

Selectmen's Meeting
April 30, 2012
4:00 pm

A meeting of the Board was held on the above date in the Fred B. Morgan Jr. Meeting Room, Town Hall. Members present were: Michael J. Donaroma, Chairman; Margaret Serpa; and Arthur Smadbeck. Also present was Ms. Pamela Dolby, Town Administrator.

At 4:00 pm Mr. Donaroma opened the hearing for a street license for MV Excursions. Present was Suzanne Bennet, owner/operator.

Ms. Bennet explained that she is not asking for downtown. Her operation is made up of two vans of which one is handicap accessible. Her business is mostly a charter business, but she is applying for an open space at the ferry terminal in Oak Bluffs to do ticketed tours and needs a street license to do so. She is only asking for Beach Rd., West Tisbury Rd., and Upper Main Street west of West Tisbury Road. She has no intention at this time of coming downtown with the ticketed tours.

Mr. Smadbeck stated that these were all state roads and saw no problem with it. He asked Police Chief Tony Bettencourt what his opinion was.

Chief Bettencourt replied that he did not have any problems with the roads requested.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to approve the request. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Donaroma then opened the annual Taxi Meeting. Present were: Melaney West, Stagecoach Taxi; Colin Butler, Adam Cab; and John Klingensmith and his wife Rita, Jon's Taxi. Also present for the meeting was Police Chief Tony Bettencourt.

The meeting was brief. The taxi companies had nothing they wanted to discuss and the Chief had no issues to raise.

Mr. Donaroma stated that this was a good thing. Everyone was getting along well and providing good service. He wished everyone a good summer.

Mr. Donaroma then recognized Chief Bettencourt who wanted to discuss alcohol policies in town.

Chief Bettencourt stated that he had been giving some thought to the mad rush to get people out of the bars after last call. He has spoken with several of the bar owners about if and he would like to try a new approach and give the bars an hour after last call to close so that people could trickle out and perhaps things could be more orderly and relaxed. After a lot of research, he would like to try to keep the bars open until 1:30am with last call still being 12:30am throughout July and August.

Ms. Serpa suggested ending on Labor Day weekend.

Chief Bettencourt thought that was a good idea.

Ms. Serpa moved to approve extending the open hours on a trial basis starting July 1 and ending the Sunday of Labor Day weekend. Mr. Smadbeck seconded. Unanimous.

Chief Bettencourt then asked if they could try something else for the week of 4 of July. He proposed pushing the closing time to 2am and last call to 1am for Wednesday July 4th through Saturday July 7th. This would still keep the time between last call and closing 1 hour.

Ms. Dolby stated that she must have misunderstood their previous discussion and thought it was going to be like New Years Eve and have last call at 1:30am and close at 2am.

Chief Bettencourt replied that he would like an hour to clear out, but would compromise with 45 minutes so last call would be 1:15am.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to set the closing time at 2am and last call at 1:15am for July 4th through July 7th, 2012. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

Ms. Dolby stated that the establishments did not have to participate but that it would give them the option and could give them a boost to business and may be good for the town.

Mr. Donaroma then opened the continued hearing from the previous week for the transfer of liquor license from Nectar's to Flatbread. There had been a question of business hours. Present were Atty. Howard Miller and President of Flatbread Company Jay Gould. Atty. Miller stated that there had been discussion and that Flatbread would like to keep the same hours that Nectar's had.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to approve the transfer of license. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

Ms. Dolby stated that the process was moving forward on the Warren House. She would like a formal vote to go for the highest price and to proceed.

Ms. Serpa moved to go for the highest price and to proceed with the process. Mr. Smadbeck seconded. Unanimous. Ms. Serpa then abstained from the next item.

Ms. Dolby stated that the O'Neil property on Upper Main St. had submitted a plan to Highway Superintendent Stuart Fuller and it showed parking spots on town property. The plan was going before the Land Use Planning Committee at the MVC and Mr. Fuller wanted guidance as to what the Board wanted.

Mr. Smadbeck stated that there were no parking spots in the original plan, just a service road and that is all they have approval for.

It was agreed that Mr. Fuller should let the MVC know that all the Board has approved is a service road and that the Board had no intention of approving parking spots. Ms. Serpa returned to the meeting.

Ms. Dolby stated that the VTA was taking over the operation of the Visitor's Center and had issued an invitation for bids on the retail portion of the building. Big Dipper had won the contract and they would be operating a store and possibly ice cream. The Post Office will still operate as usual.

Ms. Dolby then stated that the Board had received a booklet of road issues on Chappaquiddick from Dick Knight. They forwarded it to Stuart Fuller, Highway Superintendent.

The Board appointed Bob Clay to the Housing Needs Study Committee with Sherry Purdy as alternate until the task was finished.

The Board received a letter from the Wastewater Commissioners stating that they were eager to adopt the Munis billing system.

The Board concurred with two bills for the Affordable Housing Trust from the Water Department and Kelleher Plumbing.

The Board approved the following items:

Travel Vouchers: 2 for the Police Department and 3 for Wastewater.

A One Day Liquor License for the Firemen's Monthly Meeting and Dinner May 3rd.

Yard Sale Permits for Scarlet Blair and Jen O'Hanlan.

A Block the Sidewalk Permit for Ryan Cabral in front of Mad Martha's on North Water St. for three days within May 1-11.

Common Victualler Licenses for: Fresh Pasta Shoppe, Edgartown Seafood, Edgartown Deli, and Edgartown Meat & Fish.

The minutes of April 23, 2012.

The Board signed the Seasonal Liquor License for The Main Street Diner.

The Board extended all appointments that expired 4/30/2012 to May 7, 2012.

Ms. Serpa moved to adjourn at 4:34PM. Mr. Smadbeck seconded. Unanimous.

Approved:

Michael J. Donaroma, Chairman

Margaret E. Serpa

Arthur Smadbeck
Board of Selectmen

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Rose
Assistant