



Board of Selectmen Ware Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Meeting Room

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Selectman Carroll, Selectman Desmond, Selectman Fountain, Selectman Whitney, Stuart Beckley, Mary Midura, Stanley Ciukaj

Absent: Selectman Talbot

Meeting Opened by Chairman Carroll at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Carroll requested a moment of silence to honor Anthony J. Krasnecky who worked for the Ware Water Department for 27 years and passed away January 22, 2017.

Opening Remarks, Announcements, and Agenda review by Chair - none

Consent Agenda

- **Approval of Meeting Minutes of January 24, 2017 and July 12, 2016, July 26, 2016, August 9, 2016, August 23, 2016, and September 6, 2016**

Selectman Desmond moved approval of the above minutes; Selectman Whitney seconded. The motion passed on a vote of 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Selectman Talbot).

Comments and Concerns of Citizens

Cathy Cascio questioned when the Blight Designation would be discussed; Mr. Beckley confirmed that this will be on the agenda of February 21, 2017. Ms. Cascio questioned the status of the South Street School; Mr. Beckley confirmed that no action has occurred, some use of building for storage only. Ms. Cascio noted a past gentleman who proposed renovation for condos for sale; Mr. Beckley confirmed that this proposal was never submitted to the town. One proposal from HAP and two single-family offers were all rejected. Ms. Cascio stated she would speak to a realtor.

Scheduled Appearances

- **7:05 pm Public Hearing: Gabryel Narutowicz, Inc. for Change in Beneficial Interest, Change in Officers/Directors**

The Board of Selectmen noted the presence of Stanley Ligawiec, president and manager of Gabryel Narutowicz, Inc.

Selectman Desmond moved approval of the application of Gabryel Narutowicz, Inc. for Change in Beneficial Interest, Change in Officers/Directors; Selectman Whitney seconded. The motion passed on a vote of 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Selectman Talbot).

Old Business - none

Town Manager: *Stuart Beckley*
sbeckley@townofware.com

New Business

- **Approval of One-Day Liquor License for St. Mary's Church, Saturday, February 25, 2017**
Selectman Desmond moved approval of the license; Selectman Fountain seconded. The motion passed on a vote of 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Selectman Talbot).

- **Approval of One-Day Liquor Licenses for Workshop 13, Friday, February 17, 2017 and Sunday, February 26, 2017**
Selectman Desmond moved approval of the license, pending department approvals (received); Selectman Whitney seconded. The motion passed on a vote of 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Selectman Talbot).

- **Review of License #29 JHN Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Snow's Restaurant**
Selectmen reviewed a memo from Mary Midura, Executive Assistant to Town Manager, and a draft letter to the licensee that has been reviewed by Attorney Wojcik. The licensee will be given fourteen (14) days to pay all outstanding licenses, fees, and outstanding real estate taxes to the Town of Ware. If not paid by February 24 (certified letter mailed February 10, 2017, delay due to snowstorm on February 9, 2017), the Board of Selectmen will REVOKE liquor license #29 JHN Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Snow's Restaurant. Town Manager Beckley noted that Attorney Wojcik may be asked to research revocation due to the felony conviction of the licensee.
Selectman Whitney moved to approve mailing of the certified letter to the licensee and also to ask Attorney Wojcik to research revocation due to licensee conviction; Selectman Fountain seconded. The motion passed on a vote of 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Selectman Talbot).

- **By-Law Study Committee per Charter**

Mr. Beckley noted that the last page of the Town Charter calls for a By-Law Study Review Committee. The goals of the By-Law Study Review Committee would be to review all town by-laws, submit a report with recommendations to the Board of Selectmen, and, upon approval and completion, post all by-laws on the website of the Town of Ware. Interested residents who would like to serve on this committee are encouraged to submit a letter to the Town Manager's office.
Selectman Desmond moved approval of the By-Law Study Review Committee; Selectman Whitney seconded. The motion passed on a vote of 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Selectman Talbot).

Town Manager Report

Mr. Beckley noted that his assistant, Ms. Midura, has drafted the 2016 Annual Report of the Selectmen. Selectman Whitney moved approval of the 2016 Annual Report of the Selectmen; Selectman Desmond seconded. The motion passed on a vote of 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Selectman Talbot).

Mr. Beckley noted that the new mower for the Parks Department has arrived. The Infiltration and Inflow study of the sewer system is commencing. Ware is a Green Community with an initial grant of \$169,000 for energy saving projects. The WBCA Bass Fishing Tournament will be held on July 22, 2017. This is a unique and exciting opportunity for the Town of Ware and Quabbin Reservoir. Registration begins in March. Town departments have submitted their budgets for review and the budget will go to the Finance Committee by March 1, 2017. The Quaboag Connector vans are on the road and there is a need for drivers and riders. A Verizon presentation to town department heads and unions regarding GPS in town vehicles was held last week. Cost would be \$85 per vehicle installation, with \$14 per month per vehicle charge. The town would need this in 20 town vehicles.

Town Manager: Stuart Beckley
sbeckley@townofware.com

Selectman Desmond requested a representative of Holyoke Community College attend an upcoming meeting to report on the college's activities and class offerings. Mr. Beckley noted that he could request Ms. Sheila Cuddy to return to speak to the Selectmen.

Selectman Desmond questioned the current system of town vehicle use. Mr. Carroll noted that the GPS system would have built-in alerts. Selectman Desmond stated that the system needs to be monitored. Mr. Carroll stated that five communities in the area already use this system. Selectman Whitney noted that the review process should also outline rules and consequences.


Cathy Cascio further questioned the status of the building which had Otto Florists; Mr. Beckley noted that the owner was paid \$700,000 and the property is on the market. Ms. Cascio questioned the status of the Hitchcock building; Mr. Beckley noted that the town has cut ties with the owner and there will be no grant. Selectman Desmond noted that the sidewalks are not maintained.

Ms. Cascio questioned the grants awarded to the Ware Fire Department; Mr. Beckley explained that the department is up to full staff of sixteen (16) firefighters plus Chief and Deputy Chief. The newer SAFER grant covers two firefighters.

Selectman Desmond noted that a critical review of all departments must be done. Selectman Whitney noted the budget process does that review with the full budget picture. Selectman Desmond questioned the process and priority given to road repairs. Mr. Beckley noted that the Board of Selectmen adopted policies of percentage and capital improvements of \$3million were approved at town meeting. Selectman Desmond questioned the high cost of health insurance; Mr. Beckley noted that the Insurance Advisory Committee does address this issue with all unions.

Selectman Whitney moved to Adjourn Regular Session at 7:46 p.m., to move into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a) #3, To Discuss Strategy with Respect to Litigation, NOT TO RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION; Selectman Fountain seconded. The motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Selectman Talbot):

John E. Carroll	Yes√
John A. Desmond	Yes√
Michael Fountain	Yes√
Alan G. Whitney	Yes√
Nancy J. Talbot	Absent

Attest: 
Mary L. Midura, Executive Assistant