**15-219 Oath of Office for Re-elected Selectmen**

Town Clerk Doreen Tremblay was present to administer the Oath of Office to re-elected Selectman Margot Fleischman.

**15-220 Reorganization of the Selectmen- Election of Chair and Clerk**

Chair Fleischman opened the nominations for Chair.

**Mr. Moonan moved to nominate Mr. Siegenthaler as Chair. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion. There were no other nominations.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

Mr. Siegenthaler was elected Chair of the Selectmen by a vote of 5-0-0.

Chair Siegenthaler opened the nominations for Clerk.

**Ms. Fedele made a motion to nominate Mr. Rosenberg as Clerk. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion. There were no other nominations.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

Mr. Rosenberg was elected Clerk of the Selectmen by a vote of 5-0-0.

**15-221 Utility Hearing  
Eversource Energy, 170 Great Road – W.O. #2030988**

**Mr. Rosenberg moved to open the public hearing. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

Arletha Wade was present from Eversource Energy to explain the petition for a Grant of Location for the purpose of installing conduits from manhole #26355 approximately 50+/- feet east of Hillside Avenue thence turning and running northeasterly a distance of about 65+/- feet conduit.

Chair Siegenthaler opened the hearing to the public. No comments were received.

**Mr. Moonan made a motion to close the public hearing. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

**Ms. Fleischman moved to approve the installation of conduits from manhole #26355 approximately 50+/- feet east of Hillside Avenue thence turning and running northeasterly a distance of about 65+/- feet conduit. Mr. Moonan seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

**15-222      Committee Appointment Interviews  
ad hoc Fawn Lake Committee**

Committee interviews for the ad hoc Fawn Lake Committee continued from the previous meeting. Schorr Berman, 100 Sweetwater Avenue, and Harvey Malchow, 9 Alaska Avenue, were the last two candidates to be interviewed.

Chair Siegenthaler asked the candidates what they would like to see as an end product of the Committee's work. Mr. Berman said that he wants to get the full town behind Fawn Lake and what it could become. He believes it is an important resource and could be used year-round. Mr. Malchow explained that he has fished on the lake for 45 years and over the last two years the quality has been poor. He would bring his background as a scientist and 45 years of experience with the lake to the committee.

Mr. Malchow was able to attend one of the previous meetings with the consultant and Mr. Berman is a member of the Friends of Fawn Lake.

Mr. Siegenthaler explained that there are four open positions on the committee and encouraged them to stay involved even if they are not selected since all meetings will be open to the public.

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

**15-223      Appointments  
ad hoc Fawn Lake Committee**

The Selectmen discussed the possibility of increasing the number of at-large members on the ad hoc Fawn Lake Committee so that the committee could best encompass a range of backgrounds and skills since there were so many enthusiastic candidates.

**Mr. Moonan moved to increase the size of the ad hoc Fawn Lake Committee to nine members with six of those being at-large members. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Selectmen individually selected the six candidates they would like to see on the committee. The selections were then tallied and those with the most total votes were appointed.

**Ms. Fleischman moved to appoint Michael Barbehenn, Schorr Berman, Elizabeth Cowles, Linda Oustinow, Bill Simons, and John Zupkus to the ad hoc Fawn Lake Committee for a term ending June 30, 2016. Mr. Moonan seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

**Ms. Fedele moved to appoint Allan Wirth as the Conservation Committee member, Sharon McDonald as the Historic Preservation Commission member, and Margot Fleischman as the Selectmen member. Mr. Rosenberg seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

**15-224 Proposed Amendments to Traffic Rules & Regulations  
Davis & Lane Schools- No Parking & Fire Lanes  
Great Road, Elm Street, & Maple Street Parking Restrictions  
Elm Street & School Way Stop Signs**

Town Engineer Adrienne St. John was present to discuss proposed amendments to the Traffic Rules and Regulations. The traffic management team has been working to update the Town's Traffic Rules and Regulations. Ms. St. John presented the Selectmen with a map showing all the changes that will be made such as restricting parking in some areas, changing some one hour parking to two hour parking, and installing stop signs. Many of the parking restrictions will help make it easier for emergency vehicles to turn.

Ms. Fleischman asked if removing one of the spots in front of the Blake Block affected the parking space counts for the building. Ms. St. John explained that since it is only half of a spot, it was never counted so its elimination has no impact.

Mr. Reed reminded the Selectmen that the Town has a general prohibition from parking within 20 feet of an intersection or within 10 feet of a crosswalk. Changing these areas to no parking and putting up signage or road marking will make it clearer that parking is prohibited.

There was extensive conversation about new parking restrictions at the Lane School and the Davis School. The changes will clear access lanes for emergency vehicles. The restrictions will prevent parking in the access lanes, but would still allow cars to queue up during pickup at the end of the day. The Selectmen were concerned that when large events are held at the school, attendees would have to park far from the schools on surrounding streets.

Ms. Fedele asked if a crosswalk could be created at the Davis School from the lower lot to the sidewalk on the other side because when cars are coming down from the upper lot it is hard to cross the street so people walk up on the side without a sidewalk. Ms. St. John said that is possible.

There was also discussion about the future of parking at these schools and possibilities for expanded parking lots and creating new spaces.

**Ms. Fleischman moved to amend the parking restrictions to reflect the proposed stop signs and the no parking restrictions along The Great Road between South Road and Elm Street, the intersection of Elm Street and Maple Street, and the intersection of Maple Street and South Road as shown on the map and reflected in the revised schedule 1A. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

**Mr. Rosenberg moved to approve the Traffic Rules and Regulations regarding access and parking areas at the Davis School and Lane School amending schedules 1 and 6 effective April 20, 2015. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

**15-225      2015 Annual Town Meeting- Article Recommendations  
Article 9- Additional Alcoholic Beverage Licenses  
Article 13- Proposed FY2016 Capital Projects Plan**

Article 9- Additional Alcoholic Beverage Licenses

Mr. Reed explained that some language has been removed from Article 9 as recommended at the previous Selectmen's meeting. Town Counsel and State Representative Ken Gordon both reviewed the article with the language removed to see if it would be acceptable to the State legislature and agreed that the phrase can be removed. Mr. Reed said that after looking at it further today, he realized the language needs to make the Selectmen authorized to approve amendments that are within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition. That way, if the legislature does identify a change that needs to be made, the Selectmen would be free to approve that and it wouldn't have to go back to Town Meeting to be voted on. Town Counsel and Representative Gordon also agreed that it is an appropriate change to make.

**Mr. Rosenberg moved to recommend approval of Article 9- Additional Alcoholic Beverage Licenses. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

Article 13- Proposed FY2016 Capital Projects Plan

Mr. Reed notified the Selectmen that some changes have been made to the modeling of the Capital Projects Plan for FY16. The School Department's budget is requested at a higher number than what the Finance Committee originally intended. The Finance Committee took a vote that is now in alignment with the School Department's budget vote of \$36,596,578. Because of changes in the forecasted FY16 revenue, the Finance Committee reduced the funds they would like to allocate to the FY16 Capital Projects Plan by \$345,000. Because it would be difficult to decrease by that exact number, the range of \$330,000 to \$360,000 was agreed upon. The Site Lighting Upgrade at Town

Hall/Town Center/Old Town Hall and the John Glenn Middle School is now proposed as bonding. The Town Center Interior Window Blinds and Sabourin Field Visitors' Bleachers are proposed at a reduction. The Security and Lighting Systems, Davis School Building Systems Retro-commissioning, Security System Video Surveillance, and Depot Freight House Exterior Painting are proposed to be delayed till Special Town Meeting in the fall.

Mr. Siegenthaler asked why the bleachers at Sabourin Field would not be bonded whereas the lighting would be bonded. Mr. Reed explained that the lights do have enough of a life span for bonding and the project could be bonded for a short amount of time such as five years. The lighting improvements would offset the cost of the bonding and savings would be achieved right away.

**Ms. Fleischman moved to recommend approval of Article 13- Proposed FY2016 Capital Projects Plan. Mr. Moonan seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

**15-226            Miscellaneous Action Items- One Day Special Liquor Licenses  
                         Catering by Andrew f/b/o Marc Canner at Old Town Hall- 4/9/15  
                         Hostess Catering f/b/o Attitudes Dance at Old Town Hall- 3/29/15**

**Mr. Rosenberg moved to approve the one day special liquor license for Catering by Andrew on April 19, 2015 at Old Town Hall. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

**Ms. Fleischman moved to approve the one day special liquor license for Hostess Catering at Old Town Hall on March 29, 2015. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

**15-227            Minutes  
                         Regular Session Minutes- March 2, 2015**

**Mr. Rosenberg moved to approve the Regular Session Minutes of March 2, 2015 as amended. Mr. Moonan seconded the motion.**

**The motion passed 5-0-0.**

**15-228            Town Manager's Report**

Mr. Reed explained that Bedford Embraces Diversity is having a Multicultural Festival on April 12, 2015. They requested two temporary freestanding signs that have been approved. The group also requested to hang a banner on the police station building, as the event is being held at the high school and the police station is more visible while still being on the municipal campus. The Selectmen agreed that the police station was an acceptable location to hang the banner.

**15-229            Open Discussion and Selectmen Liaison Reports**

Ms. Fedele asked about the current status of the Railroad Avenue shared use path as she had been asked by a local business owner for an update. Mr. Reed explained that the next step in the process is seeing if the State will fund the project if a Complete Streets approach is used. The project is still up in the air because the business community has expressed concerns about moving ahead. After the Selectmen last talked about the path, the staff explored the option of putting the path behind the businesses with the business owners. At the time, the business owners did not like that idea and said they would rather have the shared use path. Since those discussions, the Selectmen have received letters from the businesses that are against the shared use path in the front.

Ms. Fleischman reminded the Selectmen that a letter had been received requesting that election workers be exempt from taking the State Ethics Test online. Mr. Reed said that it will be on a future agenda.

The Town's Associate Assessor has submitted a letter of resignation but will stay through the abatement process. There was discussion about whether the position has a correct salary scale since there has been a lot of turnover in the position recently.

Mr. Siegenthaler attended the Finance Committee meeting on March 5, 2015. The Finance Committee did not take a position on the Petitioner's Article regarding the Cable Television Committee.

Chair Siegenthaler gave an update about the Planning Board's recent activities which included discussion about transportation demand management, potential changes to the zoning bylaws, and new planning board regulations. These changes will help with the implementation of the Master Plan.

Chair Siegenthaler also attended a Conservation Commission meeting. The Conservation Commission is currently making revisions to the conservation bylaw and regulations in order to clarify, streamline, and reorganize the document so that residents can understand it more easily.

Ms. Fedele said that the Zoning Board of Appeals will be reopening the public hearing for Red Heat Tavern and a wider set of abutters were notified this time.

**Mr. Moonan moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Rosenberg seconded the motion.  
The motion passed 5-0-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 pm