

Town of Arlington  
Select Board  
Meeting Minutes

October 28, 2019  
7:15 PM

Select Board Chambers, 2nd Floor, Town Hall

Present: Mrs. Mahon, Chair, Mr. Dunn, Vice Chair, Mr. Curro, Mr. Hurd, Mr. DeCoursey  
Also Present: Mr. Chapdelaine, Mr. Heim, Mrs. Krepelka

1. Introduction: Acting Assistant Town Manager  
Ray Santilli

Mr. Santilli served for many years as the Assistant Town Manager in North Andover and recently retired making him available for this temporary position. Mr. Santilli will be working 30 hours a week and focusing on public records request management and responding to resident's requests for service.

2. Introduction: Dwi Jayanthi and Jolly Nguyen, U.S. State Department Young Southeast Asian Leadership Initiative Fellows (YSEALI)

Mr. Chapdelaine introduced Dwi and Jolly to the Select Board from Southeast Asia for a month long fellowship in sustainable international development. Jolly is the founder of a social enterprise called Education for Vietnam Organic Lifestyle and Dwi's interest is in the intersection of environmental issues in journalism. The Town is excited to host them and welcomes them.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

3. Minutes of Meetings: September 9, 2019; October 7, 2019
4. Request: Permit for Veterans' Day Parade, Monday, November 11th  
Jeffrey A. Chunglo, Director of Veterans' Services
5. For Approval: KENO License  
Arlington American Legion Post 39, 307 Massachusetts Avenue
6. Reappointments: Zoning Board of Appeals  
Patrick Quinn (term to expire 10/1/2022)  
Christian Klein (term to expire 10/1/2022)
7. Request: Special (One Day) All Alcohol License, 11/1/19 @ Robbins Memorial Town Hall for 'AYCC Gala Fundraiser'  
Colleen Leger, Arlington Youth Counseling Services

8. Request: Special (One Day) Beer & Wine License, 11/9/19 @ Whittemore Robbins House for a Private Event  
Pamela Price
9. Request: Special (One Day) Beer & Wine License, 11/23/19 @ Arlington Catholic High School for '2nd Annual Rinaldi Fundraiser'  
William Callahan

Mr. Dunn moved approval subject to all conditions as set forth.

SO VOTED (5-0)

### **7:15 p.m. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

10. Eversource Petition/Summer Street  
Jacqueline Duffy, Supervisor , Rights and Permits  
(all abutters notified)

Ms. Duffy, on behalf of Eversource, requested installation of 72 feet of conduit on Summer Street. This work is necessary to provide electric service to 483 Summer Street.

Mr. Curro moved approval subject to all conditions as set forth.

SO VOTED (5-0)

### **LICENSES & PERMITS**

11. For Approval: All Alcohol Package Store - BB Liquors  
BB Powers Corporation, Niles K. Patel Owner/Manager, 1215 Massachusetts Avenue  
Attorney Mary Winstanley O'Connor  
(tabled from 9/9/19 meeting and 10/7/19 meeting)

Attorney O'Connor appeared before the Board accompanied by her client Niles K. Patel. She stated that the Board was in receipt of a more refined and revised interior floor plan as well as the outside façade. Attorney O'Connor also stated that she had spoken with Mr. Byrne, Director of Inspectional Services, and came to an agreement that no special permit is needed because the use of the property remains the same. In regards to the parking spaces located behind the building, Attorney O'Connor stated that these spaces are not legal in accordance with the zoning bylaw. The Board was in agreement that the lack of legal parking spaces is not an issue.

Mr. Curro moved approval subject to all conditions as set forth.

SO VOTED (5-0)

12. Response to Petition Regarding Police Lieutenant Richard Pedrini  
Adam W. Chapdelaine, Town Manager

Mr. Chapdelaine spoke regarding the petitions submitted by residents concerning Lieutenant Pedrini. His response the petitions are as follows:

- Develop and announce a plan for repairing community trust by November 1, 2019. –  
**Using the report compiled by the Consensus Building Institute as a guide, we plan to hold a series of community meetings in order to develop and continue the restorative process for Lt. Pedrini with the community and targeted groups. I have spoken with one facilitator and would like to speak to a few more before formally announcing the format of these meetings. Currently, I would like to have the first of**

this series of meetings scheduled to be held before the end of November. Additionally, in line with CBI's recommendation to develop additional structures, policies, and actions for the Town to ensure that Arlington and its employees live up to the values and aspirations of Arlington residents, we are planning to update the Town's Employee Handbook so that it includes a "Code of Conduct".

- Restrict Lt. Pedrini to desk duty while this plan is developed. – Chief Flaherty holds the right of assignment for police personnel, but we have both agreed that due to the sensitivity of this matter, that we will confer before any changes to Lt. Pedrini's assignment are made. Correspondingly, we are both in agreement that Lt. Pedrini will remain in his current administrative assignment until further notice. If at some future point we decide to change his assignment, we commit to doing so transparently.
- Work with an impartial, racially diverse, third-party organization to conduct a review of the APD and assess the presence of bias within the department. – We are committed to doing this and Chief Flaherty has two proposals from two different firms that we are now assessing. We hope to have a firm selected and a contract awarded within the next two weeks.
- Based on the assessment findings and third-party recommendations, develop a plan for ongoing cultural competency and anti-racism training within APD. – We are absolutely committed to doing this as it is both appropriate and also a continuation of trainings that former Chief Ryan and now Acting Chief Flaherty have conducted for the Department.
- Develop a plan for the establishment of a racially and class diverse Civilian Review Board. –It is my opinion that it is generally not the Town Manager who tells a community how to govern itself from a structural point of view. That said I, would be happy to facilitate a process of considering such a proposal if brought forth by the community.

Elizabeth Dray, 130 Jason Street spoke in regards to Mr. Chapdelaine's response to the petition and thanked him for hearing and acting on their concerns.

Mr. Dunn moved approval.

SO VOTED (5-0)

## **CITIZENS OPEN FORUM**

Except in unusual circumstances, any matter presented for consideration of the Board shall neither be acted upon, nor a decision made the night of the presentation in accordance with the policy under which the Open Forum was established. It should be noted that there is a three minute time limit to present a concern or request.

Bob Radochia, 45 Columbia Road, agrees with Mr. Chapdelaine and supports his plan to move forward regarding Lieutenant Pedrini. Mr. Radochia is speaking on behalf of many Arlington citizens that don't agree with what is being said by others in Citizens Open Forum. He feels that these people unfairly criticize the entire police department while addressing comments about one officer in the department. Mr. Radochia looked into the circulating citizens' petition and found more than 300 names not listed in the 2019 Arlington True List. He stated that there are many other serious police problems that need attention in the town.

The following residents spoke in regards to Mr. Chapdelaine's response to the petitions regarding Lieutenant Pedrini:

Lynette Culverhouse, 24 Draper Ave; Elizabeth Dray, 130 Jason Street; Beth Melofchick, 20 Russell Street; Steve Moore, 64 Peidmont Street

Adam MacNeil, 19 Melrose Street, announced that many precincts have scheduled fall precinct meetings. Mr. MacNeil stated that this information is available on the Town website under Envision Arlington.

Sally C. resident and representative of the buildings located at 840-846 Massachusetts Avenue as well as 17 Newman Way spoke on behalf of the residents who live in the buildings. She stated that they are coaches as well as teachers of Arlington Public School students, as well as volunteers promoting food equity and food security through work in the volunteer garden among many other things. The building that they are located at is under new ownership where they fear for their housing. Historically the 60 unit building was naturally occurring affordable housing; however some of the residents have been living with lout leases for 3 years now. The new owners of the buildings are known for purchasing multi-family buildings and evicting tenants and raising rent which is causing concerns to these residents.

## **TRAFFIC RULES & ORDERS / OTHER BUSINESS**

13. Mugar 40B Application Update  
Douglas W. Heim, Town Counsel

Mr. Heim briefed the Board that the Housing Appeals Committee reached the decision in our long standing 1.5 % safe harbor litigation. Mr. Heim stated that he provided the Board with a copy of the decision from the DHCD as well as the objections to the decision as it was initially proposed. The decision continues to have some serious disagreements about how to read statutes and regulations together. Mr. Heim stated that the Zoning Board of Appeals needs to reconvene within 30 days of the decision being made by the Housing Appeals Committee, the applicants

have asked for an adjournment of the hearing scheduled October 29<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Heim expects the adjournment to be sometime in December.

Christian Klein, Vice Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals appeared before the Board and thanked them for reappointing him. He noted that he was not representing the Board, but there to find out the status of the Mugar Application.

The Board thanked Mr. Heim for the update.

Mr. Dunn moved receipt.

SO VOTED (5-0)

14. Discussion & Approval: Authorizing Town Manager to Sign On to Statement to Massport & FAA

Adam W. Chapdelaine, Town Manager

Mr. Chapdelaine stated that Medford, Somerville and Cambridge released a statement to Massport and the FAA saying that they want the planes moved to several new directional patterns. After this release many concerned residents reached out to Mr. Chapdelaine and Mr. Curro asking if they would sign on to this. Mr. Chapdelaine called the Mayor of Medford's office who was already planning to invite Arlington, Belmont, Watertown and a few other communities to sign on. Mr. Chapdelaine would appreciate the Board's authorization to sign on to this.

All members of the Board are in support of the Town Manager's decision to sign on to this.

Mr. Curro moved approval.

SO VOTED (5-0)

15. Discussion: High School Borrowing & Potential Impacts on MWRA Debt Shift

Adam W. Chapdelaine, Town Manager

Mr. Chapdelaine is looking for feedback the Board may have before finalizing what the borrowing will be. Mr. Chapdelaine invited Deputy Town Manager Sandy Pooler to speak on this matter.

Mr. Pooler presented and explained a document showing what the annual debt payments would be on two different scenarios for selling debt for the High School, either \$58,000,000 or \$80,000,000. The Board and Mr. Pooler engaged in a discussion regarding his report.

Mr. Curro moved receipt.

SO VOTED (5-0)

### **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

16. Dockets for ZBA Hearings  
Christopher Loreti via e-mail

17. Petition to Make Wellesley Road 'One Way' During School Drop Off Hours  
Wellesley Road Residents

Mr. Dunn moved to refer Wellesley Road Petition to TAC.

SO VOTED (5-0)

Mr. Dunn moved receipt of "Correspondence Received."

SO VOTED (5-0)

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. DeCoursey stated that this upcoming Friday night is the AYCC Gala honoring Carly Newell. The AYCC Gala is a big fundraiser to show support for the great work they do. Mr. DeCoursey

would also like to congratulate Lauren Sweetser from our office who recently married Michael Costa wishes them well.

Mr. Hurd would like to congratulate and thank everyone that put on the spooky walk at Menotomy Rocks Park on Saturday.

Mr. Curro would like to congratulate our Animal Control Officer Diane Welch who was recognized as the Animal Control Officer of the Year for the State.

Mrs. Mahon suggested having Diane Welch appear before the Board to recognize her recent accomplishments.

Mr. Curro moved to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.

SO VOTED (5-0)

Next Scheduled Meeting of Select Board November 4, 2019

A true record attest

Marie A. Krepelka  
Board Administrator

10/28/19

Agenda Item	Document Used
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