

CHARLEMONT SELECTBOARD
NOTICE OF MEETING
Monday, April 22th, 2024, 6:30 pm
Via Conference call and in person, Town Hall Meeting Room

Members in attendance: Jared Bellows, Valentine Reid, Bill Harker

Others in Attendance: Phoebe Walker, Meg Ryan, Steve Thayer, David kong, Doug Telling, Esther Haskell, Malcolm Haskell, Scott Sullivan, Sarah Reynolds, Star Atkeson

Valentine Reid called the meeting to order at 6:30

Appointments:

6:30 PM- Pheobe Walker and Meg Ryan RE: Age Friendly Community next steps

- The pair went over page by page, the emailed presentation of the Age and Dementia action plan.
- Charlemont is working on participating in Mass DOT's shared streets.
- Charlemont plans on getting feedback form their elderly population for the project at the fairgrounds.
- The board was told that FRCOG got a transit ambassador that shows people how busses work. They are unsure if the person will come to Charlemont. The dial-a-bus service was successful. People need the information; they are not aware of the services available to them.
- Detached ADU's came up. Currently Charlemont **allows attached ADUs**, but not detached.
- "LifePath home share" matches young people with older people and helps with home repair. Val would like more information on those programs. Val would like to gather info on all programs and help available to allow people to age in place. Oftentimes there is a septic problem to be mitigated.
- Meg shared info that there is Dementia training and anti-age bias education, as well as technical assistance with the built environment. There is a checklist that she can share.
- There is a senior tax work off program where seniors can do some work in exchange for some tax payment. Phoebe asked if Charlemont had adopted that part of State Law.
- They talked about elder abuse and what reporting is being done and to whom. Nurses are not checking in with police, but Police do report to elder protective services. It seems that there used to be a lot more knowledge about who was dealing with what and people would check in on elderly people more. Right now there isn't a sure system to make sure people's needs are being met during power outages, for example. Hawley and Heath have a great system. Triad used to provide a list of elder's needs to the sheriff. Jared said the list was vital during the hurricane in letting services know what they people might need. Bill said that people can really change quickly and need to be checked on regularly.

6:50 PM –Ben Duga RE: Appointing James Galeas to the Police Department

Duga introduced Galeas to the Board. Jim Galeas would be the 7th patrol officer. Galeas spoke of his background and experience: Springfield park Ranger; West Side Sheriff's Department; Deployed 2008-2009; 2010-2011 back in Sheriff's Dept; On Hamden Police Dept since 2016; Also a chiropractor.

Val asked if he had issues with the use of force they should know about. The answer was no, told of successful de-escalation experience in the military.

Valentine Reid Motioned to appoint James Galeas to the position of patrol officer. Bill Harker seconded the motion. Jared Bellows abstained. All those voting were in favor.

7:00 PM - Pursuant of the provisions of M.G.L c.138, the Charlemont Select Board will hold a public hearing on an application for an all alcohol, package store license submitted by AL Avery GS LLC, 127 Main Street Charlemont.

- Val opened the hearing at 7:00 and read the hearing notice.
- Esther and Malcolm Haskell attended the hearing. They think another location for alcohol in the center of town is not a good idea. People have problems with alcohol, and it may bring in more disruptive behavior. They also think it will change the character of the store.
- David Kong answered that the store is in trouble, and he had heard from McCusker's in Shelburne Falls, that they had been losing money until they got a liquor license. H answered some of their other concerns. Asked by Valentine Reid, David Kong confirmed that in a previous liquor store that he had owned 14 years ago, he had a 2-month suspension for an employee selling to a minor who had used a fake ID.
- Store hours will be from 8AM-6 PM in the Summer it will be from 7AM-7PM.
- Sarah said that this was the last of an *all-alcohol package store* permit.
- On the application, there was a typo that needs to be corrected. It should say off premises, not "on" premises.
- MGL Chapter 138 section 16C requires they make a statement that the proximity to Hawlemont will not be detrimental.

Valentine Reid moved to approve the liquor license for Avery's. Bill Haker seconded the motion. All in favor.

Valentine Reid Motioned that the application needs to be amended to read "off-premises" Jared Bellows seconded the motion. All in favor.

*****the meeting is running long — items that are not time sensitive will be pushed to the next meeting.***

Administrator reports:

****1) Warrant Articles for town meeting update.**

2) Long Bridge project layout of roadway

Needs to be plotted out to do the easements.

Valentine Reid motioned to accept the project Bill Harker seconded it, All in favor.

3) Grant updates for South River Road Bridge

Valentine Reid motioned to accept the update. Bill Harker seconded it. All in Favor.

4) Tax Title Taking question from owner's relative about purchase of 8A Sherman Property

The property was taken for taxes. A relative came forward may want to purchase the property. For @\$60,000. It is more than the tax title option because of clean up. **Valentine Reid motioned to accept the offer if they pay all back taxes. Jared Bellows seconded, All in favor.**

Agenda items:

****1) FY 25 Budget review latest draft**

****2) Confidentiality Agreement from Great River Hydro.**

****3) Selectboard Annual Town Report Submittal**

****4) Transfer Station Lease Agreement renewal with Shelburne.**

5) Police Detail Rate Policy

Vehicle Rates: currently the GSA rate is \$10 an hour. It sits and idles, which is wear and tear. Val did math calculation pin to mileage reimbursement (.63 a mile) which will reflect actual cost of the cruiser. It comes to \$40 an hour.

Detail rate: The Board decide on \$60, as other towns have it.

Valentine Reid Motioned to endorse the police vehicle and detail rates. Bill Harker seconded the motion. Jared Bellows abstained. All those voting were in favor.

Unforeseen in the last 48 hours, Bill Harker asked Officer Ben Duga where police cruiser is at night.

Duga is driving it to and from his house as he is on call for many shifts, he discussed with Chief Pelletier and liaison Valentine Reid, and it was decided that it was in the best interest of the town that he have the cruiser available to him. He is paying for the gas.

6) Citizen Petition for Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

Re: Palestine. It doesn't need to be voted on, it will go on, it has 10 signatures.

7) Highway Budget discussion about number of employees and cost.

Sarah made a sheet of General Fund Budget breakdown; the highway employee budget has been underfunded since FY16. They have consistently been relying on the end of year transfer. HWY is currently a man down. The seasonal person is acting full time. Jared felt strongly that the people that are hands-on and know what they are doing should be the ones doing the administrative work in the department. Scott is doing a lot of the Chapter 90 paperwork and helping with the preparing the bridge projects. After discussion, Val said that when he goes to the Fin Comm meeting, he will not support officially changing to a 3-person crew. After all the bridge work is doner they can re-evaluate.

8) Rural School Support Letter from Jay Healy

Valentine Reid Motioned to approve and sign the letter. Bill Harker seconded it. All in Favor.

Approve/sign/approve and sign:

1) Payroll PR2439,2440 and Vendor AP 2441, 2442 warrants

Valentine Reid made a motion to approve and sign the vendor payroll. Jared Bellows seconded, All in Favor.

2) Minutes from March 25,2024, and April 8,2024

Valentine Reid motioned to accept as written. Jared Bellows seconded. All in favor.

2) One day alcohol license for Stars and Stripes Car Show, Berkshire Brewing Company

Valentine Reid motioned to approve and sign the liquor license. Jared Bellows seconded. All in favor.

4) Class II license application from JS Rae Leasing LLC – Review Documents and set up hearing, letter for used equipment sales

Rae wants to display 1-2 vehicles; store 1-2 and no other unregistered vehicles. Wants to sell used equipment as well.

Valentine Reid approve Joe Raes class II license as regulated under the existing Special Permit in its entirety. Bill Harker seconded it, All in favor.

Valentine Reid motioned to Adjourn at 8:25 PM seconded by Jared Bellows

Documents viewed at the meeting

Age and Dementia Action plan

Proposed article for Charlemont town meeting, RESOLUTION Supporting a permanent ceasefire and preventing further loss of human life in Gaza. May 24

Letter dated April 10 from the SelectBoard to Representative Michlewitz

Email correspondence dated March 26, 2024 Sarah Reynolds and Phoebe Walker re: meeting for the age friendly communities plan

One day Liquor License to Berkshire Brewing Company for 7/6/2024 at Charlemont Fairgrounds

Application for the one day Liquor license for the car show dated April 4, 2024

General Fund Budget breakdown

Legal description and map GCG Associates, Inc. April 9, 2024 for the 2024 West Hawley Road layout relocation

Transfer Station Lease agreement

April 8, 2024 Minutes

March 25 Minutes