

IPSWICH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting of Monday, February 26, 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 Monday, February 26, 2018 at 7:00 pm in Meeting Room A.

With a quorum present, William Craft called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm
Selectmen present: William Craft, Chair; Nishan Mootafian, Vice-Chair; Linda Alexson, Edward Rauscher; William Whitmore

Also present: Jim Engel, Temporary Town Manager

Not present: Alexys Parsons, Recording Secretary

Abbreviations used: BOS - Board of Selectmen; TM - Town Manager;

Public Information: Agenda; Meeting Packet

Welcome / Announcements: *(Section of video 00:06:36 – 00:06:40)*

None.

Citizen Queries: *(Section of video 00:06:45 – 00:23:38)*

Mr. Craft received a letter from a citizen concerned about whether residents with licensed dogs were familiar with the bylaw regarding the leash law and how to get the word out.

Phil Goguen, Kingfisher Road, had inquiries concerning the auditors meeting, counsel change and interpretations of “Free Cash” and “Appropriation”. Auditors meeting will be held for further discussion on March 7, 2018 and March 21, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Discussion of counsel change has not been had as of yet. There was no comment beyond common practice regarding Free Cash and appropriation.

Ms. Alexson received many inquiries regarding the new business that will be going in where Marty’s Donuts was located in downtown. Ethan Parsons mentioned that a business cannot go into this location without building permits which have not been sought out as of yet. Cannabis products cannot be sold as sale of marijuana is prohibited in Town.

FY19 Budget Review: Building: *(Section of video 00:23:41 – 00:39:03)*

David Fuller, Building Commissioner, was present to discuss the Building Department budget with the Board. Budget covers operating costs and hasn’t changed much since previous years. Adding funding for Tablets for field research and operation. Permit turnaround time is 10-14 days.

Vote: Mr. Whitmore moved, and it was seconded to support the Code Enforcement building inspector budget proposal as proposed. The motion carried unanimously.

Follow-Up and Adoption of FY2019 Operating and Capital Budget: *(Section of video 00:39:18 – 00:52:30)*

Operating Budget: BOS to finalize decisions to present to Finance Committee for further discussion for different departments’ budgets. Budget is \$19,034,040.00 with \$70,000 confirmed in savings in health/miscellaneous finance. No change to general fund.

Vote: Mr. Rauscher moved, and it was seconded to endorse Operating Budget as presented with municipal government at a target of FY19 budget of \$19,034,040.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Capital Budget: No major changes. Issues in budget that are unresolved and time is needed to fix issues in order to vote.

Pony Express Task Force: (Section of video 00:52:33 – 1:25:10)

Jeff Putur, Superintendent of Cemeteries and Parks, and Beth O'Connor, Open Space Administrator, were present to provide updates concerning the Pony Express (updates are on website). Continuously working with consultants and on schedule for parking and updated irrigation system and is working within budget. Going forward to the Planning Board on March 8, 2018 and Conservation Commission on March 21, 2018 with plans. Athletic fields projected to be up and running by next spring. Build-out estimated to be at \$250,000. Board to determine if existing building to be knocked down for additional parking as well as decommissioning of existing septic system.

Vote: Mr. Whitmore moved, and it was seconded to approve the demolition of the stables at Pony Express and release septic repair escrow funds and decommissioning of septic. Motion failed due to a lack of a majority vote.

Under Discussion: Accurate numbers/information for demolition to be provided for next meeting.

Approval and Signature for License Agreement of Renewal of Agricultural Fields at Pony Express: (Section of video 1:25:13 – 1:27:03)

Renewal of a license agreement that was entered into the previous year. Good for one year and does not require water.

Vote: Mr. Rauscher moved, and it was seconded to execute the contract as presented. The motion carried unanimously. The board signed the License Agreement.

Annual Town Meeting Warrant: Status and Review: (Section of video 1:27:15 – 2:32:18)

Town Moderator looking for venues for an estimated 2,000 attendees at Town Meeting. If a third night is needed for Town Meeting it would be scheduled for Thursday, May 17, 2018. New School article will be early in the meeting and debate will be about an hour.

Mr. Rauscher moved, and it was seconded to strike Article "H" "Sidewalk Debt Exclusion" from the Warrant. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Whitmore moved, and it was seconded to remove the Article "P" "Amend Leash Law" from the Warrant. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rauscher moved, and it was seconded to strike Article "Q" and move to the Fall Town Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mootafian moved, and it was seconded to strike Article "V" "Dedicating Funds for Open Space". The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Murphy notarized BOS signatures.

Approval of Minutes: (Section of video 2:32:19 – 2:33:49)

Set aside for further discussion.

Temporary Town Manager's Report: (Section of video 2:33:51 – 2:41:57)

Mass Housing Partnership has determined the Bruni project is an eligible project.

Staff meeting conducted covering topics such as finishing a water withdrawal application from the state, and communication in Town concerning the leash law. Received suggestions and residents recommend getting the word out about the leash law.

New Business: *(Section of video 2:41:59 – 3:05:59)*

Ms. Alexson proposed to have a discussion on Hammatt Street lot and options for parking needs with Glenn Gibbs. Selectboard have yet to make decisions on a lot. BOS to discuss further at March 19, 2018 meeting.

Old Business: *(Section of video 2:41:59 – 3:05:59)*

Recommendation of a discussion to decide if Kevin Merz should receive a stipend from the sale of a property on Northridge Road. Finance Committee is aware that Mr. Merz receives a percentage of the sale. Recommends getting a list of Town owned properties that were taken for tax titles.

Miscellaneous and Correspondence: *(Section of video 2:41:59 – 3:05:59)*

Interviews for new TM to be held on March 3, 2018. Possible selection of new TM to be held at the March 5, 2018 BOS meeting.

Mr. Rauscher moved, and it was seconded to adjourn at 10:00 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by

Alexys Parsons
03.10.18