

IPSWICH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting of Tuesday, February 20, 2018
Ipswich Town Hall, 25 Green Street

Pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §§ 18 - 25, written notice posted by the Town Clerk and delivered to all Board members, a meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 7:00 pm in Meeting Room A.

With a quorum present, William Craft called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm
Selectmen present: William Craft, Chair; Linda Alexson, Edward Rauscher; William Whitmore

Also present: Jim Engel, Interim Town Manager; Alexys Parsons, Recording Secretary

Not present: Nishan Mootafian, Vice-Chair

Abbreviations used: BOS - Board of Selectmen; TM - Town Manager; SC- Search Committee, Electric Light Sub-Committee (ELSC); BOH- Board of Health, SAB – School Advisory Board

Public Information: Agenda; Meeting Packet

Welcome / Announcements: *(Section of video 00:12:53 – 00:16:13)*

A moment of reflection and silence was held for the victims of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shootings in Parkland, Florida.

Linemen who were deployed by the ELD last fall, have been listed as part of an honor roll for all the companies throughout the country that helped in the relief after the hurricanes.

The Town of Ipswich said goodbye to a retired long-time school teacher Cynthia Sirois. Cynthia was a devoted teacher and friend and beloved by all her family, friends and many of her students.

Citizen Queries: *(Section of video 00:16:14 – 00:34:36)*

Lorraine Page, High Street, is concerned about traffic conditions and public safety issues on High Street. Ms. Page had a few suggestions for the Board to consider and recommends that citizen input be incorporated in the study that will be submitted to the state. The process has been started on conducting a study. The Municipal Modernization Act which states “The BOS and other municipal bodies, in interest of Public Safety and without further authority, may establish a speed limit of 25 mph on any roadway inside a thickly settled community or business district in a city or town on any way that is not a state highway.” Police Chief Nikas stated that the Town is only in control of repairs/maintenance and speed limit change will still need to be approved by the MADOT. A District 4 Engineer to get a determination on all speed limits along route 1A. A letter for both North bound and South bound have been submitted to see if speed limit can be reduced.

Phil Goguen, Kingfisher Road, has one request and questions for the Board:

1. Requesting the Board consider Saturday Town Meetings as an article for the May Town Meeting.
2. Mr. Goguen asked Mr. Rauscher about the charter on the meeting minutes; what happens when the Recorder isn't present and minutes have to be produced by the ICAM video; and who has the authority to edit the Board meeting ICAM video. Mr. Rauscher stated as long as the minutes are produced by the Record Keeper and voted on by the BOS, they would be considered acceptable minutes. Mr. Craft stated that the video is not edited before it is made public.

Board and Committee Applications: *(Section of video 1:08:58 – 1:12:42)*

Rita Badami – Council on Aging – New Appointment

Vote: Ms. Alexson moved, and it was seconded to appoint Rita Badami to the Council on Aging. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing: Water & Wastewater Rate Hearing (2 of 2): (Section of video 00:34:40 – 1:08:55)

Mr. Craft read the legal notice.

Vicki Halmen, Water and Wastewater Director, was present to discuss the Water and Wastewater Rate change. Water base rate will increase by 4% for a total of \$8.66 per 100 cubic feet water effective May 1, 2018. This will help support budget and stabilization surplus in the future. Water residential summer rate will increase by 1.5x base rate to \$12.99 per 100 cubic feet water effective from May 1, 2018 to September 30, 2018.

Vote: Ms. Alexson moved, and it was seconded to close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

Vote: Mr. Whitmore moved, and it was seconded to approve the residential water rate. The motion passed 3/1.

Wastewater: Wastewater rate will increase by 8% for a total of \$9.14 per 100 cubic feet water effective May 1, 2018.

Vote: Mr. Whitmore moved, and it was seconded to close the hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

Vote: Ms. Alexson moved, and it was seconded to accept the increase for FY19. The motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation on Town Manager Candidates and Discussion of New Steps: (Section of video 1:18:07 – 1:35:22)

Mr. Whitmore and Bernie Lynch, Search Consultant, updated the Board on their progress with the screening of the new TM candidates. Mr. Whitmore gave a brief overview of each finalist. Mr. Lynch stated that the committee worked diligently in meetings and the next step is for the BOS to determine a date to interview the three finalists. The Board agreed to interview the three candidates on Saturday, March 3, 2018. These interviews are to be recorded for public viewing.

Approval of Shellfish Enhancement Fund FY18 Budget Request: (Section of video 1:35:35 – 1:40:05)

Chief Nikas was present to ask the Board for their approval for the Shellfish Department to expend \$10,000 from the Shellfish Enhancement Fund to continue operating the Green Crab Bounty Program. The “bounty” program pays licensed crab fishermen \$.40/lb for trapped green crabs. As of this meeting, the SAB has only expended \$1040 (for minor improvements to Patterson Landing) while the balance in the Enhancement Fund is in excess of \$22,000.

Mr. Whitmore abstained himself from the vote for a possible conflict of interest.

Vote: Ms. Alexson moved, and it was seconded to approve spending of \$10,000 from the Shellfish Enhancement Fund for Green Crab Program. The motion carried unanimously.

Acceptance of MOU to Join Massachusetts Harbormaster Association Coastal Camera Project: (Section of video 1:40:05 – 1:48:06)

Through Homeland Security, the Massachusetts Harbormasters Association received a grant to camera the entire coastline of Massachusetts for rivers, piers, wharfs, etc. for security purposes and search and rescue operations. These cameras will not have visuals of private property.

Vote: Mr. Whitmore moved, and it was seconded that the Board of Selectmen take a vote to support joining the Boston Port CCTV system and sign the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Ipswich and the Massachusetts Harbormasters Association, Inc. The motion carried unanimously. The Board signed the Memorandum of Agreement.

Discussion of Waste and Recycling: (Section of video 1:48:07 – 3:03:00)

Dave Benedix, Chair of the Waste Reduction Advisory Committee, and Steven Lisauskas, Vice President of Government Affairs from Waste Zero Corporation were present to discuss the Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) approach. Solid waste is an unmetered utility (unlike electricity, water, and other utilities). Metering technology reduced the cost of these different utilities and forced people to manage their usage on their own. Metering trash would reduce the cost and increase the fairness in the system.

Vote: Mr. Rauscher moved, and it was seconded to go with the proposed cuts by Sarah Johnson to fund the shortfall of \$107,000. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: (Section of video 3:03:25 – 3:07:14)

January 29, 2018 – Recording Secretary to make edits

Vote: Mr. Whitmore moved, and it was seconded to accept the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

January 30, 2018 – Tri-Board - For information only, no vote required.

Consent Agenda: (Section of video 3:07:14 – 3:07:29)

One Day Liquor License Application(s):

1. Wine and Malt for Monarch and Rose for a Wine Class at 1 N. Main Street on February 28, 2018.
2. All Alcohol – Appleton Farms for Maple Sugar Happy Hour at Appleton Farms on March 2, 2018.
3. Wine & Malt for Ascension Memorial Church for Fundraiser for Ascension Memorial Church and Open Door Food Pantry at Ascension Memorial Church on March 17, 2018.

Vote: Mr. Rauscher moved, and it was seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented in the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Temporary Town Manager’s Report: (Section of video 3:07:30 – 3:17:43)

Mr. Engel noted that Town Moderator has been looking at venues that seat 1,200 to 1,400 people for Spring Town Meeting.

Verizon is abandoning/no longer supporting a lot of communications within the system.

The Police Station generator needs attention as the generator is unreliable.

New Business: (Section of video 3:17:46 – 3:32:32)

President of Senate and Mr. Baker have approved the charter change stating the TM no longer has to be a resident of Town during the first 3-year contract.

The Dane family are concerned with the increase in student body and encourage the BOS to encourage the School Building Committee and the School Committee to fence the area adjacent to abutters for the school due to a dog.

Vote: Mr. Whitmore moved, and it was seconded to not recommend but forward the potential correspondence request over to the School Building Committee and the School Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

At last week’s Finance Committee discussion of EBSCO train station parking lot proposal, Mr. Gibbs stated “Town Counsel has been at every meeting they have had so far” and Ms. Alexson wants to know what budget is that coming

out and who authorized him to be there. Mr. Engel noted that Town Counsel is paid through a retainer of \$5,000 per month and that he believes that Ms. Crosbie had authorized.

Mr. Rauscher attended a meeting with the Town Planner, Michael Schaaf and Ed Dick about proposed parking structure for EBSCO. Town Planner will begin a process of collecting citizen input on questions/concerns.

Old Business: *(Section of video 3:17:46 – 3:32:32)*

None.

Miscellaneous and Correspondence: *(Section of video 3:17:46 – 3:32:32)*

Emergency Street Opening Permit Request:

From March 15th through December 15th, street opening permits are issued by the BOH and any street opening permits in between those dates is typically not allowed with the exception of emergency situations.

Angelo (?) is seeking a street opening permit for 62 Central Street. An old water line that comes off the water main has to be removed. Suggested to do Thursday 2/22 into Friday 2/23 because of school vacation as the water might need to be shut off.

Vote: Mr. Rauscher moved, and it was seconded to open the trench on Thursday 2/22 evening, put steel plates down, backfill and put pavement back down by end of workday on Friday 2/23, with the understanding from the DPW that if inclement weather is anticipated within 24 hours of when work will be completed, that work not be performed, final paving shall be done at least 90 days from when work is completed, and applicant will be required to check in with DPW before opening of the trench to make sure there are no weather issues. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rauscher moved, and it was seconded to adjourn at 10:26 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by

Alexys Parsons
03.14.18