

**TOWN OF WEBSTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
DONALD BOURQUE, CHAIRMAN
MARK DOWGIEWICZ, VICE CHAIRMAN
ANDREW JOLDA
WILLIAM STARZEC
RANDALL BECKER**

A Board of Selectmen's Meeting was held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Town Hall on Monday, December 7, 2015. Chairman Bourque called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance: Randall Becker, William Starzec, Andrew Jolda and Don Bourque.

Absent: Mark Dowgiewicz

Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Bourque led the Selectmen in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion: made by Selectman Starzec, seconded by Selectman Jolda to table the meeting minutes until the next meeting.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectman Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Chief Brian Hickey – Ben Lewis & David White – Swearing in Ceremony

Town Clerk Craver swears in Mr. Lewis and Mr. White. Chief Hickey stated Mr. Lewis and Mr. White spend Tuesday and Thursday nights without pay going to the Fire Fighters Academy. Mr. Lewis stated he was very happy to be part of the Webster Fire Department family. He stated Chief Hickey has taught him a lot. Chairman Bourque welcomed Mr. Lewis and Mr. White to the Fire Department. He stated he would encourage them to continue to learn under Chief Hickey and commended them for their commitment to the Town.

Mass Organic Therapy, Inc.

Patrik Jonsson came forward. He stated Mass Organic Therapy, Inc. has been one of two non-profit companies who came before the Board several months ago seeking a letter of non-opposition for a cultivation center in Webster. He stated he has sent a proposed host agreement for the Board review. Chairman Bourque stated he personally feels as though this would be a positive thing to bring to Webster. Selectman Becker stated the Board had a conversation with another company regarding a cultivation center. He stated the Board agreed to a host agreement with DMCTC. He asked if Mass Organic Therapy has seen that host agreement approved by the Board. Mr. Jonsson stated he has not seen that host agreement. Selectman Starzec stated he was very impressed with the information packet that Mass Organic Therapy had provided the Board. Ms. Leduc stated that the MOT host agreement is a standard agreement that has been approved in other towns. Mr. Jonsson stated MOT has a letter of non-opposition from the Town of Oxford for a dispensary. He stated having the cultivation center in Webster would work out better. He stated they would need a letter of support or non-opposition within a week or two. Ms. Leduc stated she has minor changes to the host agreement that she would like to make. Chairman Bourque stated this will bring in businesses and jobs to the Town.

Motion: made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Chairman Bourque to issue a letter of support for a cultivation center to Mass Organic Therapy, Inc.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectman Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Jason Piader – Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals

Jason Piader came forward. He stated he is currently serving as an alternate member on the Zoning Board of Appeals and was seeking to become a permanent member. He stated he is very frequently a voting member because there are quorum issues.

Motion: made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Starzec to appoint Jason Piader to the Zoning Board of Appeals as a permanent member.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectman Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Marc Becker – Tax Classification Hearing

Marc Becker came forward. He read the posted legal notice for the hearing. He stated as the Assessor he was there to provide information and make recommendations. He went through the information provided to the Board in their Selectmen's packet. He stated there was a lot of information for the Board to absorb. He stated each year the debt exclusions will go down. He stated the Town did have a positive increase in property values. Stuart Loosemore came forward. He stated he was there on behalf of the Webster Dudley Oxford Chamber of Commerce. He stated he would like to thank the Board for looking to decrease the residential and business tax split. He stated Webster is very business friendly and is moving closer to closing the shift amount.

Motion: made by Selectman Becker, seconded by Chairman Bourque to approve the CIP Shift of 1.23 as recommended.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectman Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Pole Hearing – National Grid – South Main Street

A representative from National Grid came forward. He stated National Grid was looking to put a support bar on Pole #1 on South Main Street because the pole is leaning. He stated the pole would remain in the same place. Ms. Leduc stated the Town has been very vocal that they would like to see this pole removed. She stated it has caused difficulties with police cruisers using that entrance. She stated she would like to table this item to the next agenda in order to get more information from National Grid.

Acting Town Administrator's Report

Ms. Leduc stated she attended a Library Planning and Building Committee meeting on Wednesday, December 2, 2015.

She stated she attended the Tree Lighting Event on Friday, December 4, 2015.

She stated she held a Finance Team meeting on Monday, December 7, 2015.

She stated the FY16 2nd quarter utility bills are due on Monday, December 14, 2015. The Town Hall will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

She stated the WPD is currently conducting their annual coat, hat and gloves drive. All sizes from children to adults are accepted. Articles of clothing should be clean and wearable. Winter coats, hats and gloves may be dropped off at the WPD anytime during the winter months. Donated items will be brought to the Webster Food Share for distribution.

She stated to participate in the WPD's annual toy drive, please drop off a new, unwrapped toy to the WPD anytime or to the Assessor's office located on the 1st floor of the Town Hall during regular business hours. The collected toys are packaged and delivered by local police officers to families in need residing in our community. This outreach program is greatly appreciated by many of our local families experiencing hardship and cannot be successful without your generosity.

She stated Winter Wonderland is scheduled for Friday, December 11th and Saturday, December 12th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Memorial Beach.

She stated she had attached an on-going capital projects status update for the Board for their review.

Motion: made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Starzec to approve the Acting Town Administrator's Report.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectman Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda - yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

New Business

Ms. Leduc stated she has spoken to the Fire Chief, Building Commissioner and the Health Inspector regarding the required inspections. She stated they have indicated to her that all establishments are in compliance and there were no major problems.

Motion: made by Selectman Starzec, seconded by Selectman Becker to approve the 2016 licenses.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectman Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda - yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Informational Mail

Selectman Becker stated the Board received a letter in their packet regarding gas leaks in Webster.

Motion: made by Selectman Starzec, seconded by Selectman Becker to contact National Grid regarding the letter.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectman Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda - yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Unknown at Time of Posting

Selectman Starzec stated he has been voted the Treasurer of the South County Selectmen's Association. He stated they meet once a quarter. He stated the idea is to listen to speakers, get ideas and address concerns Towns may have. He stated they hosted a meeting in Webster a couple of month ago. He stated he is asking for the Board's approval to reappoint him as their representative to the South County Selectmen's Association.

Motion: made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Becker to reappoint William Starzec to the South County Selectmen's Association and to renew the membership for 2016.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectman Starzec – abstain, Selectman Jolda - yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Adjournment

Chairman Bourque adjourned the meeting to Executive Session at 8:22 P.M. in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21a, Item 6: To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.

Motion: made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Becker to go into Executive Session and to come back into open session.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectman Starzec - yes, Selectmen Jolda – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.

Chairman Bourque called the Regular Session Meeting back to order at 8:30 p.m.

Motion: made by Selectman Starzec, seconded by Selectman Jolda to vote to ratify the quit claim deed for 31 Granite Street.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectman Starzec - yes, Selectmen Jolda – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.

Adjournment

Motion: made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Becker to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectman Starzec - yes, Selectmen Jolda – yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.

Respectfully submitted,
Courtney M. Friedland
Executive Secretary