

Selectmen's Meeting
February 19, 2019
4:00 pm

A meeting of the Board was held on the above date in the meeting room of Town Hall. Members present were: Margaret E. Serpa and Arthur Smadbeck. Also present was Town Administrator James Hagerty.

At 4:00pm Ms Serpa opened the meeting and the first item on the agenda which was a public hearing for Eversource to run conduit and cable to 17 Town Lot Road. She read the notice aloud and recognized Ms. Jessica Elder, Right of Way Agent.

Ms. Elder presented the project.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to approve the project with notification to the Water Department of when they will start. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

Ms. Serpa then moved on to the next public hearing for Eversource to run conduit and cable under the road to serve 39 6th Street and read the notice aloud.

Ms. Elder presented the project.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to approve the project with notification to the Water Department of when they will start. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

Ms. Serpa then moved to the next public hearing for Eversource to run conduit and cable under the road to serve 75 Edgartown Bay Road and read the notice aloud.

Ms. Elder presented the project.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to approve the project with notification to the Water Department of when they will start. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous.

The Board set an Eversource public hearing for 89 Pilgrim Rd. on March 11, 2019 at 4pm.

The Board then approved the following items:

For the Terrace to be allowed to remain closed and reopen on March 14, 2019.

For Soigne to close from March 1st to April 1 for seasonal maintenance.

For Edgartown Meat & Fish to close from February 19th to March 4th for seasonal maintenance.

Commitments and Abatements for the Harbor Master Department.

One Day Liquor Licenses for the Firemen's Association for their monthly meetings in March, April, May and June as well as their 4th of July gathering.

A Lodging House License for Edgartown Commons.

Common Victualler Licenses for the Wolf's Den and Murdick's Fudge and Café.

A Transient Vendor License for Lulu Lemon.

A Used Car Dealer License for Cars Unlimited.

To accept the resignation of Cathy Case from the Board of Health and send her a letter of appreciation.

For Michael Carroll to block a parking spot with a dumpster for construction at 76 N. Water St.

Ms. Serpa then moved on to the next item on the agenda which was the Housing Bank. Present was MacKenzie Brooks and Peter Vincent.

Ms. Brooks stated that they are before the Board with their petition articles.

Mr. Smadbeck stated that understands there will be a public forum in March. He has some questions and some serious reservation. He asked what an MHT was that was referenced in the legislation.

Ms. Brooks responded that it references the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust. They would have oversight. In Edgartown's instance it refers the Edgartown Affordable Housing Trust (EAHT).

Mr. Smadbeck questioned the word oversight.

Ms. Brooks responded that the EAHT has to approve projects in town.

Mr. Vincent added that it was similar to the Land Bank Advisory Board.

Mr. Smadbeck clarified the MHT was not the CPC?

Mr. Vincent replied that the CPC is not involved.

Mr. Smadbeck asked about the deed restrictions. He did not believe you could just deed restrict any property. It needed to be low income or affordable.

Ms. Brooks stated that the "spirit" of the legislation is to create more affordable year round housing. Her group feels it needs to be addressed more robustly. She didn't know the answers to the questions.

Mr. Smadbeck stated that he feels this just creates a new bureaucracy for affordable housing that doesn't even reference the word affordable.

Ms. Brooks stated it was year round housing. Middle income housing is a big problem.

Mr. Smadbeck stated that it was not fiscally prudent to promise funds out of the Short Term Rental (STR)tax when they don't know what the income will be and have many other commitments that need to be addressed. For example he used the OPEB debt. This goes in with the hotel tax which is already part of the budget, if the town does not double the income, because this petition asks for 50%, the money will come out of already committed funds.

Mr. Hagerty called it a \$1 million gamble.

Mr. Smadbeck stated again that this is not fiscally prudent. The STR is brand new and no one knows what the income will be. It is too soon. The Town does a lot of affordable housing projects and funds it through the CPC and EAHT.

Mr. Vincent responded that they don't want the money to be applied anywhere else.

Ms. Chris White, member of the Affordable Housing Committee, asked how the town knows how many short term rentals there are.

Mr. Smadbeck responded that they don't. They must register with the State Department of Revenue.

Ms. White asked about how the town knows how much they will bring in? She then asked about this Housing Bank. What was the budget, staffing and costs?

Mr. Vincent responded that would be set up by the Housing Bank Commission.

Mr. Smadbeck responded to her first question that the town doesn't know. Everyone is working on estimates and there is nothing solid. The town needs solid numbers.

After some more somewhat heated discussion that went around in circles, the Board thanked them for coming.

Mr. Hagerty reminded everyone there would be a listening session on March 13th at 6pm in the Library meeting room.

The Board then recognized Ms. Juliet Mulinare, Procurement Officer.

Ms. Mulinare was in about the Town Wharf Committee. They would like to accept a bid from Childs Engineering Corps for engineering services for the next stage of the restoration project. The total is \$97,350 and would include engineering, initiate the permitting process, construction estimates, and bidding process.

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

The Board then made the following appointments:

Catherine "Betsy" Buck as interim ACO with a start date of February 8, 2019.

CPC Evaluation Committee: Mark Hess for Affordable Housing, Chris Scott for HDC, and Bob Avakian for the CONCOM.

To appoint Kim Lucas to the Employee Hiring Committee.

At 4:50 PM Mr. Smadbeck moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Serpa seconded. Unanimous

Approved:

Michael J. Donaroma, Chairman

Margaret E. Serpa

Arthur Smadbeck
Board of Selectmen

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Rose
Assistant

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