



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Date: Monday, July 21, 2014
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
Present: Vice Chair Fritze, Clerk G. Woodbury, Members Stevens & C. Woodbury.
Chairman Pepe was absent and Administrator Gaudette was attending a class.

At 6:04 p.m. Vice Chair Fritze called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

6:05 P.M. Public Hearing: Application on Alcohol License Transfer of Mayank, LLC d/b/a Liquor Barn

The hearing opened at 6:05 pm.

Attorney Demakis of Demakis Law Offices reported he is representing applicants Mayank Patel, future 80% owner and manager of Mayank, LLC and proposed manager of record and Rajeshkumar Patel, future 20% owner, for a License Transfer from Diya Liquors, Inc. d/b/a/ Liquor Barn and Pledge of License/Stock to Rockland Trust Bank in the first position, and the Diya Liquors in the second position. The transfer is being funded through a combination of loans and cash. A packet of documentation was previously submitted along with the application as required by the ABCC and the Town of Spencer.

Selectmen Woodbury asked about the proposed expansion of up to 3600 sq feet as indicated on the application and in the notice. Attorney Demakis and Mayank Patel both stated that is an error and there are no plans or room to expand.

Attorney Demakis pointed out that the TIPS certification has Mayank Patel's name as Matankbhai Patel, which was his name prior to becoming a U.S citizen. Mr. Woodbury asked Mr. Patel to arrange for a new copy with his current name to be sent to the Administrative Assistant.

There were no questions from the public. All paperwork was in order.

At 6:13 pm the hearing was closed.

A motion to approve the License Transfer and Pledge of License from Diya Liquors, Inc. d/b/a/ Liquor Barn to Mayank, LLC d/b/a Liquor Barn, subject to receipt of a new TIPS certification (G. Woodbury/Fritze) passed 4/0.

A motion to approve the Pledge of Liquor License/Stock to Rockland Trust Bank (G. Woodbury/C. Woodbury) passed 5/0.

Discussion: SEBRSD Budget and Special Election Discussion

Vice Chair Fritze reported that the Board will schedule a special meeting after the next School Committee meeting to discuss details relative to questions for a Proposition 2 ½

Override. The District's request is for \$260,502. Mr. G. Woodbury noted they've worked hard to get the number close to the minimum. This new amount must be in the form of an override, otherwise there will be an additional impact to Town services. He said he took offense to statements made that the Board doesn't care about community, noting nothing could be further from the truth.

Mr. Stevens said he is in favor of this number and wants to move forward as a community. A memo from Administrator Gaudette on tax implications relative to override questions for the SEBRSD and the Town was reviewed. The annual tax rate impact would be \$56 for the District Override and \$104 for Town services on the average home valued at \$200,000.

There was discussion on whether the Town amount of \$484,000 should be separate or combined with the District amount. Mr. Fritze prefers to see it as one. Mr. G. Woodbury said that as Selectmen, it's important to stand up and fight for community services. He plans to show his support by participating in the Talk of the Town program and encourages fellow members to do likewise. He wants to have both questions on the Ballot and is not in favor of waiting until the fall for the Town.

Mr. C. Woodbury said he fully supports both the SEBRSD and the Town and pointed out the estimated cost to fund both is \$3.08 per week. He wants to hear from voters and urged them to provide feedback to the Board.

Mr. Stevens wants to separate questions by service in order to provide voters with the option to decide which they prefer. He is opposed to bringing back the number in the original form. He would like to see an analysis of expenses for the remainder of the year and suggests asking for numbers based on the balance. Mr. C. Woodbury noted that either way, the full amount will be needed in the next fiscal year.

Selectmen Fritze said the Board will have a discussion on scheduling a Ballot vote at a future meeting. He offered his thanks to the Administrator and the School Committee for their efforts in reducing the number.

Mary Baker-Wood, 43 N. Spencer Rd., informed the Board that many people did not understand what happened in May with the Library and with the services for the Town. The Library was hardest hit in terms of staffing and it has become a challenge to operate busy library with over 200 people visiting per day and only 2 staff members. There have been issues with threats and certain people have been out of control, getting into potential unsafe territory. There is also an issue applying for State aid and not being in compliance for certification with a \$75,000 shortage in the required number, resulting in the need to apply for a waiver. If a waiver is not granted, the Library will be decertified by the State, something that is very rare and newsworthy. Spencer residents will not be able to use their cards in other libraries. She is urging the Board to place one question on the ballot.

Mary Braney, 15 Pine Acres Rd., urged the Board and Mr. Stevens to respectfully ask voters to reconsider the vote. This will signify the value of the services is so important to the community.

Bob Cirba, 23 Summit St., agreed with Ms. Baker-Wood and Ms. Braney. He said the Board and the Administrator have done a great job, now they need to get out and support it. He would like to see a forensic audit of the school.

The meeting was adjourned 7:12 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie
Administrative Assistant

Referenced Materials

Alcohol Transfer License Application Documents of Mayank, LLC
Administrator's Memo on Tax Implications