



TOWN OF CHARLTON
Minutes of Regular Selectmen's Meeting
Tuesday, August 25, 2020, 6:30pm

Due to COVID19 – meeting held by ZOOM app, video participation:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84775444074>

Submitted by KCT
Date 9/15/20
Received by KL
Date 9-15-20

Present remotely: Chairman – Karen A. Spiewak, Vice-Chairman – Patsy Rydlak, Clerk – Stephen G. Koronis, Members – William Borowski, David Singer and Town Administrator – Andrew Golas.

I. Call to Order:

Chairman Spiewak called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. This meeting is being done by remote participation and all votes will be done by roll call.

II. Consent Agenda / Warrant Approval as Needed

- a. Reading of Agenda
- b. Minutes of Regular Meeting – August 11, 2020. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to approve, seconded by Ms. Rydlak. Roll call vote: Mr. Singer – abstain, Mr. Borowski – aye, Mr. Koronis – aye, Ms. Rydlak – aye and Chairman Spiewak – abstain.**

III. Community Relations, Announcements and Open Forum

- Chairman Spiewak read the announcements.

IV. Appointments/Resignation:

1. Appointment – Auxiliary Police Officer. Mr. Golas stated that attached is a letter from Police Chief Maxfield stating that with the amount of Police Details required in the town, they have determined the need for more Auxiliary Police Officers. They have identified Evan Gaylord as a viable candidate. Mr. Gaylord is a former Charlton Police Explorer, has a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Westfield State University and has completed the Reserve Intermittent Police Academy. He would agree with Chief Maxfield and recommend the board make the appointment. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to appoint Evan Gaylord as an Auxiliary Police Officer, seconded by Mr. Singer. Roll call vote: Mr. Borowski – aye, Mr. Koronis – aye, Mr. Singer – aye, Ms. Rydlak – aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye. Unanimous.**
2. Appointment – Lakes & Ponds Committee. Mr. Golas stated that at the Board's August 11, 2020 meeting, the board re-appointed members to the Lakes & Ponds Committee as recommended by the Pond Association's to the Conservation Commission. On August 17, 2020, the Prindle Lake Association notified Conservation that at their meeting, they voted to rescind the appointment of Richard Landry due to a conflict and are recommending the appointment of Mark Cauley. This Committee works under the supervision of the Conservation Commission but are appointed by the Board of Selectmen. He would recommend the board take the appropriate action and rescind the appointment of Richard Landry and appoint Mark Cauley to the Lakes & Ponds Committee as recommended. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to rescind the appointment of Richard Landry and appoint Mark Cauley to the Lakes and Ponds Committee, seconded by Ms. Rydlak. Roll call vote: Mr. Borowski – aye, Mr. Koronis – aye, Mr. Singer – aye, Ms. Rydlak – aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye. Unanimous.**

V. Scheduled Appointments:

6:45pm – Public Hearing – 508 International, LLC request for Live Entertainment. **Withdrawn.**

6:55pm – Public Hearing – Chapter 61 removal request – Lot 4, 5 and 6 Boucher Road. Mr. Golas stated that attached is a request from Roy C. Gunter, III, Managing Member for Gunter, LLC to remove and sell lots 4, 5 and 6 off of Premier Road and Boucher Drive and convert the usage to residential use. (Assessors Map 40-B-8.14, 40-B-8.31, 40-B-8.15) to Eneas Muniz Dorosario. The Planning Board, Board of Assessors, Conservation Commission and Water/Sewer Commission have all reviewed the request and have no objection to the Town of Charlton choosing not to exercise their right of first refusal for this request. He would recommend the board approve the request. Chairman Spiewak opened the hearing by reading the public hearing notice. Mr. Singer said this street is one of the streets in town that he has personally heard the most complaints about development, wetlands and construction. He asked that all boards keep in mind that this particular street has some very bad history as far as development goes. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to close the public hearing, seconded by Ms. Rydlak. Roll call vote: Mr. Borowski – aye, Mr. Koronis – aye, Mr. Singer – aye, Ms. Rydlak – aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye. Motion by Mr. Borowski to not exercise our right of first refusal, seconded by Mr. Singer. Roll call vote: Mr. Borowski – aye, Mr. Koronis – aye, Mr. Singer – aye, Ms. Rydlak – aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye. Unanimous.**

7:05pm – Planning Board appointments, Full Member and Alternate Member. Ross Lemansky opened the Planning Board meeting. Members present: Don Clay, Jean Vincent and Ross Lemansky. Mr. Lemansky stated that there is a seat vacant and an alternate. They had three candidates for these two seats. They held interviews with two out of three that showed up and are recommending Bill Fontaine to fill the full member seat for one year and Alycia Dzik as the Alternate. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to endorse the recommendations of the Planning Board, seconded by Ms. Rydlak. Roll call vote: Mr. Borowski – aye, Mr. Singer – aye, Ms. Rydlak – aye, Mr. Koronis – aye, Chairman Spiewak – aye, Mr. Clay – aye, Ms. Vincent – aye and Mr. Lemansky – aye.**

VI. New Business:

1. Site Plan Modification Application – Archangel Realty, LLC, Camosse Masonry Supply. Mr. Golas stated that attached is a copy of a request submitted to the Planning Board by Archangel Realty, LLC for site plan modification to construct an additional 3600 sq. ft. dry storage building. The expansion will allow the tenant, Camosse Masonry Supplies to convert outdoor storage area into indoor storage area. The applicant is also requesting a waiver for the requirement of 8 additional parking spaces as part of the site plan modification application. The property is located at 23 Trolley Crossing Road, Assessors Map 34A, Block A, Parcel 1.9 and is zoned Residential Small Enterprise. The Board is asked to review and should you wish to provide any comments, they must be received by the Planning Board no later than September 1, 2020. No comments.
2. Discussion on Police Reform Act. Mr. Singer said the police reform bill is a bad bill. The MMA supported it without asking any municipalities if we support this and many municipalities have already sent letters to the MMA telling them they were not authorized and are not speaking on our behalf. **He is asking this board if the Town of Charlton would join Leicester and other communities in sending the MMA a letter admonishing them for taking a position on behalf of all the towns in Massachusetts without even asking us if we support this or not and made a motion to do so, seconded by Mr. Borowski. Roll call vote: Mr. Singer – aye, Ms. Rydlak – aye, Mr. Borowski – aye, Mr. Koronis – aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye. Unanimous.**

3. South Charlton Reservoir Dam – Abatement Requests. Mr. Golas stated that the repairs and betterment for the South Charlton Reservoir Dam were approved by Town Meeting vote on October 20, 2015. This project was petitioned to the town by the South Charlton Reservoir Association and the Conservation Commission. Town Meeting vote authorized the full amount of the project to be assessed proportionately to those with water frontage (full assessment) and off shore access (half assessment). The total cost of the dam repair project was \$725,000. This cost was authorized to be split between 161 properties with water frontage and 34 properties with off shore access. Property owners charged a betterment may pay the full amount bettered within 30 days with no interest or pay over the term up to 20 years at 3.125% interest. These residents have a right to request an abatement for the betterment for consideration. The following have requested abatements:
 - Allen S. Chin, Linds E. Chin – 315 Partridge Hill Road – 82-D-1.1. The Board of Assessors have recommended denying this request. This parcel is assessed for 1 off shore betterment. Mr. Chin attended their meeting on August 17, 2020 and was in agreement.
 - Michael and Pamela Palermo – 48 South Charlton Shore Road – 83A-D-3. The Board of Assessors have recommended granting the request.
 - Shannon Schipporeit and Greg Schipporeit – 25 Robert Blvd. – 73B-H-3. The Board of Assessors have recommended denying this request.
 - Lori Jacobson Garrity – 73 South Charlton Shore Road – 83A-F-2. The Board of Assessors have recommended denying this request. **Motion by Mr. Singer to follow the Assessors’ recommendations, seconded by Mr. Koronis. Roll call vote: Mr. Borowski – aye, Mr. Koronis – aye, Mr. Singer – aye, Ms. Rydlak – aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye. Unanimous.**
4. Review of Town Counsel proposals. Mr. Golas said that proposals were sent to the board that came in. There were only two. The bid was done through Commbuys and sent to 340 law firms. He sent proposed questions to consider in the interview stage. He is asking the board how they want to handle moving forward. Mr. Borowski asked if we need interviews? He looked through the packet and he is comfortable as is. At the time he was looking to replace Cosgrove and Blatt. Mr. Singer was thinking along the same line. He said it was sent out to 340 law firms and only two replied and one is the incumbent. He would be in favor of interviews if we had a dozen that were competitive. From what he sees, the new one compared to our incumbent doesn’t check any of the boxes. They don’t have the history of the town and they are also more expensive. He doesn’t see any cause personally to move forward. Ms. Rydlak disagrees. She thinks the hourly difference isn’t that big. She has a concern about the quality. Sometimes you need a change. She doesn’t know if interviews are needed. Mr. Borowski said both firms are excellent. Ms. Rydlak said she has a couple of examples of why a change may be necessary however, some may involve executive session material. She doesn’t know if this conversation can go into executive session. Chairman Spiewak said it’s apparent we need to move forward and review the material and meet separately. Mr. Golas said it could be discussed in executive session because it could involve potential litigation specifically with legal matters. Mr. Borowski would like to check on that because we are still talking around professional competency. Mr. Borowski would like this on our next regular meeting.
5. Special Town Meeting – set date / open STM Warrant. Mr. Golas stated that attached is a proposed calendar for Special Town Meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 with the board opening the warrant tonight. We have confirmed the date is available with Charlton Middle School as well as the Town Clerk and Moderator. We have secured the auditorium, cafeteria and parking lot as it is not clear yet what space would be the safest for town meeting due to COVID. He would ask the board to approve the calendar as

submitted and open the warrant for the Special Town Meeting. **Motion by Mr. Borowski to approve, seconded by Mr. Singer. Roll call vote: Ms. Rydalk – aye, Mr. Singer – aye, Mr. Koronis – aye, Mr Borowski – aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye. Unanimous.**

6. Mosquito Spraying Program Discussion – Chairman Spiewak said she put this on the agenda due to a resident's request. Kristin Kustigian said she called the Central Mass Mosquito Program and it's much more than bug spray. They offer eight different services – public education, outreach, ditch maintenance, source reduction, beaver mitigation, adult control and research. The fee is not from a raise and appropriate, it's removed from the local aid. She has an estimate for Charlton for \$112,000 per year. Her main concern would be is there any place in town not eligible? She reached out to the school committee that if the town were to join they would take advantage. It is up to the people. It would have to be a town meeting vote and she just wanted it to be considered. Mr. Borowski reminded everyone that he brought this up before and at that time the Board of Health, Health Director and majority of the former board was not interested in moving forward. He said it's too late for this season. Ms. Kustigian would think May would be good. Ms. Rydlak asked if there's a commitment for a certain amount of time? Mr. Borowski said when he talked to them last year, he thinks it was 2 or 3 years. There are people that are vehemently opposed to this. Mr. Singer said what we learned last time is that this will be less money given to the town and we would have to decide from the board what services to cut. The schools and private fields all said no. We can't just do certain areas. It has to be 100% buy in or the program doesn't work. Ms. Rydlak said let the residents decide. Mr. Koronis asked if Dudley is a participant? Ms. Kustigian doesn't know but she can email the map. Chairman Spiewak would like to know if we are considered a high risk for mosquito borne illness. Does the state spray for free? Ms. Kustigian said that's the state by emergency order and that's an aerial plane. Mr. Golas stated that Sturbridge, Auburn and Webster opted in to the program. Mr. Singer asked if Mr. Golas could find out from surrounding towns if they are looking into it.

VII. Old Business

VIII. BOS Committee Reports

1. Public Safety Building Capital Campaign Steering Committee – Noreen Johnson Smith said we are talking to our neighbors making sure people know that the plans have changed and the funding is being worked on with less cost to the taxpayer. Right now they are just under \$300,000 raised. Mr. Golas said the website is Charltonpublicsafetybuilding.com.

IX. BOS Policy Review

- X. Town Administrator Report. Mr. Golas reviewed his report.

XI. Other Business (unknown at time of posting):

1. Charlton Shared Spaces Application – Planning Board. Randy Benson – Town Planner explained that this is a grant from Mass DOT which is state aid reimbursable program. CMRPC has provided a narrative of the grant. It provides temporary improvements to the town. Ian McElwee from CMRPC was present. He has been working on this grant for the town. Mr. McElwee said this grant is around to allow towns to implement temporary measures which would improve pedestrian and cyclists infrastructure in town as well as provide businesses, schools the extra space to allow for socially distancing operations to happen. The application is open until the middle of September

but they would like to get this in as soon as possible. What they are looking to do is along the Main St. between Masonic Home Road and Burlingame Road, whether there are existing or faded crosswalks, they would be repainting them with temporary paint to provide the brightness so oncoming vehicles could see them as well as signage. Behind the Library they would put a temporary tent and tables so the children can do their schoolwork outdoors. Mr. Borowski clarified that it's grant money and the town won't have to pay. He asked about repair of sidewalks and Mr. McElwee said that doesn't fall under this grant. That would fall under the Complete Streets. The grant if approved has to be implemented by October 30th. Mr. McElwee said they don't need anything from the board, they just wanted to let the board know their intention.

2. Mr. Borowski said we received emails, calls, etc. about a dog incident. He assumes we will be reviewing this soon and he would request for the next meeting. Mr. Golas said we are just waiting for a formal request for a dog hearing on that incident.

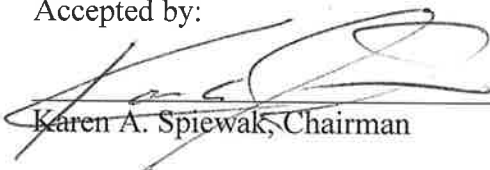
XII. Next Meeting Announcement:

- BOS Goals & Objectives – September 1, 2020 – 6:00pm – Senior Center
- BOS Regular Meeting – September 8, 2020, 6:30pm – Senior Center

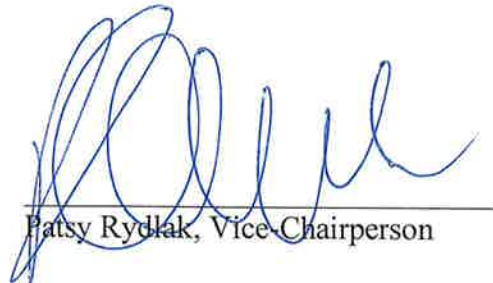
XII. Adjourn: **Motion by Mr. Borowski to adjourn at 7:50pm, seconded by Ms. Rydlak. Roll call vote: Mr. Koronis – aye, Ms. Rydlak – aye, Mr Borowski – aye, Mr. Singer – aye and Chairman Spiewak – aye.**

Submitted by:
Mary C. Devlin
Administrative Assistant

Accepted by:



Karen A. Spiewak, Chairman



Patsy Rydlak, Vice-Chairperson

Stephen G. Koronis, Clerk

David M. Singer, Member



William Borowski, Member



Town of Charlton

OFFICE OF THE
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Andrew M. Golas, Town Administrator

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Andrew Golas, Town Administrator
DATE: August 25, 2020
SUBJECT: Town Administrator's Report – for Selectmen's meeting of 8/25/2020

COVID-19 – As this year has progressed, we have continue to adapt our operational response to the new challenges that COVID-19 has thrown our way. Recent discussion has centered on the reopening of schools. Daily, new guidance is being passed down from the state through DPH and DESE related to the safe reopening of schools and strategies to open to in person instruction. The Board of Health has been busy reviewing and providing comment on re-opening plans for Bay Path and DCRSD to meet the guidance provided by the State.

Additionally, Donna Foglio and I along with members of the Town of Dudley Administration have meet with School Administration regularly to discuss how the implementation of the safe reopening guidance would have an impact on the municipal level. We are working with the Schools to leverage available CARES funding to support their reopening plans. Ultimately, we are hoping for additional federal assistance to address projected gaps, especially operational expenses beyond the December 31st CARES Act deadline. I will continue to keep the Board updated on this matter and will look to have the DCRSD Administration into a future meeting to discuss their reopening plans.

Over the past 14 days, the Town has seen 7 new COVID-19 Cases reported.

EDC – We are beginning the process of seeking individuals to serve on the reconstituted EDC. Today, letters went out to members that served on the prior commission to gauge interest in continuing their service. We will be working to solicit appointments from the boards designated in the revised charge.

Recognition – I would like to recognize the members of the Fire Department, Police Department and DPW who have been busy dealing with damage from recent summer storms. During the passage of the recent tropical storm, there was extensive damage to trees along roadways throughout town. Our departments worked day and night identifying and clearing road hazards as well as relaying priority outages to National Grid.

Additionally, I would like to recognize the members of the Finance Team for their hard work on the FY20 Audit. This year has been especially difficult with the audit being done remotely. Our Team has put considerable time and effort into the process to ensure all necessary documentation is provided in an efficient and timely manner.