

**Minutes of the Waterbury Select Board
Special Meeting
May 22, 2017
Steele Community Room**

Present: C. Viens, D. Schneider, M. Frier, J. Brown, M. Metayer, Select Board; B. Susman, Health Officer; W. Shepeluk, Manager.

The chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Agenda

J. Brown made a motion to approve the agenda and M. Frier seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

D. Schneider made a motion to approve the consent agenda. M. Metayer seconded the motion. W. Shepeluk recommended taking the request for the liquor license for the Blackback Pub off the consent agenda as more information is required that may be available at the end of the meeting. The Board agreed and the motion to approve the consent agenda included only the minutes of previous meetings. The motion was approved 5-0.

Public:

No public was present to make comment.

Public Health Concern

W. Shepeluk and B. Susman presented information to the Board about a public concern that has been raised about rats that may be infesting a property on Stowe Street. Shepeluk reminded the Board about the Health Order that Steve Simoes, former Health Officer, issued in 2014 for this same problem area. Shepeluk and Susman have been consulting with an attorney about the present issue. To effectively move forward it may be necessary to go to court to get warrants to allow a search inside the property. Given that this property is owner-occupied and no tenants are involved makes this situation more complicated. The Board suggested getting information from state agencies, including the Health Department and more information from the neighbors and from site visits. Until better information is obtained about the potential and likelihood for a public health risk that is associated with the presence of these rats, the Board will move slowly. Shepeluk explained, however, that there was an obligation to protect the public and while this proposed investigation and information gathering was a wise choice, it needs to be completed in a relatively quick timeframe. If the evidence gathered indicates a potential public health risk, a Health Order should be issued as quickly as possible once that determination is made. The Board agreed with the Manager's sentiments. No action was taken by the Board.

Waiver of Field Fees

The Manager informed the Board of an e-mail exchange between Deb Fowler, Recreation Director and Denise Goodnow, Principal TBPS concerning field use fees for the school's "Field Days" event, of which three are planned-June 14th, 15th and TBA. The Board discussed the fact that it recently stated that no fees should be waived. D. Schneider brought up the impracticality of one government, local taxpaying organization billing another similarly funded organization. The issue that children from Duxbury also attend the school came up. This caused a concern to the board as a whole. M. Metayer suggested a "half fee for school uses like this". After much discussion, D. Schneider made this motion: The town will waive the fees for "informal weekday use" of the fields by a Waterbury based municipal, taxpayer funded organization. The motion was seconded by J. Brown. During discussion, all agreed that this motion was intended to allow this Field Days use by TBPS, an event that happens during school hours. It was not intended to waive fees charged to schools when they reserved fields for interscholastic team sports-practices, games, meets or matches. Pool fees will still be charged to TBPS if the school reserves it for

year-end parties, etc., to cover expenses, including lifeguarding. The Board voted in favor of the motion 3-2, with Viens and Metayer opposed. In explanation of their votes Viens stated that “there is a cost to allowing these special events and all users should pay”. Metayer said that he “supported the sentiments expressed by the majority, but he felt a reduced fee was a better option”.

Expansion of Liquor License

Town Clerk, Carla Lawrence sent a message explaining the request for expanding the space covered by the liquor license that had previously been issued to the Blackback Pub, LLC. As the restaurant is expanding into the space formerly occupied by another tenant, this request is a required formality to allow the sale of alcohol in the entire space, including the new space. M. Metayer made a motion to allow the liquor license to be effective for all the space that will be occupied by Blackback Pub, LLC. J. Brown seconded the motion and it passed without dissent.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn (Metayer/Schneider) was approved at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Shepeluk, Municipal Manager

Approved on: June 5, 2017