



TOWN OF ROCKLAND

Board of Selectmen

Town Hall
242 Union Street
Rockland, Massachusetts 02370

Telephone: 781-871-1874

Fax: 781-871-0386

Chairman:

Edward F. Kimball

Vice Chairman:

Larry J. Ryan

Selectmen:

Michael P. Johnson

Korey M. Welch

Michael P. Mullen, Jr.

Town Administrator:

Allan R. Chiocca

Executive Assistant:

Susan M. Ide

Open Session Minutes of October 4, 2016

SELECTMEN'S MEETING Tuesday October 4, 2016 @ 7 p.m.

H. BERNARD MONAHAN MEMORIAL ROOM
TOWN HALL, 242 UNION STREET
ROCKLAND, MASSACHUSETTS

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE MOS

Chairman Kimball read:

The audience, participants and general public should be aware that any and all portions of this open meeting may be recorded by audio and video resources. All or some of this meeting may be rebroadcast periodically by WRPS or other outlets. Persons wanting a DVD copy of this meeting should contact WRPS or the BOS office. A small fee will be charged.

1. OPEN FORUM

~School Superintendent Alan Cron informed the BOS that Rockland has been selected for a senior site visit to review the potential for the submission to the Massachusetts State Building Authority (MSBA) for the possible construction of 1 or 2 elementary schools in Town. The Jefferson and Memorial Park Schools are in need of replacement in the near future. Representatives of the School and Town will meet with officials on November 9, 2016.

MINUTES

2. Minutes of September 20, 2016

~Motion to approve by Mr. Ryan, 2nd by Mr. Mullin, passed 4-0-1(Johnson).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. Announcement of Rail Trail Grant

Mr. Chiocca announced Rockland has been awarded a \$50K grant to pave a section of the Rail Trail, build a kiosk, and address a drainage issue near West Water Street. The paving will include the section from Route 139 to Howard Street.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Community Development - Wayne Darragh, Community Opportunities Group

-Dave's Pizza

-Mr. Darragh requested the BOS approve the sign design for 440 Union St. as submitted

~MOTION to approve by Mr. Ryan, 2nd by Mr. Mullen, passed 5-0.

-G.A.R. Hall Waiver Request

-Mr. Darragh requested the BOS waive the 25% contribution requirement for the GAR Hall rehabilitation project.

~MOTION to approve by Mr. Mullen, 2nd by Mr. Johnson, passed 5-0.

5. Town Clerk Donna Shortall

-Election, Voting Hours and Warrant

TA Chiocca read the November Election Warrant

~MOTION to approve the Warrant by Mr. Johnson, 2nd by Mr. Ryan, passed 5-0.

Town Clerk Shortall discussed early voting procedures, voting hours, and the process to verify voter registration.

-Updates in the Town Clerk's office:

**Census forms
Dog licenses & Top Dog Contest
Emergency special needs
Event calendar**

Town Clerk Shortall discussed each of the above items with the BOS including, changes to the usual Census forms and announced the new policy for issuing Dog Licenses.

Town Clerk Shortall also outlined the survey for persons with emergency special needs so that the Emergency Management Office can develop a strategy for addressing those needs in the event of an emergency.

She also outlined changes in the Community Event Calendar.

6. Union Point Update -Kelli O'Brien McKinnon & Tom Henderson

Ms. O'Brien-McKinnon and Mr. Henderson updated the BOS on recent developments at Union Point. The BOS discussed progress and the need for water and sewer services at the site to increase development in the future.

7. Request to establish 40R Committee

TA Chiocca outlined the need for a 40R Committee and asked the BOS to approve the establishment of the committee and to request volunteers apply for appointments at the next meeting.

~MOTION to approve by Mr. Welch, 2nd by Mr. Johnson, passed 5-0.

8. Community Initiative Grant-Energy Saving Opportunities for Rockland residents

TA Chiocca discussed the CIG with the BOS and asked if there was an interest in trying to pursue energy saving initiatives for residents throughout the Town.

9. Community Electricity Aggregation Program

TA Chiocca discussed the benefits of Community Aggregation and shifting everyone in Town using electricity to the vendor selected by MAPC, which could save residents \$60.00 on average from their current electrical bill. Resident could “opt out” and select their own electrical supplier. The BOS expressed interest in further review and examination. TA Chiocca will invite Good Energy representatives to a future meeting.

10. National Grid Meeting- Update on gas leaks, street lights and double poles.

-TA Chiocca discussed his meeting with National Grid representatives regarding progress reducing natural gas leaks in Rockland. Rockland had been listed as a top ten community with leaks in the Eastern Massachusetts area. Leaks have been reduced by a third and National Grid is continuing to work with the Highway Department to fix leaks.

-TA Chiocca discussed the ongoing investigation to buy Rockland’s street lights from the utility company and replace them with LEDs.

-TA Chiocca discussed the continuing issue with double poles which involves National Grid, Verizon, Rockland Fire Department and Comcast. The principal hold up has been Verizon which is still behind by 97 poles and will try to speed up their action on the double poles.

11. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

Announcements for:

~Meat Raffle to benefit RHS Band, Chorus and Music – Thursday, October 6, 2016

~Police Department Open House – Saturday, October 8, 2016

~Fire Department Open House – Saturday, October 15, 2016

~MAPC South Shore Downtown Revitalization Conference - Tuesday October 25, 2016

~Capital Planning Committee Vacancies

~Spring Town Meeting Schedule

~Town Hall Hours - September through June

SELECTMAN'S COMMENTS

Chairman Kimball read:

Comments and opinions expressed by individual members do not necessarily reflect the views of all of the BOS and are the opinions and comments of only the individual member.

Mr. Mullen -Voiced his opposition to Ballot Question 2 and his concern for the loss of revenue to the Town public school system.

Mr. Welch -No Comments

Mr. Johnson -Asked for support for the High School hockey team and cheerleading squad. They are hosting a joint fundraiser on October 22.

Mr. Ryan -Urged residents to apply for the Capital Planning Committee
-Expressed pride that Rockland is one of the first communities to include a community health component to its Housing Production Plan.

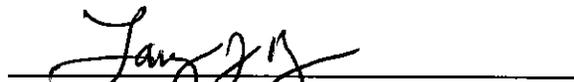
Mr. Kimball -Urged everyone to vote at the upcoming November election.
-He is excited about the prospect to review the elementary schools.
-Asked the townspeople to consider supporting the Community Preservation Act at the elections.
-Again urged volunteers to apply for committee vacancies.
-Please fill out the emergency information forms when they arrive.

MOTION to adjourn by Mr. Ryan, 2nd by Mr. Mullen, passed 5-0

Meeting ended at 8:35 P.M.



Allan R. Chiocca
Town Administrator


Larry Ryan, Vice-Chairman
for the Rockland Board of Selectman

The listings of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.