

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes November 28, 2016

7:00 pm Meeting called to order by Board Chair, Jack Esposito. Also in attendance was Selectman John Quinlan. In the audience were two of the prospective appointees for the short-term Board opening; Peter Eckhoff and Scott Burrows.

Board reviewed the minutes of November 21st. Quinlan motioned, seconded by Esposito to accept the minutes of November 21, 2016. All in favor.

There was a short discussion over a timber cut taking place on a piece of land-locked property owned by Joe Carleton Jr. There is some question over the lot lines.

Esposito asked Quinlan what is going on with the planning board and the business district.

Quinlan said that 5 years ago the Planning Board did a huge survey and had a public meeting. From that information, they came to the conclusion that the Town Zoning Ordinance needed sufficient changes to allow for easier business locations. Currently you have to apply to the ZBA for a variance or special exception if you want to have an in-home business. We want to bring the Town center to what it was originally; with selected small businesses.

Going to the ZBA is very subjective, and the new zoning would be geared to having a small business on the 1st floor and continuing to live in the house. People would go to the Planning Board before they go to the ZBA, and may not have to go to the ZBA at all if it is an allowed business type. The Town Center District will overlay the Historic District to give it another layer of oversight.

Esposito reminded the Board that tomorrow night at 5:00 pm is the MACC Base Budget meeting.

Quinlan reminded the Board that tomorrow night the Planning Board will be hearing more for the Vaughn Sub-division on Purgatory Road.

Brown reminded the Board that this Thursday is the first Town Budget Committee meeting, and the SLRD Budget meeting.

There was a serious discussion regarding replacing the Planning/Zoning administrative assistant.

Brown contends that, since the admin asst. is only in the office for 2 hours/per week, the office staff is doing quite a bit of their work, and it would be more efficient if the office staff was doing it all (including taking minutes at the meetings). Board asked Brown to consult with the chairmen of both boards and come up with a workable plan.

Burrows asked if the Board was still looking for a short-term replacement for the empty Board seat.

Quinlan said that they had not made an appointment yet, and that they would be making a final decision next Monday night.

8:10 pm As there was no further business before the Board, Quinlan motioned, seconded by Esposito to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie M. Brown