

TOWN OF SEABROOK

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

JULY 10, 2023

Srinivasa "Ravi" Ravikumar
Theresa A. Kyle
Harold F. Eaton
William M. Manzi, III

Ravi opened the meeting at 9:00AM.

NEW BUSINESS LICENSES

Beach Deck Bar & Grill - Joe & Grace Saffie were present and spoke to the business.

MOTION: Ravi To approve and sign the
Second: Theresa A. Kyle business license.
Unanimous

Shore Point Technology - Greg Raso was present and spoke to the business.

MOTION: Ravi To approve and sign the
Second: Harold F. Eaton business license.
Unanimous

MONTHLY MEETING - FIRE CHIEF

Fire Chief William Edwards was present for his monthly report (see attached). Mr. Eaton commented on how important it is for community involvement and he thanked the Chief and his department for the hard work they do in this area.

There was a discussion on the number of engine runs. Mr. Manzi said there are quarterly anomalies, and they will probably see a shift in the engine runs for next quarter. There was discussion on how the ambulance runs and engine runs related to each other. The apartment complexes are considered residential but if they were to take those calls out of the equation the number would probably change significantly. Mr. Eaton stated he is interested in knowing how many service calls are put into these large apartment complexes for public safety.

There was discussion on employee injuries and how long the employee may be out of work.

Mr. Eaton asked if they could monitor the incoming calls for apartment complexes to get an idea what the calls coming in are for in this area. Chief Edwards said it is for a wide range of services. He said the most common age group for ambulance service is 60+ years. He would need to look back to see what types of calls they are receiving for ambulance and engine

service calls. Ravi said it is good to know the types of calls that are coming in to better manage the services and costs to the residents.

Fire fees were distributed to the board. The board commented they would take some time to review the list of fees. Chief Edwards went over the fees they currently charge and the ones they should look at. Chief Edwards commented that they are always looking at ways to do their job more efficiently.

Chief Edwards said 2 employees are out with injuries currently. He feels the injuries have continued to increase every year, but it is hard to determine what may or may not happen and the level of the injury.

There was discussion on the number of hours an employee is paid for when they are called back to the station. There was discussion on the increase in calls for service with limited manpower that has not increased and with that employees are breaking down and more injuries are happening. There was discussion on the call volume compared to surrounding towns. It was stated we are a busy community that is a border town and people come to spend money and they have accidents and need service. Seabrook goes out with 3 employees on a call for service where other communities go out with 5-7 employees. Our employees are doing the same work with less manpower.

PREVIOUS MINUTES - MAY 1 NON-PUBLIC, JUNE 12 PUBLIC AND JUNE 19 PUBLIC

MOTION: Ravi To adopt the minutes of
Second: Harold F. Eaton 5/1 non-public, 6/12
Abstain: Theresa A. Kyle public & 6/19 public.

WATER SERVICE APPLICATIONS

BG Corey Landscaping LLC. - 319 NH Route 286
Bruce Brown - 35 Norman Road
Jean Drive NH LLC. - 32&36 Jean Drive
Cote & Foster Cont. - 312 Atlantic Avenue

MOTION: Ravi To approve and sign all
Second: Theresa A. Kyle water applications.
Unanimous

SEWER SERVICE APPLICATIONS

BG Corey Landscaping LLC. - 319 NH Route 286
Jean Drive NH LLC. - 32&36 Jean Drive
Cote & Foster Cont. - 312 Atlantic Avenue

MOTION: Ravi To approve and sign all
Second: Theresa A. Kyle sewer applications.
Unanimous

ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT

Red's Kitchen & Tavern - July 25 2PM - 10PM

MOTION: Ravi To approve and sign the
Second: Harold F. Eaton entertainment permit.
Unanimous

DPW FEES

Mr. Manzi said they have submitted an increase in fees for cemetery plots. Mr. Starkey said that full burials are at about 35% where cremations are up to about 65%. There was discussion on who handles the burial of cremated remains and in Seabrook most of them are done by DPW employees and no fee is charged. Mr. Starkey recommends the board adopt the fee schedule (see attached) that is charged by Charles Hayes for cremations.

Ravi stated the last time they met on fees Mr. Brown was present and spoke as to how the land was given to the town for burials especially for the "poor" so they could have a place to bury their loved one. These fees would only be for the cost incurred for the actual burial not the plot.

The board agreed to take this into consideration during the overall fee discussion.

Mr. Starkey presented the fees that they charge at the transfer station (see attached). He said compared to Georgetown, MA that has privatized the transfer station we are much lower in fees. Mr. Manzi said he did provide a memo to the board that includes the existing fee structure. There was discussion on the Freon charge to be removed from items and that cost is about \$7-8.

WATER & SEWER PRICING UPDATE

Mr. Manzi said he would be providing a report to the Board and should be a discussion item on the next agenda.

RFP 2024 TOWN WIDE REVALUTION

Ravi gave an overview of the discussion the Board has had regarding revaluation based on areas they felt needed adjustments. The board is looking for a statistical update and that means some of the issues in the existing assessment would not get carried over and not everyone would be able to challenge the assessed value. Mr. Manzi said he doesn't feel they need to do a full measure and list as it would be more costly. He

suggested bringing the winning bidder to a meeting and have them give an opinion on the need for a full measure and list.

MOTION: Ravi To approve the RFP with
Second: Harold F. Eaton minor edits to bring it
Unanimous current.

TOWN PIER PARKING - TRUCK & TRAILER PARKING ONLY

Mr. Eaton had a conversation with a town fisherman who couldn't be here today but has provided a statement that he read (see attached). Mr. Eaton said he is asking for the parking spots for truck and trailer parking be reserved for commercial fisherman only. Mr. Eaton feels his request is honorable as he is providing for his family and relies on this parking area to do so. Ravi said the first 6 parking pots are clearly marked and easily identified and would like to keep them this way. He said what Dwight Souther is asking for is a distinction for commercial fishermen and this should be discussed.

Police Chief Brett Walker said that if it is not properly marked, they wouldn't be ticketed. He said it comes down to a policy decision of the board. Mrs. Kyle said a prior board voted to keep those spots for the fishermen and the other parking spots were for town residents who had boats. She said they had instructed the police department to ticket anyone who violated the policy. Ravi said he is in agreement of making them all for the fishermen but if the signage is not accurate, they need to correct it so there is no confusion. Chief Walker said if there is signage in front of the space that is sufficient. Mrs. Kyle said the enforcement has not changed they have been through this with 2 previous boards, and it was voted on by both boards.

John Starkey said he has heard from a couple of commercial fishermen that said some are taking up 2 spaces and they would like to see those ticketed as well as they are ruining a space for someone else.

Deb Lima spoke and said on June 18 employees from the Tuna Stryker received tickets for parking in resident only parking spots as it was not properly noticed. She also indicated the website is not clearly updated. Chief Walker asked her to see him after the meeting about the tickets they received. The board asked that all spots be clearly marked for truck and trailer parking.

Chief Walker said he would go and review the area and signage with John Starkey. The board would like to have a report back as to what changes were made. Ravi asked if the agents issuing tickets could count how many spots are being used and at what time of day, they could review the data.

Mr. Eaton commented that parking for the fishermen is going to be based on which fishing season they are in. He said there may be times when spots are empty but then full especially say during tuna fishing season.

ANDOVER STREET RIGHT OF WAY DISCUSSION

There was a letter submitted to the town by Sergio Bonilla on behalf of the town before permitting takes place in this area. Mrs. Kyle said they had a meeting with a previous board that Sergio Bonilla was in attendance for, Sergio Bonilla denies he attended. Mr. Bonilla said restoration of the dune grass would be better served by removal of the tree, but it is up to the board. Mrs. Kyle said they had already voted to not remove the tree.

Mr. Eaton said there are pine trees to the north and south of this location. He said they do choose to remove the trees they are setting a precedent and someone else can come in and ask to remove those trees that are located in the sand dunes where they are considered non-native species. Ravi commented that if someone comes to the board and requests to remove a non-native species and is willing to incur the cost, they should consider the request. He said otherwise in the future it could be an expense to the town.

Mr. Eaton said he is trying to understand how they came to such a drastic change from the meeting. He said he did some research, and this tree has shallow roots which could potentially spiral into something completely different. Ravi commented that what has changed since the meeting is that the residents have come before the board and the owners on the south and north side of the walkway have asked to remove the tree and they would incur the cost for removal and restoration of the dune. These are benefits to the town and he feels that it made sense to bring it forward for further consideration.

Len Ichtou - asked if the dune is a better property with or without the tree. Sergio Bonilla said the dune would not be for planting trees if they were building a dune. It would be a better vegetation and protect the environment from erosion and the tree would have no value to this.

Doris Sweet - said the eastern red cedar is native but the Australian pine is not. She said the owners were not concerned with that when they were using 3000ft. of town owned property. Sergio Bonilla replied about the trees and said he was referring more to the eastern red cedar.

TOWN POLICY - HAWKERS & PEDDLERS

Mr. Eaton commented he did not have prior information or knowledge as he was not on the board, so he went and did some research. He met with different department heads, one being John Starkey who had valid concerns with vendors in this area. John Starkey would be okay if the vendor were to provide their own trash receptacle and dispose of the trash. He met with the fire chief who had no concerns or complaints prior to this. Mr. Eaton met with the police chief who had no incidents with this area and vendors, however, he asked they not be located near the entrance or exit of this area for safety. Mr. Eaton said based on this information and after speaking with some residents he feels this is something they should look at changing as there is really no impact. He would be in favor of accepting this if they had a policy set in place limiting the number of vendors. He also does not want to see a food truck and they should take it on a case-by-case basis.

Mrs. Kyle said she is in favor of supporting the policy set by the previous board. She said a business owner came to a meeting and spoke for over 45 minutes and now is in favor of supporting this vendor. The north side of the parking is owned by the state, but the state has left maintenance and control of this area to Seabrook. She said this is not a hot dog cart, it is larger than what was previously there, and they lack sufficient parking and have had numerous complaints.

Ravi said his position has always been that they are elected by Seabrook residents, and they are here to serve them. When they come and make a request it is up to the board to do what they can to support the request and if they need to put provisions around it, so they don't affect the other residents. He said they can establish a fee to level the playing field with other local businesses. Ravi is in support of the recent application with strict provisions in place and if they violate those provisions the license would be revoked.

Mrs. Kyle said she is not in favor of this application as it is incomplete. Ravi disagrees and said if the father is running this business with help from his teenage son he doesn't feel the son needs to complete a background check. Ravi said they can put a size limit on the vehicle.

Mr. Eaton said the applicant did go on social media and bash him but when he took his oath, he said he wouldn't make decisions on personal preferences but would base his decision on what is good for the community. Although the applicant did do all of those things, he can't base his decision on that.

MOTION: Harold F. Eaton To approve the application with strict provisions.

Mrs. Kyle stated she is not basing her decision on what was said by the applicant but rather on what was previously voted on and upholding that decision based on complaints received.

Second: Ravi To add the vendor be responsible for trash, adhere to 20X10' in size, no overnight, no blocking of entrance and exit and no driving vehicle.
Opposed: Theresa A. Kyle

MUNICIPAL REGISTRATION AGENT MOTOR VEHICLES & BOATS

This is for new town clerk Shayna Merrill and Ravi read the letter (see attached).

MOTION: Ravi To approve and sign the appointment.
Second: Harold F. Eaton
Unanimous

PRESENTATION OF ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Mr. Manzi presented the org chart that he completed through Visio. There was discussion on the part time hours allowed by the Obama care mandate. Mr. Manzi said in line with this org chart they have also put forth Bamboo software to manager HR functions which will include the job descriptions. It was stated that no employee currently holding a position will be affected by any certifications or education that may be needed to perform the job function they are currently holding.

Ravi said they need to schedule a meeting to discuss the fees. Mr. Manzi said if the board is meeting next week, they would need a non-public session to set the rules for negotiations. Mrs. Kyle said they changed the meeting from 9AM to 9:30AM and Mr. Manzi indicated he missed it this week.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Len Ichtou - spoke to his request for removal of the tree. He said when he arrived at his home the dunes were under restoration to bring it back to its natural habitat. Once they realized this was happening, they felt it was great and they would now have a view. Then the trees were introduced to be removed with costs being borne by the property owners. The trees were planted for someone's own personal interest, and they are now requesting removal of the trees for their own personal interest. He doesn't quite understand the outcome. He hopes they will look at this again and if it means removal of the root system so be it. This will help the residents of the town with future needs. He feels like it was a quick decision and wasn't done objectionably or fairly.

Joe Guiffre - said he understands the concern and how it started but then morphed into something more. He said the dunes protect the town from the wind and water.

Ravi said he attended a planning board meeting and was just normal course of business and he will be attending the meeting this evening for the planning board.

Next meeting is Monday, July 17 at 9:30AM.

MOTION: Ravi To adjourn the meeting
Second: Theresa A. Kyle at 12:43PM.
Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 12:43PM.

Minutes taken by Kelly J. O'Connor.

Approved and endorsed:

Harold F. Eaton,
Clerk

Date: _____