

Members present:     John W. Hadley                     Christopher A. Rucho  
                          Kevin M. McCormick                 Patrick J. Crowley  
                          Siobhan Bohnson

Mr. Hadley convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**Read and acceptance of Minutes from Previous Meeting:**

Motion Mr. McCormick to approve the regular session meeting minutes of January 20, 2016, seconded by Mr. Crowley, all in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Consider voting to appoint the following election officials for the March 1, 2016 Presidential Primary: Warden – Karen Paré, Clerk – Barbara Deschenes, Deputy Clerk – Mary Ellen Cocks

Motion Mr. Rucho to approve the appointment of the election officers, seconded by Ms. Bohnson, all in favor.

2. Consider approving the hiring of Trevor Macneil as a full-time dispatcher effective January 25, 2016 at Step 1, \$15.23 and upon completion of training he will move to Step 2, \$16.78

Motion Mr. Rucho to approve the hiring, seconded by Mr. Crowley, all in favor.

3. Goals for Chief of Police are welcomed

Board members are encouraged to submit goals prior to the end of the month.

4. Notification that the Interim Town Administrator will be extending the appointment period for the Interim Director of Public Works, Michael J. Kittredge, III for 90 days (expiration date April 17, 2016)

The Board discussed extending the appointment period until a permanent Director is hired. After discussion they decided to leave as it is and remain with the 90 days.

**Public Hearing: Application of Cumberland Farms for a License to Store Flammables at Property Located at 184 West Boylston Street**

Tom Reidy of Bacon and Wilson joined the Board and is presenting on behalf of Cumberland Farms. He provided the Board with the certified receipts from the abutter mailing. He is seeking approval for the license to store 32,000 gallons of flammables liquids underground and 8,000 gallons of diesel. Fire Chief Welsh has signed off on the application. They are proposing a 4,738 square foot retail convenience store and filling station at the Wachusett Plaza. In September they met with different town officials to discuss the project. In December they met with the Zoning Board of Appeals and last week they received the approval of the Planning Board. Construction will commence in May and will take 90-100 days. One of the last approvals is to go before the Department of Conservation and Recreation as they are in a low yield aquifer. Mr. Hadley asked about the entrance. There is one entrance off of West Boylston Street. There will be no exit directly onto West Boylston Street. It will be just like the CVS site. They are putting sidewalks around the site as well. One entrance off of route 12 is right turn only, going south on Route 12. Mr. Crowley asked about safety features of the tanks what is being proposed versus minimum standards. Mr. Reidy advised that compared to minimum standards, it is way above. They are double wall fiberglass and any fluctuation of interior liquor goes back to Cumberland Farms. They communicate directly to the employees on

site and there are switches if there was a leak that could shut it off. At the pumps around the edge of the concrete area of the fueling stations there are three or four three quarter inch canals that would collect any gas if it were to spill. Underground, these are sophisticated tanks, with state of the art fiberglass. It comes down to the monitoring of it and they are so much more sophisticated than tanks that are in the ground from ten or fifteen years ago. They are at the top of the technology.

Mr. Hadley read the following public notice which was advertised on January 25<sup>th</sup> in the Telegram. In accordance with the provisions of Mass General Laws, Chapter 148, Section 13, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of West Boylston will hold a public hearing on the application of Cumberland Farms, Inc. for a license to store flammables at the property located at 184 West Boylston Street, Map 158, Lot 1. The request is for storage of 32,000 gallons of flammable liquids underground and 8,000 gallons of combustible liquids (diesel) underground. The hearing will be held on Wednesday, February 3, 2016 at 7:05 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, 140 Worcester Street, West Boylston. All interested persons, groups, and agencies are invited to attend.

Mr. Crowley asked if DCR had made a decision about the canopy. Mr. Reidy believes they will have to put up a bigger canopy. Ms. Bohnson noticed the new sign at the plaza and asked if they would have a separate sign. Mr. Reidy advised that they will have a separate sign, which will be 82 square feet. The electronic message board at the bottom will have text only, no electronic pictures. Mr. Crowley asked if the sign would have the ability to do moving stuff. Mr. Reidy advised that it will. They wanted to make sure it is a safe site. They do not want to have it flash or change to distract drivers. There is no one present to speak on this issue.

Motion Mr. McCormick to close the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

Motion Mr. Rucho to approve the request for a license to store flammables, seconded by Mr. Crowley, all in favor.

**JAMES L. BEDARD, APPLICATION TO SERVE ON THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (if approved, effective February 8, 2016 for a term to expire on June 30, 2019)**

Mr. Bedard joined the Board. He has lived in town since September, spent most of his life in Rutland and North Worcester. He would like to serve on the Finance Committee because he has an interest in municipal matters. Many members of his family served on multiple town boards. His grandfather serves as Chairman of the Paxton Council on Aging. He currently is a counselor for mental health inmates at Worcester County House of Corrections. This interest stems from his family history in public services and he hopes to continue that.

Ms. Bohnson asked why the Finance Committee, and is he interested in numbers. Mr. Bedard states, its oversight capability and its relationship to town financial matters. Something he doesn't have experience in and that is why he has an interest. He would work hard and it would be a learning opportunity for him. Mr. Crowley was on the Finance Committee for about ten years. We always had a mix of people with and without financial backgrounds.

Motion Mr. Rucho to appoint Mr. Bedard to the Finance Committee, seconded by Mr. Crowley, all in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS (cont.)**

5. Consider granting salary adjustment to Fire Chief who had a satisfactory performance review (salary goes from \$76,125 to \$77,282)

Motion Mr. McCormick to approve the adjustment, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

6. Consider voting to accept \$1,925 in personal donations from various individuals and the Worcester Bridge Club to the Council on Aging on behalf of the town

Motion Mr. Crowley to accept the donations, seconded by Mr. Rucho, all in favor.

7. Acknowledge written update on DPW ventilation system

The Board reviewed the material and would like to know the start and end date of the project. Ms. Lucier advised that in order to finish the project, we would need to transfer funds from the Salary and Wages line to Purchase Services. Mr. Kittredge will be invited in to the next meeting.

8. Update on Town Administrator Search Committee

Ms. Lucier reports that the Committee will be meeting on Monday night and will provide her with the finalists Tuesday morning. He recommends the Board hold a special meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> to announce the finalists. Interviews will be scheduled for February 22<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 6:30.

**Susan Spellane, 38 Valley Forge Circle – Request for Sewer Abatement**

Motion Mr. McCormick to pass over or deny the request. Mr. Rucho suggested taking no action. Ms. Lucier advised that Ms. Spellane went to the sewer office and tax office and she is all paid up and now she is requesting an abatement. Mr. Crowley's understanding is that she paid everything as well. Ms. Bohanson would like to make sure that is the case. She also noted that this is the one that sat on a desk for a while. Although the bylaw says not having a second meter is not a reason for an abatement, Mr. Crowley believes she had extenuating circumstances, there were temporary water lines going in and she said let me get my pool filled so I don't mess up my neighbors water. He is okay with the fact that she didn't abide by the policy because she had extenuating circumstances. She made a mistake and didn't pay her \$1,000 and we told her she needed to pay her \$1,000 and she did.

Mr. Rucho seconds the motion to deny. Discussion ensued with Mr. Rucho noting that the policy is clear and easy and he doesn't understand why she chose not to pay her bill for one year. It also says failed to secure a second meter is not a reason to grant an abatement. She didn't follow the process. Mr. Crowley noted that she did call the Water Department, they came and took a meter reading and then she had to call them back when she discovered that the liner had a tear, however the second time she called the Water Department they couldn't come out. He agrees that she didn't follow the policy, however, he believes she had extenuating circumstances.

Vote on the motion – Mr. McCormick, Ms. Bohanson and Mr. Rucho yes; Messrs. Hadley and Crowley no.

**NEW BUSINESS (cont.)**

9. Presentation of MIIA Loss Control Award

Ms. Lucier reports that while at the MMA meeting in Boston she attended the MIIA luncheon and was quite pleased to learn that the West Boylston was one of 10 communities being recognized for its efforts in Loss Control. The program noted that, 'West Boylston continues to excel in the area of loss control, has steadily reduced loss ratios, participates in most MIIA webinars, and consistently attends MIIA's leadership conferences. The town also often hosts regional training programs. Town personnel regularly consult with MIIA before embarking on projects that have risk management implications, and the town works hard to maximize Rewards credits each year and help reduce insurance costs.' She presented the award to the Board.

10. Board of Health comments on changing the age to purchase tobacco products from 18 to 21 (will be on Feb . 17<sup>th</sup> agenda BOH meeting on Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>)

**MEETINGS, INVITATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Legislative Breakfast Meetings February 26<sup>th</sup> – Framingham, Hanover, Lee; March 4<sup>th</sup> – Belchertown, Lunenburg, Wilmington; and March 11<sup>th</sup> – Berkley, Groveland, Southbridge

If any Board member wishes to attend a session, they inform Mrs. Lucier.

2. February 10<sup>th</sup>, FISP 7:00 p.m.

**SELECTMEN REPORTS**

Ms. Bohnson reports that they are making progress with teacher contract negotiations. Things are moving right along.

Mr. McCormick reports that that are still meeting on the Fire Department’s contract and they have a way to go.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

There are none this evening.

With no further business to come before the Board, motion Mr. Rucho at 7:35 p.m. to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Crowley, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: February 17, 2016

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy E. Lucier, Municipal Assistant

\_\_\_\_\_  
John W. Hadley, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin M. McCormick, Vice Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Siobhan M. Bohnson, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher A. Rucho, Selectman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrick J. Crowley, Selectman