



## Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Date: Monday, May 19, 2014  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Place: McCourt Social Hall Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA  
Present: Chair Woodbury, Clerk Stevens, Members Fritze and Pepe, and new member C. Woodbury and Administrator Gaudette.

At 6:04 p.m. Chairman Woodbury called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On behalf of the Board, Chairman Woodbury congratulated Mr. Fritze on his re-election victory and welcomed new member Mr. Chris Woodbury. The Board will reorganize on May 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **Chapter 61A, Section 14: Vote to Exercise Right of First Refusal 26.49 Acre Parcel ID: Map 23, Parcel 41**

Mr. Gaudette reported that property owners Robert and Margaret Moschini would like to convert a portion of land currently in Chapter 61A, from agriculture use to a solar farm. He advised the Board to vote to waive their Right of First Refusal and provided the Board with a letter from Attorney Stoddard, a copy of the purchase & sale agreement and a plan of land. There were no objections from the Conservation Commission.

Property owner Mr. Moschini was present and said he does not intend to sell the remaining land, which amounts to approximately 345 acres. He noted the top soil will not be disturbed by the solar panel installation and as a result erosion control will not be a concern.

Steve Tyler asked if the solar farm will be located near the area the Town is seeking a drainage easement. Mr. Moschi said it will not.

*A motion to waive the Right of First Refusal on a 26.49 Acre Parcel, identified on Assessors Map 23, Parcel 41 (Pep/Fritze) passed 5/0.*

### **Public Hearing-Class II Auto License: Harvey Shine d/b/a/ Small Car Clinic, Inc. 322 Main St.**

At 6:18 p.m. Chairman Woodbury opened the Public Hearing.

The Board reviewed the application for the Class II license and plan of use for 322 Main St.

Applicant Harvey Shine was present. He currently holds two Class II licenses; one at 16 Main St., and the other at 116 Main St. He operates a repair business at 116 Main St. and if approved, intends to relocate that facility to 322 Main St. where he is requesting a license for 30 cars. He plans to continue his license at 16 Main St.

Chairman Woodbury pointed out that George Ragsdale currently holds a Class II license for 322-324 Main St. for 100 cars. You cannot hold two licenses for one address. That license needs to be amended prior to approval for this application. There was discussion on approving contingent upon amending the existing license.

*A motion to approve the Class II license for 322 Main St. for Harvey Shine d/b/a Small Car Clinic, Inc., for 30 cars, contingent upon a letter from the current Class II license holder (Ragsdale), removing 322 Main St. from his existing license (Pep/Fritze) passed 5/0.*

The Board will vote to amend the Ragsdale license after receipt of the letter stating Mr. Ragsdale foregoes use on 322 Main St. The license for Harvey Shine will be issued at that time.

No members of the public wished to be heard. The hearing closed at 6:36 pm.

### **Annual Town Election Follow-up**

Due to the failure of the override for Town Services, proposed FY15 budget reductions in the amount of \$484,000 were reviewed, including:

- Town Hall closing one additional day; it will now be open Monday through Wednesday, with support staff hours being decreased from 36 to 27 per week and eliminating three part time positions; the Building Inspector's hours will be reduced to 19.5
- Police Department overtime for events will be reduced by \$10,000. Parades and events will be impacted. The Celebrations Committee and American Legion need to be notified that as of July 1, they will be responsible for expenses related to police details.
- The library budget was reduced by 25%, which will most likely result in loss of certification. The building will close on Saturdays and for a ½ day during the week and seven part time people will be laid off.
- The gate at Luther Hill Park will be closed to the public. Maple Street School will not be used for a senior center and will likely be sold.
- Fire Department training will be reduced by \$30,000. Without enough money to train for special operations such as water rescue and trench rescue, the department can no longer provide this service or obtain grants. Mr. Fritze noted once you are trained you don't forget and he doesn't see this as an issue. Mr. Gaudette said the Chief is providing information to make everyone aware that without additional training, issues may arise. Chief Parsons will be invited to a future meeting for discussion.

Bill Shemeth, Parks Commissioner spoke about his concerns over not funding lifeguards at Luther Hill Park. He urged the Board to consider the life guard portion of the budget as a public safety item in the future. He noted the Disc Golf Course and Skateboard Park being impacted as well. If the gate is closed, the Town will not qualify for grant opportunities and the budget must be used to fund O'Gara Park. Mr. Shemeth made a donation to Luther Hill Park and challenged members of public to do likewise.

Administrator Gaudette said a Special Town Meeting will be scheduled after receiving the SEBRSD amended budget, at which time, the new assessment will be voted. If it doesn't pass, it will be necessary to move forward with the procedures that took place last year.

### **Transfer Station Updates**

Steve Tyler reported on a proposal for the Transfer Station from We Care in the amount of \$104,000 per year. It includes all truck hauls for trash and two employees on site, 2 days per week. Using this proposal results in a \$13,000 increase over the FY15 budgeted amount. In light of this, he will work towards a contract with Casella.

The Board thanked Mr. Tyler for the report.

Selectmen Pepe asked to add discussion on Chapter 70 to the next agenda.

Chairman Woodbury thanked Selectmen Fritze for working with him to dismantle the Maple Street School playground over the weekend.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie  
Administrative Assistant

Referenced Materials:

Right of First Refusal  
Class II License Application  
We Care Proposal